

brought for that purpose, and (2) guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000, or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

(Oct. 31, 1949, ch. 792, title VI, §612, as added Pub. L. 100-387, title I, §101(a), Aug. 11, 1988, 102 Stat. 931.)

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 15 days after Aug. 11, 1988, see section 101(c)(1) of Pub. L. 100-387, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 1988 Amendment note under section 1427 of this title.

##### INAPPLICABILITY OF SECTION

Section inapplicable to 2014 through 2018 crops of covered commodities, cotton, and sugar and inapplicable to milk during period beginning Feb. 7, 2014, through Dec. 31, 2018, see section 9092(b)(12) of this title.

Section inapplicable to 2008 through 2012 crops of covered commodities, peanuts, and sugar and inapplicable to milk during period beginning June 18, 2008, through Dec. 31, 2012, see section 8782(b)(12) of this title.

Section inapplicable to 2002 through 2007 crops of covered commodities, peanuts, and sugar and inapplicable to milk during period beginning May 13, 2002, through Dec. 31, 2007, see section 7992(b)(12) of this title.

Section inapplicable to 1996 through 2002 crops of loan commodities, peanuts, and sugar and inapplicable to milk during period beginning Apr. 4, 1996, and ending Dec. 31, 2002, see section 7301(b)(1)(L) of this title.

#### § 1472. Assistance for livestock producers

##### (a) Definition of livestock

In this section, the term “livestock” includes elk, reindeer, bison, horses, and deer.

##### (b) Availability of assistance

In such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts, the Secretary of Agriculture may provide assistance to dairy and other livestock producers to cover economic losses incurred by such producers in connection with the production of livestock.

##### (c) Types of assistance

The assistance provided to livestock producers may be in the following forms:

- (1) Indemnity payments to livestock producers who incur livestock mortality losses.
- (2) Livestock feed assistance to livestock producers affected by shortages of feed.
- (3) Compensation for sudden increases in production costs.
- (4) Such other assistance, and for such other economic losses, as the Secretary considers appropriate.

##### (d) Limitations

The Secretary may not use the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide assistance under this section.

##### (e) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 107-171, title X, §10104, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 488; Pub. L. 108-447, div. A, title VII, §785(b)(2), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2850; Pub. L. 109-97, title VII, §784(b)(3), Nov. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 2162.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, and not as part of the Emergency Livestock Feed Assistance Act of 1988 which comprises this subchapter or as part of the Agricultural Act of 1949 which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of the 1949 Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1421 of this title and Tables.

##### AMENDMENTS

2005—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-97 substituted “bison, horses, and deer” for “and bison”.

2004—Pub. L. 108-447 added subsec. (a) and redesignated former subsecs. (a) to (d) as (b) to (e), respectively.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2005 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 109-97 applicable to losses resulting from a disaster that occurs on or after July 28, 2005, and inapplicable to losses resulting from a disaster that occurs before such date, see section 784(c) of Pub. L. 109-97, set out as a note under section 1471 of this title.

### CHAPTER 36—CROP INSURANCE

#### SUBCHAPTER I—FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE

Sec.	
1501.	Short title and application of other provisions.
1502.	Purpose; definitions; protection of information; relation to other laws.
1503.	Federal Crop Insurance Corporation; creation; offices.
1504.	Capital stock of Corporation.
1504a.	Capitalization of Corporation.
1505.	Management of Corporation.
1506.	General powers.
1506a, 1506b.	Omitted.
1507.	Personnel of Corporation.
1508.	Crop insurance.
1508a.	Double insurance and prevented planting.
1508b.	Stacked Income Protection Plan for producers of upland cotton.
1508c.	Peanut revenue crop insurance.
1508d.	Coverage for forage and grazing.
1509.	Exemption of indemnities from levy.
1510.	Deposit and investment of funds; Federal Reserve banks as fiscal agents.
1511.	Tax exemption.
1512.	Corporation as fiscal agent of Government.
1513.	Books of account and annual reports of Corporation.
1514.	Crimes and offenses.
1515.	Program compliance and integrity.
1516.	Funding.
1517.	Separability.
1518.	“Agricultural commodity” defined.
1519.	Repealed.
1520.	Producer eligibility.
1521.	Ineligibility for catastrophic risk and non-insured assistance payments.
1522.	Research and development.
1523.	Pilot programs.
1524.	Education and risk management assistance.

#### SUBCHAPTER II—SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

1531.	Supplemental agricultural disaster assistance.
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SUBCHAPTER I—FEDERAL CROP  
INSURANCE

**§ 1501. Short title and application of other provisions**

This subchapter may be cited as the “Federal Crop Insurance Act”. Except as otherwise expressly provided the provisions in titles I to IV, inclusive, shall not apply with respect to this subchapter, and the term “Act” wherever it appears in such titles shall not be construed to include this subchapter.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 501, 52 Stat. 72; Pub. L. 110–234, title XII, § 12033(c), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110–246, § 4(a), title XII, § 12033(c), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

“Titles I to IV, inclusive,” and “such titles”, referred to in text, are references to titles I to IV of act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, 52 Stat. 31, known as the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, which is classified principally to chapter 35 (§ 1281 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1281 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110–234 and Pub. L. 110–246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110–234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110–246.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110–246, § 12033(c), inserted section catchline and substituted “subchapter” for “chapter” wherever appearing in text.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110–234 by Pub. L. 110–246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110–234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110–246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106–224, title I, § 171, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 397, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this Act [probably means this title, see Tables for classification] and the amendments made by this Act take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [June 20, 2000].

“(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(1) 2001 FISCAL YEAR.—The following provisions and the amendments made by the provisions take effect on October 1, 2000:

“(A) Subtitle C (§§ 131–134 of Pub. L. 106–224, enacting sections 1522 to 1524 of this title and amending sections 1518 and 7331 of this title).

“(B) Section 146 [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(C) Section 163 [114 Stat. 395].

“(2) 2001 CROP YEAR.—The amendments made by the following provisions apply beginning with the 2001 crop of an agricultural commodity:

“(A) Subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 101 [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(B) Section 102(a) [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(C) Subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 103 [amending section 1508 of this title and provisions set out as a note under section 1508 of this title].

“(D) Section 104 [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(E) Section 105(b) [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(F) Section 108 [enacting section 1508a of this title].

“(G) Section 109 [amending section 7333 of this title].

“(H) Section 162 [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(3) 2001 REINSURANCE YEAR.—The amendments made by the following provisions apply beginning with the 2001 reinsurance year:

“(A) Section 101(d) [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(B) Section 102(b) [amending section 1508 of this title].

“(C) Section 103(d) [amending section 1508 of this title].”

SHORT TITLE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106–224, § 1(a), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 358, provided that: “This Act [see Tables for classification] may be cited as the ‘Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103–354, title I, § 101(a), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3179, provided that: “This title [enacting sections 1433f, 1515, 1521, and 2008f of this title, amending sections 1441–2, 1444–2, 1444f, 1445b–3a, 1502 to 1509, 1511, 1513, 1516, and 1518 to 1520 of this title, sections 901 and 902 of Title 2, The Congress, and section 1014 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, repealing sections 1446i and 1508a of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1502, 1506, and 1508 of this title and sections 901 and 902 of Title 2, and repealing provisions set out as a note under section 1421 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994’.”

SHORT TITLE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 96–365, § 1, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1312, provided: “That this Act [amending sections 1441, 1444, 1444c, 1445b, 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, 1508, 1516, and 1518 and repealing section 1515 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1504, 1508, and 1516 of this title] may be cited as the ‘Federal Crop Insurance Act of 1980’.”

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 106–224, title I, § 172, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 397, provided that: “Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [June 20, 2000], the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate regulations to carry out this Act [probably means this title, see Tables for classification] and the amendments made by this Act.”

SAVINGS CLAUSE

Pub. L. 106–224, title I, § 173, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 398, provided that: “The Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) and section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333), as in effect on day before the date of the enactment of this Act [June 20, 2000], shall—

“(1) continue to apply with respect to the 1999 crop year; and

“(2) apply with respect to the 2000 crop year, to the extent the application of an amendment made by this Act [probably means this title, see Tables for classification] is delayed under section 171(b) [set out as an Effective Date of 2000 Amendment note above] or by the terms of the amendment.”

**§ 1502. Purpose; definitions; protection of information; relation to other laws**

**(a) Purpose**

It is the purpose of this subchapter to promote the national welfare by improving the economic

stability of agriculture through a sound system of crop insurance and providing the means for the research and experience helpful in devising and establishing such insurance.

**(b) Definitions**

As used in this subchapter:

**(1) Additional coverage**

The term “additional coverage” means a plan of crop insurance coverage providing a level of coverage greater than the level available under catastrophic risk protection.

**(2) Approved insurance provider**

The term “approved insurance provider” means a private insurance provider that has been approved by the Corporation to provide insurance coverage to producers participating in the Federal crop insurance program established under this subchapter.

**(3) Beginning farmer or rancher**

The term “beginning farmer or rancher” means a farmer or rancher who has not actively operated and managed a farm or ranch with a bona fide insurable interest in a crop or livestock as an owner-operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper for more than 5 crop years, as determined by the Secretary.

**(4) Board**

The term “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Corporation established under section 1505(a) of this title.

**(5) Corporation**

The term “Corporation” means the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation established under section 1503 of this title.

**(6) Cover crop termination**

The term “cover crop termination” means a practice that historically and under reasonable circumstances results in the termination of the growth of a cover crop.

**(7) Department**

The term “Department” means the United States Department of Agriculture.

**(8) Farm financial benchmarking**

The term “farm financial benchmarking” means—

(A) the process of comparing the performance of an agricultural enterprise against the performance of other similar enterprises, through the use of comparable and reliable data, in order to identify business management strengths, weaknesses, and steps necessary to improve management performance and business profitability; and

(B) benchmarking of the type conducted by farm management and producer associations consistent with the activities described in or funded pursuant to section 5925f of this title.

**(9) Hemp**

The term “hemp” has the meaning given the term in section 1639o of this title.

**(10) Loss ratio**

The term “loss ratio” means the ratio of all sums paid by the Corporation as indemnities

under any eligible crop insurance policy to that portion of the premium designated for anticipated losses and a reasonable reserve, other than that portion of the premium designated for operating and administrative expenses.

**(11) Organic crop**

The term “organic crop” means an agricultural commodity that is organically produced consistent with section 6502 of this title.

**(12) Secretary**

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

**(13) Transitional yield**

The term “transitional yield” means the maximum average production per acre or equivalent measure that is assigned to acreage for a crop year by the Corporation in accordance with the regulations of the Corporation whenever the producer fails—

(A) to certify that acceptable documentation of production and acreage for the crop year is in the possession of the producer; or

(B) to present the acceptable documentation on the demand of the Corporation or an insurance company reinsured by the Corporation.

**(14) Veteran farmer or rancher**

The term “veteran farmer or rancher” means a farmer or rancher who—

(A) has served in the Armed Forces (as defined in section 101 of title 38); and

(B)(i) has not operated a farm or ranch;

(ii) has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 5 years; or

(iii) is a veteran (as defined in section 101 of that title) who has first obtained status as a veteran (as so defined) during the most recent 5-year period.

**(c) Protection of confidential information**

**(1) General prohibition against disclosure**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary, any other officer or employee of the Department or an agency thereof, an approved insurance provider and its employees and contractors, and any other person may not disclose to the public information furnished by a producer under this subchapter.

**(2) Authorized disclosure**

**(A) Disclosure in statistical or aggregate form**

Information described in paragraph (1) may be disclosed to the public if the information has been transformed into a statistical or aggregate form that does not allow the identification of the person who supplied particular information.

**(B) Consent of producer**

A producer may consent to the disclosure of information described in paragraph (1). The participation of the producer in, and the receipt of any benefit by the producer under, this subchapter or any other program administered by the Secretary may not be conditioned on the producer providing consent under this paragraph.

**(3) Violations; penalties**

Section 2276(c) of this title shall apply with respect to the release of information collected in any manner or for any purpose prohibited by this subsection.

**(4) Information****(A) Request**

Subject to subparagraph (B), the Farm Service Agency shall, in a timely manner, provide to an agent or an approved insurance provider authorized by the producer any information (including Farm Service Agency Form 578s (or any successor form)) or maps (or any corrections to those forms or maps) that may assist the agent or approved insurance provider in insuring the producer under a policy or plan of insurance under this subchapter.

**(B) Privacy**

Except as provided in subparagraph (C), an agent or approved insurance provider that receives the information of a producer pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall treat the information in accordance with paragraph (1).

**(C) Sharing**

Nothing in this section prohibits the sharing of the information of a producer pursuant to subparagraph (A) between the agent and the approved insurance provider of the producer.

**(d) Relation to other laws****(1) Terms and conditions of policies and plans**

The terms and conditions of any policy or plan of insurance offered under this subchapter that is reinsured by the Corporation shall not—

(A) be subject to the jurisdiction of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission or the Securities and Exchange Commission; or

(B) be considered to be accounts, agreements (including any transaction that is of the character of, or is commonly known to the trade as, an “option”, “privilege”, “indemnity”, “bid”, “offer”, “put”, “call”, “advance guaranty”, or “decline guaranty”), or transactions involving contracts of sale of a commodity for future delivery, traded or executed on a contract market for the purposes of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.).

**(2) Effect on CFTC and Commodity Exchange Act**

Nothing in this subchapter affects the jurisdiction of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission or the applicability of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.) to any transaction conducted on a contract market under that Act by an approved insurance provider to offset the approved insurance provider's risk under a plan or policy of insurance under this subchapter.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §502, 52 Stat. 72; June 21, 1941, ch. 214, §1, 55 Stat. 255; Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 440, §4, 61 Stat. 719; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §102(a), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3180; Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §§122, 141, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat.

377, 389; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §§12001, 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1371, 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §§12001, 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2133, 2167; Pub. L. 113-79, title XI, §§11001, 11016(a), 11027(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 954, 963, 977; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, §11101, title XII, §12306(b)(1), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4919, 4968.)

**Editorial Notes****REFERENCES IN TEXT**

The Commodity Exchange Act, referred to in subsec. (d)(1)(B), (2), is act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 369, 42 Stat. 998, which is classified generally to chapter 1 (§1 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1 of this title and Tables.

**CODIFICATION**

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

**AMENDMENTS**

2018—Subsec. (b)(6) to (13). Pub. L. 115-334, §11101, added pars. (6) and (9) and redesignated former pars. (6) to (11) as (7), (8), and (10) to (13), respectively.

Subsec. (b)(14). Pub. L. 115-334, §12306(b)(1), added par. (14).

2014—Subsec. (b)(3) to (6). Pub. L. 113-79, §11016(a), added par. (3) and redesignated former pars. (3) to (5) as (4) to (6), respectively. Former par. (6) redesignated (7).

Subsec. (b)(7) to (10). Pub. L. 113-79, §11027(a), added par. (7) and redesignated former pars. (7) to (9) as (8) to (10), respectively. Former par. (10) redesignated (11).

Pub. L. 113-79, §11016(a)(1), redesignated pars. (6) to (9) as (7) to (10), respectively.

Subsec. (b)(11). Pub. L. 113-79, §11027(a)(1), redesignated par. (10) as (11).

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 113-79, §11001, added par. (4).

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (b)(7) to (9). Pub. L. 110-246, §12001, added par. (7) and redesignated former pars. (7) and (8) as (8) and (9), respectively.

2000—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 106-224, §122, added subsec. (c).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 106-224, §141, added subsec. (d).

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 substituted “Purpose and definitions” for “Declaration of purpose” in section catchline, designated existing text as subsec. (a) and added heading, and added subsec. (b).

1947—Act Aug. 1, 1947, amended section generally, restating purpose of chapter to improve all agriculture by crop insurance instead of being limited only to wheat.

1941—Act June 21, 1941, substituted “crop” for “wheat-crop” and “agricultural commodities” for “wheat”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT**

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT**

Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §120, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3208, provided that: “Except as otherwise provided in this title, this title [enacting sections 1433f, 1515, 1521, and 2008f of this title, amending this section and sections 1441-2, 1444-2, 1444f, 1445b-3a, 1503 to 1509, 1511, 1513, 1516, and 1518 to 1520 of this title, sections 901 and

902 of Title 2, The Congress, and section 1014 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure, repealing sections 1446i and 1508a of this title, enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1501, 1506, and 1508 of this title and sections 901 and 902 of Title 2, and repealing provisions set out as a note under section 1421 of this title] and the amendments made by this title shall become effective on the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 13, 1994] and shall apply to the provision of crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with the 1995 crop year. With respect to the 1994 crop year, the Federal Crop Insurance Act (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act) shall continue to apply.”

### § 1503. Federal Crop Insurance Corporation; creation; offices

To carry out the purposes of this subchapter, there is hereby created as an agency of and within the Department a body corporate with the name “Federal Crop Insurance Corporation”. The principal office of the Corporation shall be located in the District of Columbia, but there may be established agencies or branch offices elsewhere in the United States under rules and regulations prescribed by the Board.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 503, 52 Stat. 72; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 102(b)(1), (4)(A), (B), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3180, 3181; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, § 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title XII, § 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

##### AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 in first sentence struck out “of Agriculture” after “Department” and “(herein called the Corporation)” before period at end, and in second sentence struck out “of Directors” after “Board”.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Under authority of Ex. Ord. No. 9577, June 29, 1945, Secretary of Agriculture consolidated administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation in Production and Marketing Administration by Memorandum 1118, Aug. 18, 1945. 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501,

eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, transferred administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to Secretary of Agriculture. In his letter to Congress President stated that purpose of this transfer was to permit Secretary of Agriculture to continue consolidation already effected in Production and Marketing Administration.

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation consolidated with other agencies into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration for duration of war, see Ex. Ord. No. 9069.

### § 1504. Capital stock of Corporation

#### (a) Subscription by United States

The Corporation shall have a capital stock of \$500,000,000 subscribed by the United States of America, payment for which shall, with the approval of the Secretary, be subject to call in whole or in part by the Board.

#### (b) Appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary for the purpose of subscribing to the capital stock of the Corporation.

#### (c) Issuance of stock to Secretary of the Treasury

Receipts for payments by the United States of America for or on account of such stock shall be issued by the Corporation to the Secretary of the Treasury and shall be evidence of the stock ownership by the United States of America.

#### (d) Cancellation of receipts; nonliability of Corporation

Within thirty days after September 26, 1980, the Secretary of the Treasury shall cancel, without consideration, receipts for payments for or on account of the stock of the Corporation outstanding on September 26, 1980, and such receipts shall cease to be liabilities of the Corporation.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 504, 52 Stat. 72; Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, §§ 4, 6, 63 Stat. 665; Pub. L. 95-47, June 16, 1977, 91 Stat. 228; Pub. L. 95-181, § 1, Nov. 15, 1977, 91 Stat. 1373; Pub. L. 96-365, title I, § 101, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1312; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 102(b)(2), (4)(C), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3180, 3181.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-354, § 102(b)(2)(A), (4)(C), struck out “of Agriculture” after “Secretary” and “of Directors of the Corporation” after “Board”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 103-354, § 102(b)(2)(B), struck out “Federal Crop Insurance” before “Corporation outstanding”.

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-365, § 101(a), substituted “\$500,000,000” for “\$200,000,000”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-365, § 101(b), added subsec. (d). 1977—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-181 substituted “\$200,000,000” for “\$150,000,000”.

Pub. L. 95-47 substituted “\$150,000,000” for “\$100,000,000”.

1949—Subsec. (a). Act Aug. 25, 1949, § 4, struck out second sentence relating to restoration of impairment of capital stock.

Subsec. (b). Act Aug. 25, 1949, § 6, authorized appropriations for subscribing to corporation’s capital stock in order to offset losses suffered prior to time program was placed on an experimental basis in 1947.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT**

Pub. L. 96-365, title I, § 112, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1319, provided that: "Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the provisions of this Act amending the Federal Crop Insurance Act [amending sections 1504, 1505 to 1507, 1508, and 1518 of this title and repealing section 1515 of this title] shall become effective on the date of enactment of this Act [Sept. 26, 1980]."

Pub. L. 96-365, title I, § 101(a), Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1312, provided that the amendment made by section 101(a) is effective Oct. 1, 1980.

**CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING RECEIPTS FOR STOCK IN EXCESS OF \$27,000,000**

Act Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, § 5, 63 Stat. 665, provided that: "The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to cancel, without consideration, outstanding receipts for payments for or on account of the stock of the Corporation in excess of \$27,000,000."

**INSTITUTION OF EXPANDED PROGRAM: PAYMENT OF COST FOR FISCAL YEAR 1950**

Act Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, § 11, 63 Stat. 666, provided that: "The expanded program authorized herein [sections 1504, 1505, 1506, 1507, and 1508 of this title] shall be instituted beginning with the 1950 crop year, the additional cost for fiscal year 1950 to be financed, pending the appropriation of supplemental funds, from any appropriation available for operating and administrative expenses of the Corporation for such fiscal year."

**Executive Documents****TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

**§ 1504a. Capitalization of Corporation**

The payment for capital stock in the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation shall be effected by transfer of funds on the books of the Treasury Department to the credit of the Corporation.

(June 27, 1940, ch. 437, title I, 54 Stat. 640.)

**Editorial Notes****CODIFICATION**

Section was not enacted as part of the Federal Crop Insurance Act which comprises this subchapter.

**Executive Documents****TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

**§ 1505. Management of Corporation****(a) Board of Directors****(1) Establishment**

The management of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors subject to the general supervision of the Secretary.

**(2) Composition**

The Board shall consist of only the following members:

(A) The manager of the Corporation, who shall serve as a nonvoting ex officio member.

(B) The Under Secretary of Agriculture responsible for the Federal crop insurance program.

(C) One additional Under Secretary of Agriculture (as designated by the Secretary).

(D) The Chief Economist of the Department of Agriculture.

(E) One person experienced in the crop insurance business.

(F) One person experienced in reinsurance or the regulation of insurance.

(G) Four active producers who are policy holders, are from different geographic areas of the United States, and represent a cross-section of agricultural commodities grown in the United States, including at least one specialty crop producer.

**(3) Appointment of private sector members**

The members of the Board described in subparagraphs (E), (F), and (G) of paragraph (2)—

(A) shall be appointed by, and hold office at the pleasure of, the Secretary;

(B) shall not be otherwise employed by the Federal Government;

(C) shall be appointed to staggered 4-year terms, as determined by the Secretary; and

(D) shall serve not more than two consecutive terms.

**(4) Chairperson**

The Board shall select a member of the Board to serve as Chairperson.

**(b) Vacancies**

Vacancies in the Board so long as there shall be four members in office shall not impair the powers of the Board to execute the functions of the Corporation, and four of the members in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Board.

**(c) Compensation**

The Directors of the Corporation who are employed in the Department shall receive no additional compensation for their services as such Directors but may be allowed necessary traveling and subsistence expenses when engaged in business of the Corporation, outside of the District of Columbia. The Directors of the Corporation who are not employed by the Federal Government shall be paid such compensation for their services as Directors as the Secretary shall determine, but such compensation shall not exceed the daily equivalent of the rate prescribed

for grade GS-18 under section 5332 of title 5 when actually employed, and actual necessary traveling and subsistence expenses, or a per diem allowance in lieu of subsistence expenses, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5 for persons in Government service employed intermittently, when on the business of the Corporation away from their homes or regular places of business.

**(d) Manager of Corporation**

The manager of the Corporation shall be its chief executive officer, with such power and authority as may be conferred by the Board. The manager shall be appointed by, and hold office at the pleasure of, the Secretary.

**(e) Expert review of policies, plans of insurance, and related material**

**(1) Review by experts**

The Board shall establish procedures under which any policy or plan of insurance, as well as any related material or modification of such a policy or plan of insurance, to be offered under this subchapter shall be subject to independent reviews by persons experienced as actuaries and in underwriting, as determined by the Board.

**(2) Review of Corporation policies and plans**

Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Board shall contract with at least five persons to each conduct a review of the policy or plan of insurance, of whom—

- (A) not more than one person may be employed by the Federal Government; and
- (B) at least one person must be designated by approved insurance providers pursuant to procedures determined by the Board.

**(3) Review of private submissions**

If the reviews under paragraph (1) cover a policy or plan of insurance, or any related material or modification of a policy or plan of insurance, submitted under section 1508(h) of this title—

- (A) the Board shall contract with at least five persons to each conduct a review of the policy or plan of insurance, of whom—

- (i) not more than one person may be employed by the Federal Government; and
  - (ii) none may be employed by an approved insurance provider; and

- (B) each review must be completed and submitted to the Board not later than 30 days prior to the end of the 120-day period described in section 1508(h)(4)(D) of this title.

**(4) Consideration of reviews**

The Board shall include reviews conducted under this subsection as part of the consideration of any policy or plan of insurance, or any related material or modification of a policy or plan of insurance, proposed to be offered under this subchapter.

**(5) Funding of reviews**

Each contract to conduct a review under this subsection shall be funded from amounts made available under section 1516(b)(2)(A)(ii) of this title.

**(6) Relation to other authority**

The contract authority provided in this subsection is in addition to any other contracting

authority that may be exercised by the Board under section 1506(l) of this title.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §505, 52 Stat. 72; Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 440, §8, 61 Stat. 719; Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, §7, 63 Stat. 665; Pub. L. 96-365, title I, §102, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1312; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §§102(b)(3), (4), 103, 115(a), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3181, 3204; Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §142(a)(1), (b), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 389, 390; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

**Editorial Notes**

**CODIFICATION**

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

**AMENDMENTS**

2008—Subsec. (e)(1), (4). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

2000—Pub. L. 106-224, §142(a)(1), inserted section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106-224, §142(a)(1), added heading and text of subsec. (a) and struck out former subsec. (a) which read as follows: “The management of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board subject to the general supervision of the Secretary. The Board shall consist of the manager of the Corporation, the Under Secretary of Agriculture responsible for the Federal crop insurance program, one additional Under Secretary of Agriculture (as designated by the Secretary of Agriculture), one person experienced in the crop insurance business who is not otherwise employed by the Federal Government, and three active farmers who are not otherwise employed by the Federal Government. The Board shall be appointed by, and hold office at the pleasure of, the Secretary. The Secretary shall not be a member of the Board. The Secretary, in appointing the three active farmers who are not otherwise employed by the Federal Government, shall ensure that such members are policyholders and are from different geographic areas of the United States, in order that diverse agricultural interests in the United States are at all times represented on the Board.”

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 106-224, §142(b), added subsec. (e).

1994—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-354, §102(b)(3), (4)(A), (C), in first sentence struck out “of Directors (hereinafter called the ‘Board’)” after “Board” and “of Agriculture” after “Secretary”.

Pub. L. 103-354, §103, in second sentence struck out “or Assistant Secretary” after “Corporation, the Under Secretary” and substituted “one additional Under Secretary of Agriculture (as designated by the Secretary of Agriculture)” for “the Under Secretary or Assistant Secretary of Agriculture responsible for the farm credit programs of the Department of Agriculture”.

Pub. L. 103-354, §115(a)(1), substituted “The Board shall be appointed by, and hold office at the pleasure of, the Secretary. The Secretary shall not be a member of the Board.” for former third sentence which read as follows: “The Board shall be appointed by, and hold office at the pleasure of the Secretary, who shall not, himself, be a member of the Board.”

Pub. L. 103-354, §102(b)(4)(C), in third sentence struck out “of Agriculture” before “, who shall not”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 103-354, §102(b)(4)(B), (C), struck out “of Agriculture” after “Department” in first sentence and after “Secretary” in second sentence.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 103-354, §§102(b)(4)(C), 115(a)(2), in first sentence struck out “upon him” before “by the Board”, and in second sentence substituted “The manager shall” for “He shall” and struck out “of Agriculture” after “Secretary”.

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-365, §102(a), increased Board membership to seven from five persons; substituted provisions including on the Board the Under Secretaries or Assistant Secretaries of Agriculture for crop insurance and farm credit programs and one person experienced in crop insurance business for former provisions including on the Board two other Agriculture Department employees and two persons with insurance business experience; authorized appointment of three active farmers not otherwise Federal employees; and required farmer appointees to be policyholders and representative of agricultural interests of different geographic areas.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-365, §102(b), substituted “four” for “three” in two places.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-365, §102(c), substituted as limitation on compensation of Directors of the Corporation not employed by the Federal Government the daily equivalent of rate prescribed for grade GS-18 under section 5332 of title 5 when actually employed, and actual necessary traveling and subsistence expenses, or the per diem allowance in lieu of subsistence expenses, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5 for persons in Government service employed intermittently, when on the business of the Corporation away from their homes or regular places of business for former limitation of \$50 per day when actually employed and transportation expenses plus not to exceed \$10 per diem in lieu of subsistence expenses when on business of the Corporation away from their homes or regular places of business.

1949—Subsec. (c). Act Aug. 25, 1949, reduced compensation of members of Board of Directors who are not Government employees from “not to exceed \$100 per day” to “not to exceed \$50 per day”, and changed from “subsistence expenses” to “transportation expenses and not to exceed \$10 per diem”.

1947—Act Aug. 1, 1947, amended section generally and, among other changes, increased membership of Board from three to five, provided for two members with insurance experience, not Government employees, increased from two to three the number of members necessary to carry on functions and to constitute a quorum, provided for compensation and expenses of Board members not otherwise Government employed, and for appointment of manager of corporation by the Secretary of Agriculture instead of being selected by the Board.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-365 effective Sept. 26, 1980, see section 112 of Pub. L. 96-365, set out as a note under section 1504 of this title.

##### APPOINTMENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1, 2001

Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §142(a)(2), (3), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 390, provided that:

“(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—The initial members of the Board of Directors of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation required to be appointed under section

505(a)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act [7 U.S.C. 1505(a)(3)] (as amended by paragraph (1)) shall be appointed during the period beginning February 1, 2001, and ending April 1, 2001.

“(3) EFFECT ON EXISTING BOARD.—A member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation on the date of the enactment of this Act [June 20, 2000] may continue to serve as a member of the Board until the members referred to in paragraph (2) are first appointed.”

##### REFERENCES IN OTHER LAWS TO GS-16, 17, OR 18 PAY RATES

References in laws to the rates of pay for GS-16, 17, or 18, or to maximum rates of pay under the General Schedule, to be considered references to rates payable under specified sections of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, see section 529 [title I, §101(c)(1)] of Pub. L. 101-509, set out in a note under section 5376 of Title 5.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

#### § 1506. General powers

##### (a) Succession

The Corporation shall have succession in its corporate name.

##### (b) Corporate seal

The Corporation may adopt, alter, and use a corporate seal, which shall be judicially noticed.

##### (c) Property

The Corporation may purchase or lease and hold such real and personal property as it deems necessary or convenient in the transaction of its business, and may dispose of such property held by it upon such terms as it deems appropriate.

##### (d) Suit

Subject to section 1508(j)(2)(A) of this title, the Corporation, subject to the provisions of section 1508(j) of this title,<sup>1</sup> may sue and be sued in its corporate name, but no attachment, injunction, garnishment, or other similar process, mesne or final, shall be issued against the Corporation or its property. The district courts of the United States, including the district courts of the District of Columbia and of any territory or possession, shall have exclusive original jurisdiction, without regard to the amount in controversy, of all suits brought by or against the Corporation. The Corporation may intervene in any court in any suit, action, or proceeding in which it has an interest. Any suit against the Corporation shall be brought in the District of Columbia, or in the district wherein the plaintiff resides or is engaged in business.

##### (e) Bylaws and regulations

The Corporation may adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws, rules, and regulations governing

<sup>1</sup> So in original.



the manner in which its business may be conducted and the powers granted to it by law may be exercised and enjoyed.

**(f) Mails**

The Corporation shall be entitled to the use of the United States mails in the same manner as the other executive agencies of the Government.

**(g) Assistance**

The Corporation, with the consent of any board, commission, independent establishment, or executive department of the Government, including any field service thereof, may avail itself of the use of information, services, facilities, officials, and employees thereof in carrying out the provisions of this subchapter.

**(h) Collection and sharing of information**

**(1) Surveys and investigations**

The Corporation may conduct surveys and investigations relating to crop insurance, agriculture-related risks and losses, and other issues related to carrying out this subchapter.

**(2) Data collection**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall assemble data for the purpose of establishing sound actuarial bases for insurance on agricultural commodities.

**(B) National Agricultural Statistics Service**

Data collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, whether published or unpublished, shall be—

- (i) provided in an aggregate form to the Corporation for the purpose of providing insurance under this subchapter; and
- (ii) kept confidential by the Corporation in the same manner and to the same extent as is required under—

(I) section 2276 of this title; and

(II) the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note; Public Law 107-347).<sup>2</sup>

**(C) Noninsured crop disaster assistance program**

In collecting data under this subsection, the Secretary shall ensure that—

- (i) appropriate data are collected through the noninsured crop disaster assistance program established by section 7333 of this title; and
- (ii) not less frequently than annually, the Farm Service Agency shares, and the Corporation considers, the data described in clause (i).

**(3) Sharing of records**

Notwithstanding section 1502(c) of this title, records submitted in accordance with this subchapter and section 7333 of this title shall be available to agencies and local offices of the Department, appropriate State and Federal agencies and divisions, applicants who have received payment under section 1522(b)(2)(E) of this title, and approved insurance providers for use in carrying out this subchapter, such

section 7333 of this title, and other agricultural programs.

**(i) Expenditures**

The Corporation shall determine the character and necessity for its expenditures under this subchapter and the manner in which they shall be incurred, allowed, and paid, without regard to the provisions of any other laws governing the expenditure of public funds and such determinations shall be final and conclusive upon all other officers of the Government.

**(j) Settling claims**

The Corporation shall have the authority to make final and conclusive settlement and adjustment of any claim by or against the Corporation or a fiscal officer of the Corporation.

**(k) Other powers**

The Corporation shall have such powers as may be necessary or appropriate for the exercise of the powers herein specifically conferred upon the Corporation and all such incidental powers as are customary in corporations generally.

**(l) Contracts**

The Corporation may enter into and carry out contracts or agreements, and issue regulations, necessary in the conduct of its business, as determined by the Board. State and local laws or rules shall not apply to contracts, agreements, or regulations of the Corporation or the parties thereto to the extent that such contracts, agreements, or regulations provide that such laws or rules shall not apply, or to the extent that such laws or rules are inconsistent with such contracts, agreements, or regulations.

**(m) Submission of certain information**

**(1) Social security account and employer identification numbers**

The Corporation shall require, as a condition of eligibility for participation in the multiple peril crop insurance program, submission of social security account numbers, subject to the requirements of section 405(c)(2)(C)(iii)<sup>2</sup> of title 42, and employer identification numbers, subject to the requirements of section 6109(f) of title 26.

**(2) Notification by policyholders**

Each policyholder shall notify each individual or other entity that acquires or holds a substantial beneficial interest in such policyholder of the requirements and limitations under this subchapter.

**(3) Identification of holders of substantial interests**

The Manager of the Corporation may require each policyholder to provide to the Manager, at such times and in such manner as prescribed by the Manager, the name of each individual that holds or acquires a substantial beneficial interest in the policyholder.

**(4) “Substantial beneficial interest” defined**

For purposes of this subsection, the term “substantial beneficial interest” means not less than 5 percent of all beneficial interests in the policyholder.

<sup>2</sup> See References in Text note below.

**(n) Actuarial soundness****(1) Projected loss ratio as of October 1, 1995**

The Corporation shall take such actions as are necessary to improve the actuarial soundness of Federal multiperil crop insurance coverage made available under this subchapter to achieve, on and after October 1, 1995, an overall projected loss ratio of not greater than 1.1, including—

(A) instituting appropriate requirements for documentation of the actual production history of insured producers to establish recorded or appraised yields for Federal crop insurance coverage that more accurately reflect the associated actuarial risk, except that the Corporation may not carry out this paragraph in a manner that would prevent beginning farmers (as defined by the Secretary) from obtaining Federal crop insurance;

(B) establishing in counties, to the extent practicable, a crop insurance option based on area yields in a manner that allows an insured producer to qualify for an indemnity if a loss has occurred in a specified area in which the farm of the insured producer is located;

(C) establishing a database that contains the social security account and employee identification numbers of participating producers, agents, and loss adjusters and using the numbers to identify insured producers, agents, and loss adjusters who are high risk for actuarial purposes and insured producers who have not documented at least 4 years of production history, to assess the performance of insurance providers, and for other purposes permitted by law; and

(D) taking any other measures authorized by law to improve the actuarial soundness of the Federal crop insurance program while maintaining fairness and effective coverage for agricultural producers.

**(2) Projected loss ratio**

The Corporation shall take such actions, including the establishment of adequate premiums, as are necessary to improve the actuarial soundness of Federal multiperil crop insurance made available under this subchapter to achieve an overall projected loss ratio of not greater than 1.0.

**(3) Nonstandard classification system**

To the extent that the Corporation uses the nonstandard classification system, the Corporation shall apply the system to all insured producers in a fair and consistent manner.

**(o) Regulations**

The Secretary and the Corporation are each authorized to issue such regulations as are necessary to carry out this subchapter.

**(p) Purchase of American-made equipment and products****(1) Sense of Congress**

It is the sense of Congress that, to the greatest extent practicable, all equipment and products purchased by the Corporation using funds made available to the Corporation should be American-made.

**(2) Notice requirement**

In providing financial assistance to, or entering into any contract with, any entity for the purchase of equipment and products to carry out this subchapter, the Corporation, to the greatest extent practicable, shall provide to the entity a notice describing the statement made in paragraph (1).

**(r)<sup>3</sup> Procedures for responding to certain inquiries****(1) Procedures required**

The Corporation shall establish procedures under which the Corporation will provide a final agency determination in response to an inquiry regarding the interpretation by the Corporation of this subchapter or any regulation issued under this subchapter.

**(2) Implementation**

Not later than 180 days after June 23, 1998, the Corporation shall issue regulations to implement this subsection. At a minimum, the regulations shall establish—

(A) the manner in which inquiries described in paragraph (1) are required to be submitted to the Corporation; and

(B) a reasonable maximum number of days within which the Corporation will respond to all inquiries.

**(3) Effect of failure to timely respond**

If the Corporation fails to respond to an inquiry in accordance with the procedures established pursuant to this subsection, the person requesting the interpretation of this subchapter or regulation may assume the interpretation is correct for the applicable reinsurance year.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §506, 52 Stat. 73; June 21, 1941, ch. 214, §2, 55 Stat. 255; Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 440, §7, 61 Stat. 719; Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, §8, 63 Stat. 665; Pub. L. 96-365, title I, §§103, 107(a), Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1313, 1317; Pub. L. 101-624, title XXII, §§2201(a), 2202, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3951, 3954; Pub. L. 102-237, title VI, §601(1), (2), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1878; Pub. L. 103-66, title I, §1403(a), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 333; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §§104, 119(f)(1), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3181, 3208; Pub. L. 105-185, title V, §533, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 583; Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §§121(b), 124(b), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 377, 378; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §§12002(a), (b)(1), 12003(a), 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1371, 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §§12002(a), (b)(1), 12003(a), 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2133, 2167; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, §§11102, 11103, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4919, 4920.)

**Editorial Notes****REFERENCES IN TEXT**

The Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002, referred to in subsec. (h)(2)(B)(ii)(II), is title V of Pub. L. 107-347, Dec. 17, 2002, 116 Stat. 2962, which was set out as a note under section 3501 of Title 44, Public Printing and Documents, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 115-435, title III, §302(c)(1),

<sup>3</sup> So in original. Probably should be "(q)".

title IV, § 403, Jan. 14, 2019, 132 Stat. 5552, 5557, effective 180 days after Jan. 14, 2019. See parts A to C of subchapter III of chapter 35 of Title 44, especially section 3572 of Title 44, which relates to confidential information protection.

Section 405(c)(2)(C)(iii) of title 42, referred to in subsec. (m)(1), was redesignated section 405(c)(2)(C)(iv) of title 42 by Pub. L. 103-296, title III, § 321(a)(9)(B), Aug. 15, 1994, 108 Stat. 1536.

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (h)(2). Pub. L. 115-334, § 11102, designated existing provisions as subpar. (A), inserted heading, and added subpars. (B) and (C).

Subsec. (h)(3). Pub. L. 115-334, § 11103, inserted “applicants who have received payment under section 1522(b)(2)(E) of this title,” after “divisions.”

2008—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12002(a)(1), substituted “Subject to section 1508(j)(2)(A) of this title, the Corporation” for “The Corporation” in first sentence.

Subsecs. (g) to (i), (m). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12002(b)(1), redesignated subsec. (o) as (n).

Pub. L. 110-246, § 12002(a)(2), struck out subsec. (n) which related to penalty for willful and intentional provision of false or inaccurate information to the Corporation or any insurer.

Subsec. (n)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (n)(2). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Pub. L. 110-246, § 12003(a), in heading, struck out “as of October 1, 1998” after “loss ratio” and, in text, struck out “, on and after October 1, 1998,” after “to achieve” and substituted “1.0” for “1.075”.

Subsecs. (o), (p). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Pub. L. 110-246, § 12002(b)(1), redesignated subsecs. (p) and (q) as (o) and (p), respectively. Former subsec. (o) redesignated (n).

Subsec. (q). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12002(b)(1), redesignated subsec. (q) as (p).

Subsec. (r). Pub. L. 110-246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

2000—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 106-224, § 124(b), added subsec. (h) and struck out heading and text of former subsec. (h). Text read as follows: “The Corporation shall assemble data for the purpose of establishing sound actuarial bases for insurance on agricultural commodities.”

Subsecs. (q) to (s). Pub. L. 106-224, § 121(b), redesignated subsecs. (r) and (s) as (q) and (r), respectively, and struck out former subsec. (q), which related to program compliance by insurance providers and required notice to any provider of any error, omission, or failure to follow Corporation regulations or procedures for which provider may be responsible and which may result in a debt owed the Corporation.

1998—Subsec. (s). Pub. L. 105-185 added subsec. (s).

1994—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 103-354, § 119(f)(1), substituted “1508(j)” for “1508(f)” in first sentence.

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(2), added subsec. (j). Former subsec. (j) redesignated (k).

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(1), redesignated subsec. (j) as (k). Former subsec. (k) redesignated (l).

Subsec. (l). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(1), (3), redesignated subsec. (k) as (l), in first sentence inserted “, and issue regulations,” after “agreements,” and in second sen-

tence substituted “contracts, agreements, or regulations” for “contracts or agreements” wherever appearing. Former subsec. (l) redesignated (m).

Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(1), redesignated subsec. (l) as (m). Former subsec. (m) redesignated (n).

Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(1), redesignated subsec. (m) as (n). Former subsec. (n) redesignated (o).

Subsec. (n)(1)(B). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(4), added subpar. (B) and struck out former subpar. (B) which read as follows: “disqualify the person from receiving any benefit under this chapter for a period of not to exceed 10 years.”

Subsec. (o). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(1), (5)(B), redesignated subsec. (n) as (o) and reenacted heading without change.

Subsec. (o)(1). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(5)(B), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and inserted heading. Former par. (1) redesignated subpar. (A).

Subsec. (o)(1)(A). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(5)(A), (C), redesignated former par. (1) as subpar. (A) and substituted “(as defined by the Secretary) from obtaining Federal crop insurance” for “from obtaining adequate Federal crop insurance, as determined by the Corporation”.

Subsec. (o)(1)(B). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(5)(A), redesignated former par. (2) as subpar. (B).

Subsec. (o)(1)(C). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(5)(A), (D), redesignated former par. (3) as subpar. (C) and inserted “, agents, and loss adjusters” after “participating producers” and after “identify insured producers”.

Subsec. (o)(1)(D). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(5)(A), redesignated former par. (4) as subpar. (D).

Subsec. (o)(2) to (4). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(5)(A), (E), added pars. (2) and (3) and redesignated former pars. (2) to (4) as subpars. (B) to (D), respectively, of par. (1) and realigned their margins.

Subsecs. (p) to (r). Pub. L. 103-354, § 104(6), added subsecs. (p) to (r).

1993—Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 103-66 added subsec. (n).

1991—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 102-237, § 601(1), substituted “section 1508(f)” for “section 1508(c)” and a period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (m)(1). Pub. L. 102-237, § 601(2), in introductory provisions substituted “willfully” for “wilfully” and in subpar. (A) struck out “to” after “exceed”.

1990—Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(1), substituted “General powers” for “General powers of Corporation” as section catchline and struck out “The Corporation—” before subsec. (a).

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(2), (13), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(3), (13), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(4), (13), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(5), inserted heading and “The Corporation.”

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(6), (13), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(7), (13), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(8), (13), inserted heading and “The Corporation,” and substituted period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(9), (13), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for semicolon at end.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(10), (14), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for “; and” at end.

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(11), (14), inserted heading and “The Corporation” and substituted period for “; and” at end.

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2202(b)(12), inserted heading and “The Corporation”.

Subsec. (l). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2201(a), added subsec. (l).

Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 101-624, §2202(a), added subsec. (m).

1980—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-365, §103(1), substituted “may purchase” for “may make contracts and purchase”. See subsec. (k) of this section.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-365, §103(2), substituted provision granting exclusive original jurisdiction to district courts of the United States, including district courts of the District of Columbia and of any territory or possession, for prior grant to any State court of record having general jurisdiction or any United States district court, authorized intervention by the Corporation in proceedings, and required suits against the Corporation to be brought in the District of Columbia or in district wherein plaintiff resides or is engaged in business.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 96-365, §103(3), substituted “use of the United States mails” for “free use of the United States mails”.

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 96-365, §107(a), struck out authority for conducting researches, surveys, and investigations relating to crop insurance. See section 1508(i) of this title.

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 96-365, §103(4), added subsec. (k).

1949—Subsec. (h). Act Aug. 25, 1949, struck out obsolete language and included authority for a study of the possibility of developing some type of livestock insurance.

1947—Subsec. (d). Act Aug. 1, 1947, provided for suits in State courts of general jurisdiction or in United States district courts regardless of amount in controversy.

1941—Subsec. (h). Act June 21, 1941, substituted “and preparatory to the application of the chapter to other basic commodities when so provided by law, shall assemble data relative to field corn, for the purpose of establishing a satisfactory actuarial basis for such commodity” for “for wheat and other agricultural commodities.”

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 105-185, title V, §537, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 584, provided that: “Except as provided in section 535 [112 Stat. 583], this subtitle [subtitle C (§§531-537) of title V of Pub. L. 105-185, amending this section and sections 1508 and 1516 of this title and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section] and the amendments made by this subtitle take effect on July 1, 1998.”

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103-66, title I, §1403(c)(1), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 335, provided that: “Except as provided in paragraph (2), this section [amending this section and sections 1508 and 1508a of this title] and the amendments made by this section shall become effective on October 1, 1993.”

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-365 effective Sept. 26, 1980, see section 112 of Pub. L. 96-365, set out as a note under section 1504 of this title.

#### REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 103-66, title I, §1403(c)(2), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 335, provided that: “Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Aug. 10, 1993], the Secretary of Agriculture shall publish, for public comment, proposed regulations to implement the amendments made by this section [amending this section and sections 1508 and 1508a of this title].”

#### REQUIRED TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF STANDARD REINSURANCE AGREEMENTS

Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §148, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 394, provided that: “Notwithstanding section 536 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 1506 note; Public Law 105-185), the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation may renegotiate the Standard Reinsurance Agreement once during the 2001 through 2005 reinsurance years.”

Pub. L. 105-185, title V, §536, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 584, provided that:

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ‘approved insurance provider’ and ‘Corporation’ have the meanings given the terms in section 502(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1502(b)).

“(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

“(1) INCORPORATION OF AMENDMENTS.—For each of the 1999 and subsequent reinsurance years, the Corporation shall ensure that each Standard Reinsurance Agreement between an approved insurance provider and the Corporation reflects the amendments to the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) that are made by this subtitle [see Effective Date of 1998 Amendment note above] to the extent the amendments are applicable to approved insurance providers.

“(2) RETENTION OF EXISTING PROVISIONS.—Except to the extent necessary to implement the amendments made by this subtitle, each Standard Reinsurance Agreement described in paragraph (1) shall contain the following provisions of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement for the 1998 reinsurance year:

“(A) Section II, concerning the terms of reinsurance and underwriting gain and loss for an approved insurance provider.

“(B) Section III, concerning the terms for subsidies and administrative fees for an approved insurance provider.

“(C) Section IV, concerning the terms for loss adjustment for an approved insurance provider under catastrophic risk protection.

“(D) Section V.C., concerning interest payments between the Corporation and an approved insurance provider.

“(E) Section V.I.5., concerning liquidated damages.

“(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—To implement this subtitle and the amendments made by this subtitle, the Corporation is not required to amend provisions of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement not specifically affected by this subtitle or an amendment made by this subtitle.”

#### CROP INSURANCE PROVIDER EVALUATION

Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §118, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3205, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (referred to in this section as the ‘Corporation’) shall jointly evaluate the financial arrangement between the Corporation and approved insurance providers to determine the quality, costs, and efficiencies of providing the benefits of multiple peril crop insurance to producers of agricultural commodities covered under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).

“(b) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS.—The Corporation shall require private insurance providers and agents to supply, and the private insurance providers and agents shall supply, records and informa-

tion necessary to make the determinations and evaluations required under this section. The Corporation shall solicit from the approved insurance providers and agents proposals for modifying or altering the requirements, regulations, procedures, and processes related to implementing the Federal Crop Insurance Act to reduce the operating and administrative costs of the providers and agents.

“(c) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after receipt of information and cost-reduction proposals under subsection (b), the Corporation shall evaluate the information and proposals obtained and report the results of the evaluation to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

“(d) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 13, 1994], the Comptroller General and the Corporation shall submit a final report that provides the evaluation required under subsection (a) to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate. In making the evaluation, the Comptroller General and the Corporation shall—

“(1) consider the changes made by the Corporation in response to increased program participation resulting from the enactment of this Act;

“(2) include an evaluation and opinion of the accuracy and reasonableness of—

“(A) the average actual costs for approved insurance providers to deliver multiple peril crop insurance;

“(B) the cost per policy of complying with the requirements, regulations, procedures, and processes of the Federal Crop Insurance Act;

“(C) the cost differences for various provider firm sizes and any business delivered by the Federal Government;

“(D) the adequacy of the standard reimbursement for potential new providers; and

“(E) the identification of any new costs related to the enactment of this Act not previously identified in the information reported by the providers;

“(3) compare delivery costs of multiple peril crop insurance to other insurance coverages that the provider may sell and determine the extent, if any, to which any funds provided to carry out the Federal Crop Insurance Act are being used to fund any other business enterprise operated by the provider;

“(4)(A) assess alternative methods for reimbursing providers for reasonable and necessary expenses associated with delivery of multiple peril crop insurance;

“(B) recommend changes under this paragraph that reasonably demonstrate the need to achieve the greatest operating efficiencies on the part of the provider and the Corporation has been recognized; and

“(C) identify areas for improved operating efficiencies, if any, in the requirements made by the Corporation for compliance and program integrity;

“(5) assess the potential for alternative forms of reinsurance arrangements for providers of different firm sizes, taking into consideration—

“(A) the need to achieve a reasonable return on the capital of the provider compared to other lines of insurance;

“(B) the relative risk borne by the provider for the different lines of insurance;

“(C) the availability and price of commercial reinsurance; and

“(D) any additional costs that may be incurred by the Federal Government in carrying out the Federal Crop Insurance Act; and

“(6) include an analysis of the effect of the current or proposed reinsurance arrangements on providers having different business levels.

“(e) INFORMATION.—

“(1) PRIVACY.—In conducting the evaluation required by this section, the Comptroller General and the Corporation shall maintain the privacy of proprietary information.

“(2) SUBPOENAS.—The Comptroller General shall have the power to subpoena information relevant to the evaluation required by this section from any private insurance provider. The Comptroller General shall allow the Corporation access to the information subpoenaed taking into consideration the necessity of preserving the privacy of proprietary information.”

## Executive Documents

### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

## §§ 1506a, 1506b. Omitted

## Editorial Notes

### CODIFICATION

Section 1506a, act July 30, 1947, ch. 356, title II, §202, 61 Stat. 550, which related to authority of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to make expenditures, was from the Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act, 1948, and was not repeated in subsequent appropriation acts.

Section 1506b, acts June 29, 1954, ch. 409, title II, §201, 68 Stat. 317; May 23, 1955, ch. 43, title II, §201, 69 Stat. 60; June 4, 1956, ch. 355, title II, §201, 70 Stat. 238, which provided that crop inspection costs and loss adjustments could be considered as nonadministrative or nonoperating expenses, was from the Department of Agriculture and Farm Credit Administration Appropriation Acts for fiscal years 1955–57, and was not repeated in subsequent appropriation acts.

## § 1507. Personnel of Corporation

### (a) Appointment; civil service exemption; compensation

The Secretary shall appoint such officers and employees as may be necessary for the transaction of the business of the Corporation pursuant to civil-service laws and regulations, fix their compensation in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, define their authority and duties, and delegate to them such of the powers vested in the Corporation as the Secretary may determine appropriate. However, personnel paid by the hour, day, or month when actually employed may be appointed without regard to civil-service laws and regulations.

### (b) Application of employees' compensation law

Insofar as applicable, the benefits of subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5, shall extend to persons given employment under the provisions of this subchapter, including the employees of the committees and associations referred to in subsection (c) of this section and the members of such committees.

### (c) Use of associations of producers and private insurance companies; payment of administrative and program expenses; sale of crop insurance through private agents and brokers; renewals, exclusion of compensation from premium rates, indemnification for errors or omissions of Commission or its contractors

In the administration of this subchapter, the Board shall, to the maximum extent possible, (1)

establish or use committees or associations of producers and make payments to them to cover the administrative and program expenses, as determined by the Board, incurred by them in cooperating in carrying out this subchapter, (2) contract with private insurance companies, private rating bureaus, and other organizations as appropriate for actuarial services, services relating to loss adjustment and rating plans of insurance, and other services to avoid duplication by the Federal Government of services that are or may readily be available in the private sector and to enable the Corporation to concentrate on regulating the provision of insurance under this subchapter and evaluating new products and materials submitted under section 1508(h) or 1523 of this title, and reimburse such companies for the administrative and program expenses, as determined by the Board, incurred by them, under terms and provisions and rates of compensation consistent with those generally prevailing in the insurance industry, and (3) encourage the sale of Federal crop insurance through licensed private insurance agents and brokers and give the insured the right to renew such insurance for successive terms through such agents and brokers, in which case the agent or broker shall be reasonably compensated from premiums paid by the insured for such sales and renewals recognizing the function of the agent or broker to provide continuing services while the insurance is in effect; *Provided*, That such compensation shall not be included in computations establishing premium rates. The Board shall provide such agents and brokers with indemnification, including costs and reasonable attorney fees, from the Corporation for errors or omissions on the part of the Corporation or its contractors for which the agent or broker is sued or held liable, except to the extent the agent or broker has caused the error or omission. Nothing in this subsection shall permit the Corporation to contract with other persons to carry out the responsibility of the Corporation to review and approve policies, rates, and other materials submitted under section 1508(h) of this title.

**(d) Allotment of funds to Federal and State agencies**

The Secretary may allot to bureaus and offices of the Department or transfer to such other agencies of the State and Federal Governments that the Secretary requests to assist in carrying out this subchapter any funds made available pursuant to the provisions of section 1516 of this title.

**(e) Utilization of producer cooperative associations**

In carrying out the provisions of this subchapter the Board may, in its discretion, utilize producer-owned and producer-controlled cooperative associations.

**(f) Use of resources, data, boards, and committees of Federal agencies**

If the Board determines it is necessary, the Board shall use, to the maximum extent practicable, the resources, data, boards, and the committees of—

- (1) the Natural Resources Conservation Service, in assisting the Board in—

- (A) the classification of land as to risk and production capability; and

- (B) the consideration of acceptable conservation practices, including good farming practices with respect to conservation (such as cover crop termination);

- (2) the Forest Service, in assisting the Board in the development of a timber insurance plan;

- (3) the Farm Service Agency, in assisting the Board in—

- (A) the determination of individual producer yields;

- (B) sharing information on beginning farmers and ranchers and veteran farmers and ranchers;

- (C) investigating potential waste, fraud, or abuse;

- (D) sharing information to support the transition of crops and counties from the noninsured crop disaster assistance program established by section 7333 of this title to insurance under this subchapter; and

- (E) serving as a local point of contact for the dissemination of information on risk management options available to farmers and ranchers; and

- (4) other Federal agencies, in assisting the Board in any way the Board determines is necessary in carrying out this subchapter.

**(g) Specialty Crops Coordinator**

- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall establish a management-level position to be known as the Specialty Crops Coordinator.

- (2) The Specialty Crops Coordinator shall have primary responsibility for addressing the needs of specialty crop producers, and for providing information and advice, in connection with the activities of the Corporation to improve and expand the insurance program for specialty crops. In carrying out this paragraph, the Specialty Crops Coordinator shall act as the liaison of the Corporation with representatives of specialty crop producers and assist the Corporation with the knowledge, expertise, and familiarity of the producers with risk management and production issues pertaining to specialty crops.

- (3) The Specialty Crops Coordinator shall use information collected from Corporation field office directors in States in which specialty crops have a significant economic effect and from other sources, including the extension service and colleges and universities.

- (4) SPECIALTY CROP LIAISONS.—The Specialty Crops Coordinator shall—

- (A) designate a Specialty Crops Liaison in each regional field office; and

- (B) share the contact information of the Specialty Crops Liaisons with specialty crop producers.

- (5) WEBSITE.—The Specialty Crops Coordinator shall establish a website focused on the efforts of the Corporation to provide and expand crop insurance for specialty crop producers.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 507, 52 Stat. 73; Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 440, § 6, 61 Stat. 719; Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, § 10, 63 Stat. 665; Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 782, title XI, § 1106(a), 63 Stat. 972; Pub. L. 92-310, title II, § 221(b), June 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 205; Pub. L. 96-365, title I, § 104, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1313;

Pub. L. 101-624, title XXII, §2206, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3958; Pub. L. 102-237, title VI, §601(3), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1878; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §§102(b)(4)(B), (C), 105, 115(b), 119(f)(2), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3181, 3182, 3204, 3208; Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §143, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 391; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, §§11104, 11105(a), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4920.)

### Editorial Notes

#### CODIFICATION

In subsec. (a), “chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5” substituted for “the Classification Act of 1949” on authority of Pub. L. 89-554, §7(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 631, the first section of which enacted Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Provisions that authorized personnel paid by the hour, day, or month when actually employed, and county crop insurance committeemen to have their compensation fixed without regard to “the Classification Act of 1923, as amended” were omitted as obsolete. Sections 1202 and 1204 of the Classification Act of 1949, 63 Stat. 972, 973 repealed the 1923 Act and all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the 1949 Act. While section 1106(a) of the 1949 Act provided that references in other laws to the 1923 Act should be held and considered to mean the 1949 Act it did not have the effect of continuing the exceptions contained in this subsection because of section 1106(b) which provided that the application of the 1949 Act to any position, officer, or employee shall not be affected by section 1106(a). The Classification Act of 1949 was repealed by Act Sept. 6, 1966, Pub. L. 89-554, §8(a), 80 Stat. 632 (of which section 1 revised and enacted Title 5, U.S.C., into law). Section 5102 of Title 5, now contains the applicability provisions of the 1949 Act, and section 5103 of Title 5 authorizes the Office of Personnel Management to determine the applicability to specific positions and employees.

In subsec. (b), reference to “subchapter I of chapter 81 of title 5” substituted for “the Act entitled ‘An Act to provide compensation for employees of the United States suffering injuries while in the performance of their duties, and for other purposes’, approved September 7, 1916, as amended” on authority of Pub. L. 89-554, §7(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 631, the first section of which enacted Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 115-334, §11104, rewrote subsec. (f), inserting subsec. heading and introductory provisions, adding pars. (1), (3), and (4), realigning margins in par. (2), and striking out former introductory provisions and former pars. (1), (2), and (4). Prior to amendment, text of subsec. (f) read as follows: “The Board should use, to the maximum extent possible, the resources, data, boards, and the committees of (1) the Soil Conservation Service, in assisting the Board in the classification of land as to risk and production capability and in the development of acceptable conservation practices; (2) the Forest Service, in assisting the Board in the development of a timber insurance plan; (3) the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, in assisting the Board in the determination of individual producer yields and in serving as a local contact point for farmers where the Board deems necessary; and (4) other Federal agencies in any way the Board deems necessary in carrying out this subchapter.”

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 115-334, §11105(a), inserted subsec. and par. (1) headings and added pars. (4) and (5).

2008—Subsecs. (b) to (f). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

2000—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 106-224, in cl. (2), substituted “actuarial services, services relating to loss adjustment and rating plans of insurance,” for “actuarial, loss adjustment,” and inserted “and to enable the Corporation to concentrate on regulating the provision of insurance under this chapter and evaluating new products and materials submitted under section 1508(h) or 1523 of this title” after “private sector”.

1994—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 103-354, §§105(1), 115(b)(1), substituted “as the Secretary may determine appropriate. However,” for “as he may determine: *Provided*, That” and struck out “, and county crop insurance committeemen” before “may be appointed”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 103-354, §119(f)(2), substituted “1508(h)” for “1508(b)” in last sentence.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 103-354, §105(2), made technical amendment to reference to section 1516 of this title and struck out before period at end “, except that employees or agencies responsible for administering this chapter in each county shall be selected and designated by the Corporation and shall be responsible directly to the Corporation without the intervention of any intermediate office or agency”.

Pub. L. 103-354, §102(b)(4)(B), (C), 115(b)(2), substituted “Secretary” for “Secretary of Agriculture”, “Department” for “Department of Agriculture”, and “that the Secretary requests” for “as he may request”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 103-354, §105(3), added subsec. (g). 1991—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 102-237 inserted a comma after “private insurance companies” in cl. (2).

1990—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101-624 inserted “private rating bureaus, and other organizations as appropriate for actuarial, loss adjustment, and other services to avoid duplication by the Federal Government of services that are or may readily be available in the private sector,” after “private insurance companies” and inserted at end “Nothing in this subsection shall permit the Corporation to contract with other persons to carry out the responsibility of the Corporation to review and approve policies, rates, and other materials submitted under section 1508(b) of this title.”

1980—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-365, §104(1), inserted “shall, to the maximum extent possible”, incorporated existing provisions in cl. (1), including in cl. (1) provision for payment of program expenses, but omitting provision for inclusion of estimated expenses in insurance premiums, and added cls. (2) and (3) and provisions for exclusion of compensation from premium rates and indemnification of agents and brokers for errors or omissions of Commission or its contractors.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 96-365, §104(2), added subsec. (f).

1972—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 92-310 struck out provisions which empowered Secretary to require bonds of officers and employees.

1949—Act Oct. 28, 1949, substituted “Classification Act of 1949” for “Classification Act of 1923”.

Act Aug. 25, 1949, inserted requirement that officers and employees be appointed subject to civil service laws and regulations, and exempted personnel paid by hour, day, or month when employed, and county crop insurance committeemen from civil-service laws and regulations or the Classification Act of 1923.

1947—Act Aug. 1, 1947, provided for selection and designation of county employees and agencies and their direct responsibility.

### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under

Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-365 effective Sept. 26, 1980, see section 112 of Pub. L. 96-365, set out as a note under section 1504 of this title.

#### REPEALS

Act Oct. 28, 1949, ch. 782, cited as a credit to this section, was repealed (subject to a savings clause) by Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, § 8, 80 Stat. 632, 655.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

### § 1508. Crop insurance

#### (a) Authority to offer insurance

##### (1) In general

If sufficient actuarial data are available (as determined by the Corporation), the Corporation may insure, or provide reinsurance for insurers of, producers of agricultural commodities grown in the United States under 1 or more plans of insurance determined by the Corporation to be adapted to the agricultural commodity concerned. To qualify for coverage under a plan of insurance, the losses of the insured commodity must be due to drought, flood, or other natural disaster (as determined by the Secretary).

##### (2) Period

Except in the cases of tobacco, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and hemp, insurance shall not extend beyond the period during which the insured commodity is in the field. As used in the preceding sentence, in the case of an aquacultural species, the term "field" means the environment in which the commodity is produced.

##### (3) Exclusion of losses due to certain actions of producer

###### (A) Exclusions

Insurance provided under this subsection shall not cover losses due to—

- (i) the neglect or malfeasance of the producer;
- (ii) the failure of the producer to reseed to the same crop in such areas and under such circumstances as it is customary to reseed; or
- (iii) the failure of the producer to follow good farming practices, including scientifically sound sustainable and organic farming practices.

###### (B) Good farming practices determination review

###### (i) Informal administrative process

A producer shall have the right to a review of a determination regarding good

farming practices made under subparagraph (A)(iii) in accordance with an informal administrative process to be established by the Corporation.

#### (ii) Administrative review

##### (I) No adverse decision

The determination shall not be considered an adverse decision for purposes of subtitle H of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6991 et seq.).

##### (II) Reversal or modification

Except as provided in clause (i), the determination may not be reversed or modified as the result of a subsequent administrative review.

#### (iii) Judicial review

##### (I) Right to review

A producer shall have the right to judicial review of the determination without exhausting any right to a review under clause (i).

##### (II) Reversal or modification

The determination may not be reversed or modified as the result of judicial review unless the determination is found to be arbitrary or capricious.

#### (C) Limitation on revenue coverage for potatoes

No policy or plan of insurance provided under this subchapter (including a policy or plan of insurance approved by the Board under subsection (h)) shall cover losses due to a reduction in revenue for potatoes except as covered under a whole farm policy or plan of insurance, as determined by the Corporation.

#### (4) Expansion to other areas or single producers

##### (A) Area expansion

The Corporation may offer plans of insurance or reinsurance for production of agricultural commodities in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau in the same manner as provided in this section for production of agricultural commodities in the United States.

##### (B) Producer expansion

In an area in the United States or specified in subparagraph (A) where crop insurance is not available for a particular agricultural commodity, the Corporation may offer to enter into a written agreement with an individual producer operating in the area for insurance coverage under this subchapter if the producer has actuarially sound data relating to the production by the producer of the commodity or similar commodities and the data is acceptable to the Corporation.



**(5) Dissemination of crop insurance information**

**(A) Available information**

The Corporation shall make available to producers through local offices of the Department—

- (i) current and complete information on all aspects of Federal crop insurance; and
- (ii) a listing of insurance agents and companies offering to sell crop insurance in the area of the producers.

**(B) Use of electronic methods**

**(i) Dissemination by Corporation**

The Corporation shall make the information described in subparagraph (A) available electronically to producers and approved insurance providers.

**(ii) Submission to Corporation**

To the maximum extent practicable, the Corporation shall allow producers and approved insurance providers to use electronic methods to submit information required by the Corporation.

**(6) Addition of new and specialty crops (including value-added crops)**

**(A) Annual review**

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2018, and annually thereafter, the manager of the Corporation shall prepare, to the maximum extent practicable, based on data shared from the noninsured crop disaster assistance program established by section 7333 of this title, written agreements, or other data, and present to the Board not less than 1 of each of the following:

- (i) Research and development for a policy or plan of insurance for a commodity for which there is no existing policy or plan of insurance.
- (ii) Expansion of an existing policy or plan of insurance to additional counties or States, including malting barley endorsements or contract options.
- (iii) Research and development for a new policy or plan of insurance, or endorsement, for commodities with existing policies or plans of insurance, such as dollar plans.

**(B) Report**

Not later than 1 year after October 13, 1994, and annually thereafter, the Corporation shall report to Congress on the progress and expected timetable for expanding crop insurance coverage under this subchapter to new and specialty crops.

**(7) Adequate coverage for States and underserved producers**

**(A) Definitions**

In this paragraph:

**(i) Adequately served**

The term “adequately served” means having a participation rate, by crop, that is at least 50 percent of the national average participation rate.

**(ii) Underserved producer**

The term “underserved producer” means an individual (including a member of an Indian Tribe) that is—

- (I) a beginning farmer or rancher;
- (II) a veteran farmer or rancher; or
- (III) a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher.

**(B) Review**

Using resources and information available to the Board or the Secretary, the Board shall review the policies and plans of insurance that are offered by approved insurance providers under this subchapter, including policies and plans of insurance for underserved producers, to determine if each State is adequately served by the policies and plans of insurance.

**(C) Report**

**(i) In general**

Not later than 30 days after completion of the review under subparagraph (B), and not less frequently than once every 3 years thereafter, the Board shall make publicly available and submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report describing the results of the review.

**(ii) Recommendations**

The report under clause (i) shall include recommendations to increase participation in States and among underserved producers that are not adequately served by the policies and plans of insurance, including any plans for administrative action or recommendations for Congressional action.

**(8) Special provisions for cotton and rice**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, beginning with the 2001 crops of upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, and rice, the Corporation shall offer plans of insurance, including prevented planting coverage and replanting coverage, under this subchapter that cover losses of upland cotton, extra long staple cotton, and rice resulting from failure of irrigation water supplies due to drought and saltwater intrusion.

**(9) Premium adjustments**

**(A) Prohibition**

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), no person shall pay, allow, or give, or offer to pay, allow, or give, directly or indirectly, either as an inducement to procure insurance or after insurance has been procured, any rebate, discount, abatement, credit, or reduction of the premium named in an insurance policy or any other valuable consideration or inducement not specified in the policy.

**(B) Exceptions**

Subparagraph (A) does not apply with respect to—

- (i) a payment authorized under subsection (b)(5)(B);
- (ii) a performance-based discount authorized under subsection (d)(3); or
- (iii) a patronage dividend, or similar payment, that is paid—

- (I) by an entity that was approved by the Corporation to make such payments

for the 2005, 2006, or 2007 reinsurance year, in accordance with subsection (b)(5)(B) as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this paragraph; and

(II) in a manner consistent with the payment plan approved in accordance with that subsection for the entity by the Corporation for the applicable reinsurance year.

**(C) Publication of violations**

**(i) Publication required**

Subject to clause (ii), the Corporation shall publish in a timely manner on the website of the Risk Management Agency information regarding each violation of this paragraph, including any sanctions imposed in response to the violation, in sufficient detail so that the information may serve as effective guidance to approved insurance providers, agents, and producers.

**(ii) Protection of privacy**

In providing information under clause (i) regarding violations of this paragraph, the Corporation shall redact the identity of the persons and entities committing the violations in order to protect the privacy of those persons and entities.

**(10) Commissions**

**(A) Definition of immediate family**

In this paragraph, the term “immediate family” means an individual’s father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, grandparent, grandson, granddaughter, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, the spouse of the foregoing, and the individual’s spouse.

**(B) Prohibition**

No individual (including a subagent) may receive directly, or indirectly through an entity, any compensation (including any commission, profit sharing, bonus, or any other direct or indirect benefit) for the sale or service of a policy or plan of insurance offered under this subchapter if—

(i) the individual has a substantial beneficial interest, or a member of the individual’s immediate family has a substantial beneficial interest, in the policy or plan of insurance; and

(ii) the total compensation to be paid to the individual with respect to the sale or service of the policies or plans of insurance that meet the condition described in clause (i) exceeds 30 percent or the percentage specified in State law, whichever is less, of the total of all compensation received directly or indirectly by the individual for the sale or service of all policies and plans of insurance offered under this subchapter for the reinsurance year.

**(C) Reporting**

Not later than 90 days after the annual settlement date of the reinsurance year, any

individual that received directly or indirectly any compensation for the service or sale of any policy or plan of insurance offered under this subchapter in the prior reinsurance year shall certify to applicable approved insurance providers that the compensation that the individual received was in compliance with this paragraph.

**(D) Sanctions**

The procedural requirements and sanctions prescribed in section 1515(h) of this title shall apply to the prosecution of a violation of this paragraph.

**(E) Applicability**

**(i) In general**

Sanctions for violations under this paragraph shall only apply to the individuals or entities directly responsible for the certification required under subparagraph (C) or the failure to comply with the requirements of this paragraph.

**(ii) Prohibition**

No sanctions shall apply with respect to the policy or plans of insurance upon which compensation is received, including the reinsurance for those policies or plans.

**(11) Cover crops**

**(A) In general**

The voluntary practice of cover cropping shall be considered a good farming practice under paragraph (3)(A)(iii) if the cover crop is terminated in accordance with subparagraph (B).

**(B) Termination**

**(i) In general**

The termination of a cover crop shall be carried out according to—

(I) guidelines established by the Secretary; or

(II) an exception to the guidelines approved under clause (ii).

**(ii) Exception to guidelines**

The Corporation shall approve an exception to the guidelines under clause (i)(I) if that exception is recommended by—

(I) the Natural Resources Conservation Service; or

(II) an agricultural expert, as determined by the Corporation, unless the exception is determined to be unreasonable by the Corporation.

**(C) Insurability of subsequent crop**

Cover crop termination shall not affect the insurability of a subsequently planted insurable crop if the cover crop is terminated in accordance with subparagraph (B).

**(D) Summer fallow**

In a county in which summer fallow is an insurable practice, a cover crop in that county that is terminated in accordance with subparagraph (B) shall be considered as summer fallow for the purpose of insurability.

**(b) Catastrophic risk protection**

**(1) Coverage availability**

The Corporation shall offer a catastrophic risk protection plan to indemnify producers

for crop loss due to loss of yield or prevented planting, if provided by the Corporation, when the producer is unable, because of drought, flood, or other natural disaster (as determined by the Secretary), to plant other crops for harvest on the acreage for the crop year.

**(2) Amount of coverage**

**(A) In general**

Subject to subparagraph (B)—

(i) in the case of each of the 1995 through 1998 crop years, catastrophic risk protection shall offer a producer coverage for a 50 percent loss in yield, on an individual yield or area yield basis, indemnified at 60 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage (as determined by the Corporation); and

(ii) in the case of each of the 1999 and subsequent crop years, catastrophic risk protection shall offer a producer coverage for a 50 percent loss in yield, on an individual yield or area yield basis, indemnified at 55 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage (as determined by the Corporation).

**(B) Reduction in actual payment**

The amount paid to a producer on a claim under catastrophic risk protection may reflect a reduction that is proportional to the out-of-pocket expenses that are not incurred by the producer as a result of not planting, growing, or harvesting the crop for which the claim is made, as determined by the Corporation.

**(3) Alternative catastrophic coverage**

Beginning with the 2001 crop year, the Corporation shall offer producers of an agricultural commodity the option of selecting either of the following:

(A) The catastrophic risk protection coverage available under paragraph (2)(A).

(B) An alternative catastrophic risk protection coverage that—

(i) indemnifies the producer on an area yield and loss basis if such a policy or plan of insurance is offered for the agricultural commodity in the county in which the farm is located;

(ii) provides, on a uniform national basis, a higher combination of yield and price protection than the coverage available under paragraph (2)(A); and

(iii) the Corporation determines is comparable to the coverage available under paragraph (2)(A) for purposes of subsection (e)(2)(A).

**(4) Sale of catastrophic risk coverage**

**(A) In general**

Catastrophic risk coverage may be offered by—

(i) approved insurance providers, if available in an area; and

(ii) at the option of the Secretary that is based on considerations of need, local offices of the Department.

**(B) Need**

For purposes of considering need under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Secretary may

take into account the most efficient and cost-effective use of resources, the availability of personnel, fairness to local producers, the needs and convenience of local producers, and the availability of private insurance carriers.

**(C) Delivery of coverage**

**(i) In general**

In full consultation with approved insurance providers, the Secretary may continue to offer catastrophic risk protection in a State (or a portion of a State) through local offices of the Department if the Secretary determines that there is an insufficient number of approved insurance providers operating in the State or portion of the State to adequately provide catastrophic risk protection coverage to producers.

**(ii) Coverage by approved insurance providers**

To the extent that catastrophic risk protection coverage by approved insurance providers is sufficiently available in a State (or a portion of a State) as determined by the Secretary, only approved insurance providers may provide the coverage in the State or portion of the State.

**(iii) Timing of determinations**

Not later than 90 days after April 4, 1996, the Secretary shall announce the results of the determinations under clause (i) for policies for the 1997 crop year. For subsequent crop years, the Secretary shall make the announcement not later than April 30 of the year preceding the year in which the crop will be produced, or at such other times during the year as the Secretary finds practicable in consultation with affected crop insurance providers for those States (or portions of States) in which catastrophic coverage remains available through local offices of the Department.

**(iv) Current policies**

This clause shall take effect beginning with the 1997 crop year. Subject to clause (ii) all catastrophic risk protection policies written by local offices of the Department shall be transferred to the approved insurance provider for performance of all sales, service, and loss adjustment functions. Any fees in connection with such policies that are not yet collected at the time of the transfer shall be payable to the approved insurance providers assuming the policies. The transfer process for policies for the 1997 crop year with sales closing dates before January 1, 1997, shall begin at the time of the Secretary's announcement under clause (iii) and be completed by the sales closing date for the crop and county. The transfer process for all subsequent policies (including policies for the 1998 and subsequent crop years) shall begin at a date that permits the process to be completed not later than 45 days before the sales closing date.

**(5) Administrative fee****(A) Basic fee**

Each producer shall pay an administrative fee for catastrophic risk protection in the amount of \$655 per crop per county.

**(B) Payment of catastrophic risk protection fee on behalf of producers****(i) Payment authorized**

If State law permits a licensing fee to be paid by an insurance provider to a cooperative association or trade association and rebated to a producer through the payment of catastrophic risk protection administrative fees, a cooperative association or trade association located in that State may pay, on behalf of a member of the association in that State or a contiguous State who consents to be insured under such an arrangement, all or a portion of the administrative fee required by this paragraph for catastrophic risk protection.

**(ii) Selection of provider**

Nothing in this subparagraph limits the option of a producer to select the licensed insurance agent or other approved insurance provider from whom the producer will purchase a policy or plan of insurance or to refuse coverage for which a payment is offered to be made under clause (i).

**(iii) Delivery of insurance**

Catastrophic risk protection coverage for which a payment is made under clause (i) shall be delivered by a licensed insurance agent or other approved insurance provider.

**(iv) Additional coverage encouraged**

A cooperative association or trade association, and any approved insurance provider with whom a licensing fee is made, shall encourage producer members to purchase appropriate levels of coverage in order to meet the risk management needs of the member producers.

**(C) Time for payment**

The administrative fee required by this paragraph shall be paid by the producer on the same date on which the premium for a policy of additional coverage would be paid by the producer.

**(D) Use of fees****(i) In general**

The amounts paid under this paragraph shall be deposited in the crop insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title, to be available for the programs and activities of the Corporation.

**(ii) Limitation**

No funds deposited in the crop insurance fund under this subparagraph may be used to compensate an approved insurance provider or agent for the delivery of services under this subsection.

**(E) Waiver of fee****(i) In general**

The Corporation shall waive the amounts required under this paragraph for

limited resource farmers and beginning farmers or ranchers, as defined by the Corporation, and veteran farmers or ranchers.

**(ii) Coordination**

The Corporation shall coordinate with other agencies of the Department that provide programs or services to farmers and ranchers described in clause (i) to make available coverage under the waiver under that clause and to share eligibility information to reduce paperwork and avoid duplication.

**(6) Participation requirement**

A producer may obtain catastrophic risk coverage for a crop of the producer on land in the county only if the producer obtains the coverage for the crop on all insurable land of the producer in the county.

**(7) Limitation due to risk**

The Corporation may limit catastrophic risk coverage in any county or area, or on any farm, on the basis of the insurance risk concerned.

**(8) Transitional coverage for 1995 crops**

Effective only for a 1995 crop planted or for which insurance attached prior to January 1, 1995, the Corporation shall allow producers of the crops until not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of enactment of the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [Oct. 13, 1994] to obtain catastrophic risk protection for the crop. On enactment of such Act, a producer who made timely purchases of a crop insurance policy before the date of enactment of such Act, under the provisions of this subchapter then in effect, shall be eligible for the same benefits to which a producer would be entitled under comparable additional coverage under subsection (c).

**(9) Simplification****(A) Catastrophic risk protection plans**

In developing and carrying out the policies and procedures for a catastrophic risk protection plan under this subchapter, the Corporation shall, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize the paperwork required and the complexity and costs of procedures governing applications for, processing, and servicing of the plan for all parties involved.

**(B) Other plans**

To the extent that the policies and procedures developed under subparagraph (A) may be applied to other plans of insurance offered under this subchapter without jeopardizing the actuarial soundness or integrity of the crop insurance program, the Corporation shall apply the policies and procedures to the other plans of insurance within a reasonable period of time (as determined by the Corporation) after the effective date of this paragraph.

**(10) Loss adjustment**

The rate for reimbursing an approved insurance provider or agent for expenses incurred by the approved insurance provider or agent

for loss adjustment in connection with a policy of catastrophic risk protection shall not exceed 6 percent of the premium for catastrophic risk protection that is used to define loss ratio.

**(c) General coverage levels**

**(1) Additional coverage generally**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall offer to producers of agricultural commodities grown in the United States plans of crop insurance that provide additional coverage.

**(B) Purchase**

To be eligible for additional coverage, a producer must apply to an approved insurance provider for purchase of additional coverage if the coverage is available from an approved insurance provider. If additional coverage is unavailable privately, the Corporation may offer additional coverage plans of insurance directly to producers.

**(2) Transfer of relevant information**

If a producer has already applied for catastrophic risk protection at the local office of the Department and elects to purchase additional coverage, the relevant information for the crop of the producer shall be transferred to the approved insurance provider servicing the additional coverage crop policy.

**(3) Yield and loss basis options**

A producer shall have the option of purchasing additional coverage based on—

- (A)(i) an individual yield and loss basis; or
- (ii) an area yield and loss basis;

(B) an individual yield and loss basis, supplemented with coverage based on an area yield and loss basis to cover a part of the deductible under the individual yield and loss policy, as described in paragraph (4)(C); or

(C) a margin basis alone or in combination with the coverages available under subparagraph (A) or (B).

**(4) Level of coverage**

**(A) Dollar denomination and percentage of yield**

Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the level of coverage—

- (i) shall be dollar denominated; and
- (ii) may be purchased at any level not to exceed 85 percent of the individual yield or 95 percent of the area yield (as determined by the Corporation).

**(B) Information**

The Corporation shall provide producers with information on catastrophic risk and additional coverage in terms of dollar coverage (within the allowable limits of coverage provided in this paragraph).

**(C) Supplemental coverage option**

**(i) In general**

Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), in the case of the supplemental coverage option described in paragraph (3)(B), the Corporation shall offer producers the opportunity to purchase coverage in combina-

tion with a policy or plan of insurance offered under this subchapter that would allow indemnities to be paid to a producer equal to a part of the deductible under the policy or plan of insurance—

(I) at a county-wide level to the fullest extent practicable; or

(II) in counties that lack sufficient data, on the basis of such larger geographical area as the Corporation determines to provide sufficient data for purposes of providing the coverage.

**(ii) Trigger**

Coverage offered under paragraph (3)(B) and clause (i) shall be triggered only if the losses in the area exceed 14 percent of normal levels (as determined by the Corporation).

**(iii) Coverage**

Subject to the trigger described in clause (ii), coverage offered under paragraph (3)(B) and clause (i) shall not exceed the difference between—

(I) 86 percent; and

(II) the coverage level selected by the producer for the underlying policy or plan of insurance.

**(iv) Ineligible crops and acres**

Crops for which the producer has elected under section 9016 of this title to receive agriculture risk coverage and acres that are enrolled in the stacked income protection plan under section 1508b of this title shall not be eligible for supplemental coverage under this subparagraph.

**(v) Calculation of premium**

Notwithstanding subsection (d), the premium for coverage offered under paragraph (3)(B) and clause (i) shall—

(I) be sufficient to cover anticipated losses and a reasonable reserve; and

(II) include an amount for operating and administrative expenses established in accordance with subsection (k)(4)(F).

**(5) Expected market price**

**(A) Establishment or approval**

For the purposes of this subchapter, the Corporation shall establish or approve the price level (referred to in this subchapter as the “expected market price”) of each agricultural commodity for which insurance is offered.

**(B) General rule**

Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (C), the expected market price of an agricultural commodity shall be not less than the projected market price of the agricultural commodity, as determined by the Corporation.

**(C) Other authorized approaches**

The expected market price of an agricultural commodity—

- (i) may be based on the actual market price of the agricultural commodity at the time of harvest, as determined by the Corporation;

(ii) in the case of revenue and other similar plans of insurance, may be the actual market price of the agricultural commodity, as determined by the Corporation;

(iii) in the case of cost of production or similar plans of insurance, shall be the projected cost of producing the agricultural commodity, as determined by the Corporation; or

(iv) in the case of other plans of insurance, may be an appropriate amount, as determined by the Corporation.

**(D) Grain sorghum price election**

**(i) In general**

The Corporation, in conjunction with the Secretary (referred to in this subparagraph as the “Corporation”), shall—

(I) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, make available all methods and data, including data from the Economic Research Service, used by the Corporation to develop the expected market prices for grain sorghum under the production and revenue-based plans of insurance of the Corporation; and

(II) request applicable data from the grain sorghum industry.

**(ii) Expert reviewers**

**(I) In general**

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, the Corporation shall contract individually with 5 expert reviewers described in subclause (II) to develop and recommend a methodology for determining an expected market price for sorghum for both the production and revenue-based plans of insurance to more accurately reflect the actual price at harvest.

**(II) Requirements**

The expert reviewers under subclause (I) shall be comprised of agricultural economists with experience in grain sorghum and corn markets, of whom—

(aa) 2 shall be agricultural economists of institutions of higher education;

(bb) 2 shall be economists from within the Department; and

(cc) 1 shall be an economist nominated by the grain sorghum industry.

**(iii) Recommendations**

**(I) In general**

Not later than 90 days after the date of contracting with the expert reviewers under clause (ii), the expert reviewers shall submit, and the Corporation shall make available to the public, the recommendations of the expert reviewers.

**(II) Consideration**

The Corporation shall consider the recommendations under subclause (I) when determining the appropriate pricing methodology to determine the expected market price for grain sorghum under both the production and revenue-based plans of insurance.

**(III) Publication**

Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Corporation receives the recommendations of the expert reviewers, the Corporation shall publish the proposed pricing methodology for both the production and revenue-based plans of insurance for notice and comment and, during the comment period, conduct at least 1 public meeting to discuss the proposed pricing methodologies.

**(iv) Appropriate pricing methodology**

**(I) In general**

Not later than 180 days after the close of the comment period in clause (iii)(III), but effective not later than the 2010 crop year, the Corporation shall implement a pricing methodology for grain sorghum under the production and revenue-based plans of insurance that is transparent and replicable.

**(II) Interim methodology**

Until the date on which the new pricing methodology is implemented, the Corporation may continue to use the pricing methodology that the Corporation determines best establishes the expected market price.

**(III) Availability**

On an annual basis, the Corporation shall make available the pricing methodology and data used to determine the expected market prices for grain sorghum under the production and revenue-based plans of insurance, including any changes to the methodology used to determine the expected market prices for grain sorghum from the previous year.

**(6) Price elections**

**(A) In general**

Subject to subparagraph (B), insurance coverage shall be made available to a producer on the basis of any price election that equals or is less than the price election established by the Corporation. The coverage shall be quoted in terms of dollars per acre.

**(B) Minimum price elections**

The Corporation may establish minimum price elections below which levels of insurance shall not be offered.

**(C) Wheat classes and malting barley**

The Corporation shall, as the Corporation determines practicable, offer producers different price elections for classes of wheat and malting barley (including contract prices in the case of malting barley), in addition to the standard price election, that reflect different market prices, as determined by the Corporation. The Corporation shall, as the Corporation determines practicable, offer additional coverage for each class determined under this subparagraph and charge a premium for each class that is actuarially sound.

**(D) Organic crops**

**(i) In general**

As soon as possible, but not later than the 2015 reinsurance year, the Corporation

shall offer producers of organic crops price elections for all organic crops produced in compliance with standards issued by the Department of Agriculture under the national organic program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6501 et seq.) that reflect the actual retail or wholesale prices, as appropriate, received by producers for organic crops, as determined by the Secretary using all relevant sources of information.

**(ii) Annual report**

The Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate an annual report on progress made in developing and improving Federal crop insurance for organic crops, including—

(I) the numbers and varieties of organic crops insured;

(II) the progress of implementing the price elections required under this subparagraph, including the rate at which additional price elections are adopted for organic crops;

(III) the development of new insurance approaches relevant to organic producers; and

(IV) any recommendations the Corporation considers appropriate to improve Federal crop insurance coverage for organic crops.

**(7) Fire and hail coverage**

For levels of additional coverage equal to 65 percent or more of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of the expected market price, or an equivalent coverage, a producer may elect to delete from the additional coverage any coverage against damage caused by fire and hail if the producer obtains an equivalent or greater dollar amount of coverage for damage caused by fire and hail from an approved insurance provider. On written notice of the election to the company issuing the policy providing additional coverage and submission of evidence of substitute coverage on the commodity insured, the premium of the producer shall be reduced by an amount determined by the Corporation to be actuarially appropriate, taking into account the actuarial value of the remaining coverage provided by the Corporation. In no event shall the producer be given credit for an amount of premium determined to be greater than the actuarial value of the protection against losses caused by fire and hail that is included in the additional coverage for the crop.

**(8) State premium subsidies**

The Corporation may enter into an agreement with any State or agency of a State under which the State or agency may pay to the approved insurance provider an additional premium subsidy to further reduce the portion of the premium paid by producers in the State.

**(9) Limitations on additional coverage**

The Board may limit the availability of additional coverage under this subsection in any

county or area, or on any farm, on the basis of the insurance risk involved. The Board shall not offer additional coverage equal to less than 50 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of the expected market price, or an equivalent coverage.

**(10) Administrative fee**

**(A) Fee required**

If a producer elects to purchase coverage for a crop at a level in excess of catastrophic risk protection, the producer shall pay an administrative fee for the additional coverage of \$30 per crop per county.

**(B) Use of fees; waiver**

Subparagraphs (D) and (E) of subsection (b)(5) shall apply with respect to the collection and use of administrative fees under this paragraph.

**(C) Time for payment**

Subsection (b)(5)(C) shall apply with respect to the collection date for the administrative fee.

**(d) Premiums**

**(1) Premiums required**

The Corporation shall fix adequate premiums for all the plans of insurance of the Corporation at such rates as the Board determines are actuarially sufficient to attain an expected loss ratio of not greater than—

(A) 1.1 through September 30, 1998;

(B) 1.075 for the period beginning October 1, 1998, and ending on the day before the date of enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008; and

(C) 1.0 on and after the date of enactment of that Act.

**(2) Premium amounts**

The premium amounts for catastrophic risk protection under subsection (b) and additional coverage under subsection (c) shall be fixed as follows:

(A) In the case of catastrophic risk protection, the amount of the premium established by the Corporation for each crop for which catastrophic risk protection is available shall be reduced by the percentage equal to the difference between the average loss ratio for the crop and 100 percent, plus a reasonable reserve, as determined by the Corporation.

(B) In the case of additional coverage equal to or greater than 50 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage for a policy or plan of insurance that is not based on individual yield, the amount of the premium shall—

(i) be sufficient to cover anticipated losses and a reasonable reserve; and

(ii) include an amount for operating and administrative expenses, as determined by the Corporation, on an industry-wide basis as a percentage of the amount of the premium used to define loss ratio.

**(3) Performance-based discount**

The Corporation may provide a performance-based premium discount for a producer of an

agricultural commodity who has good insurance or production experience relative to other producers of that agricultural commodity in the same area, as determined by the Corporation.

**(4) Billing date for premiums**

Effective beginning with the 2012 reinsurance year, the Corporation shall establish August 15 as the billing date for premiums.

**(e) Payment of portion of premium by Corporation**

**(1) In general**

For the purpose of encouraging the broadest possible participation of producers in the catastrophic risk protection provided under subsection (b) and the additional coverage provided under subsection (c), the Corporation shall pay a part of the premium in the amounts provided in accordance with this subsection.

**(2) Amount of payment**

Subject to paragraphs (3), (6), and (7), the amount of the premium to be paid by the Corporation shall be as follows:

(A) In the case of catastrophic risk protection, the amount shall be equivalent to the premium established for catastrophic risk protection under subsection (d)(2)(A).

(B) In the case of additional coverage equal to or greater than 50 percent, but less than 55 percent, of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage for a policy or plan of insurance that is not based on individual yield, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 67 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(C) In the case of additional coverage equal to or greater than 55 percent, but less than 65 percent, of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage for a policy or plan of insurance that is not based on individual yield, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 64 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(D) In the case of additional coverage equal to or greater than 65 percent, but less than 75 percent, of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage for a policy

or plan of insurance that is not based on individual yield, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 59 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(E) In the case of additional coverage equal to or greater than 75 percent, but less than 80 percent, of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage for a policy or plan of insurance that is not based on individual yield, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 55 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(F) In the case of additional coverage equal to or greater than 80 percent, but less than 85 percent, of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage for a policy or plan of insurance that is not based on individual yield, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 48 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(G) Subject to subsection (c)(4), in the case of additional coverage equal to or greater than 85 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, or a comparable coverage for a policy or plan of insurance that is not based on individual yield, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 38 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(H) In the case of the supplemental coverage option authorized in subsection (c)(4)(C), the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 65 percent of the additional premium associated with the coverage; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (c)(4)(C)(v)(II), subject to sub-



section (k)(4)(F), for the coverage to cover operating and administrative expenses.

**(3) Prohibition on continuous coverage**

Notwithstanding paragraph (2), during each of the 2001 and subsequent reinsurance years, additional coverage under subsection (c) shall be available only in 5 percent increments beginning at 50 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield.

**(4) Premium payment disclosure**

Each policy or plan of insurance under this subchapter shall prominently indicate the dollar amount of the portion of the premium paid by the Corporation.

**(5) Enterprise and whole farm units**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation may pay a portion of the premiums for plans or policies of insurance for which the insurable unit is defined on a whole farm or enterprise unit basis that is higher than would otherwise be paid in accordance with paragraph (2).

**(B) Amount**

The percentage of the premium paid by the Corporation to a policyholder for a policy with an enterprise or whole farm unit under this paragraph shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide the same dollar amount of premium subsidy per acre that would otherwise have been paid by the Corporation under paragraph (2) if the policyholder had purchased a basic or optional unit for the crop for the crop year.

**(C) Limitation**

The amount of the premium paid by the Corporation under this paragraph may not exceed 80 percent of the total premium for the enterprise or whole farm unit policy.

**(D) Nonirrigated crops**

Beginning with the 2015 crop year, the Corporation shall make available separate enterprise units for irrigated and nonirrigated acreage of crops in counties.

**(E) Enterprise units across county lines**

The Corporation may allow a producer to establish a single enterprise unit by combining an enterprise unit with—

- (i) 1 or more other enterprise units in 1 or more other counties; or
- (ii) all basic units and all optional units in 1 or more other counties.

**(6) Premium subsidy for area revenue plans**

Subject to paragraph (4), in the case of a policy or plan of insurance that covers losses due to a reduction in revenue in an area, the amount of the premium paid by the Corporation shall be as follows:

(A) In the case of additional area coverage equal to or greater than 70 percent, but less than 75 percent, of the recorded county yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

- (i) 59 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection

(d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(B) In the case of additional area coverage equal to or greater than 75 percent, but less than 85 percent, of the recorded county yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 55 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(C) In the case of additional area coverage equal to or greater than 85 percent, but less than 90 percent, of the recorded county yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 49 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(D) In the case of additional area coverage equal to or greater than 90 percent of the recorded county yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 44 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

**(7) Premium subsidy for area yield plans**

Subject to paragraph (4), in the case of a policy or plan of insurance that covers losses due to a loss of yield or prevented planting in an area, the amount of the premium paid by the Corporation shall be as follows:

(A) In the case of additional area coverage equal to or greater than 70 percent, but less than 80 percent, of the recorded county yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 59 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(B) In the case of additional area coverage equal to or greater than 80 percent, but less

than 90 percent, of the recorded county yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 55 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

(C) In the case of additional area coverage equal to or greater than 90 percent,<sup>1</sup> of the recorded county yield indemnified at not greater than 100 percent of the expected market price, the amount shall be equal to the sum of—

(i) 51 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(i) for the coverage level selected; and

(ii) the amount determined under subsection (d)(2)(B)(ii) for the coverage level selected to cover operating and administrative expenses.

**(8) Premium for beginning and veteran farmers or ranchers**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection regarding payment of a portion of premiums, a beginning farmer or rancher or veteran farmer or rancher shall receive premium assistance that is 10 percentage points greater than premium assistance that would otherwise be available under paragraphs (2) (except for subparagraph (A) of that paragraph), (5), (6), and (7) for the applicable policy, plan of insurance, and coverage level selected by the beginning farmer or rancher or veteran farmer or rancher.

**(f) Eligibility**

**(1) In general**

To participate in catastrophic risk protection coverage under this section, a producer shall submit an application at the local office of the Department or to an approved insurance provider.

**(2) Sales closing date**

**(A) In general**

For coverage under this subchapter, each producer shall purchase crop insurance on or before the sales closing date for the crop by providing the required information and executing the required documents. Subject to the goal of ensuring actuarial soundness for the crop insurance program, the sales closing date shall be established by the Corporation to maximize convenience to producers in obtaining benefits under price and production adjustment programs of the Department.

**(B) Established dates**

Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the Corporation shall establish, for an insurance policy for each insurable crop that is

planted in the spring, a sales closing date that is 30 days earlier than the corresponding sales closing date that was established for the 1994 crop year.

**(C) Exception**

If compliance with subparagraph (B) results in a sales closing date for an agricultural commodity that is earlier than January 31, the sales closing date for that commodity shall be January 31 beginning with the 2000 crop year.

**(3) Records and reporting**

To obtain catastrophic risk protection under subsection (b) or additional coverage under subsection (c), a producer shall—

(A) provide annually records acceptable to the Secretary regarding crop acreage, acreage yields, and production for each agricultural commodity insured under this subchapter or accept a yield determined by the Corporation; and

(B) report acreage planted and prevented from planting by the designated acreage reporting date for the crop and location as established by the Corporation.

**(g) Yield determinations**

**(1) In general**

Subject to paragraph (2), the Corporation shall establish crop insurance underwriting rules that ensure that yield coverage, as specified in this subsection, is provided to eligible producers obtaining catastrophic risk protection under subsection (b) or additional coverage under subsection (c).

**(2) Yield coverage plans**

**(A) Actual production history**

Subject to subparagraph (B) and paragraph (4)(C), the yield for a crop shall be based on the actual production history for the crop, if the crop was produced on the farm without penalty during each of the 4 crop years immediately preceding the crop year for which actual production history is being established, building up to a production data base for each of the 10 consecutive crop years preceding the crop year for which actual production history is being established.

**(B) Assigned yield**

If the producer does not provide satisfactory evidence of the yield of a commodity under subparagraph (A), the producer shall be assigned—

(i) a yield that is not less than 65 percent of the transitional yield of the producer (adjusted to reflect actual production reflected in the records acceptable to the Corporation for continuous years), as specified in regulations issued by the Corporation based on production history requirements;

(ii) a yield determined by the Corporation, in the case of—

(I) a producer that has not had a share of the production of the insured crop for more than two crop years, as determined by the Secretary;

(II) a producer that produces an agricultural commodity on land that has not been farmed by the producer; or

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The comma probably should not appear.

(III) a producer that rotates a crop produced on a farm to a crop that has not been produced on the farm; or

(iii) if the producer is a beginning farmer or rancher or veteran farmer or rancher who was previously involved in a farming or ranching operation, including involvement in the decisionmaking or physical involvement in the production of the crop or livestock on the farm, for any acreage obtained by the beginning farmer or rancher or veteran farmer or rancher, a yield that is the higher of—

(I) the actual production history of the previous producer of the crop or livestock on the acreage determined under subparagraph (A); or

(II) a yield of the producer, as determined in clause (i).

**(C) Area yield**

The Corporation may offer a crop insurance plan based on an area yield that allows an insured producer to qualify for an indemnity if a loss has occurred in an area (as specified by the Corporation) in which the farm of the producer is located. Under an area yield plan, an insured producer shall be allowed to select the level of area production at which an indemnity will be paid consistent with such terms and conditions as are established by the Corporation.

**(D) Commodity-by-commodity basis**

A producer may choose between individual yield or area yield coverage or combined coverage, if available, on a commodity-by-commodity basis.

**(E) Sources of yield data**

To determine yields under this paragraph, the Corporation—

(i) shall use county data collected by the Risk Management Agency, the National Agricultural Statistics Service, or both; or

(ii) if sufficient county data is not available, may use other data considered appropriate by the Secretary.

**(3) Transitional yields for producers of feed or forage**

**(A) In general**

If a producer does not provide satisfactory evidence of a yield under paragraph (2)(A), the producer shall be assigned a yield that is at least 80 percent of the transitional yield established by the Corporation (adjusted to reflect the actual production history of the producer) if the Secretary determines that—

(i) the producer grows feed or forage primarily for on-farm use in a livestock, dairy, or poultry operation; and

(ii) over 50 percent of the net farm income of the producer is derived from the operation.

**(B) Yield calculation**

The Corporation shall—

(i) for the first year of participation of a producer, provide the assigned yield under this paragraph to the producer of feed or forage; and

(ii) for the second year of participation of the producer, apply the actual production history or assigned yield requirement, as provided in this subsection.

**(C) Termination of authority**

The authority provided by this paragraph shall terminate on the date that is 3 years after the effective date of this paragraph.

**(4) Adjustment in actual production history to establish insurable yields**

**(A) Application**

This paragraph shall apply whenever the Corporation uses the actual production records of the producer to establish the producer's actual production history for an agricultural commodity for any of the 2001 and subsequent crop years.

**(B) Election to use percentage of transitional yield**

If, for one or more of the crop years used to establish the producer's actual production history of an agricultural commodity, the producer's recorded or appraised yield of the commodity was less than 60 percent of the applicable transitional yield, as determined by the Corporation, the Corporation shall, at the election of the producer—

(i) exclude any of such recorded or appraised yield; and

(ii)(I) replace each excluded yield with a yield equal to 60 percent of the applicable transitional yield; or

(II) in the case of beginning farmers or ranchers and veteran farmers or ranchers, replace each excluded yield with a yield equal to 80 percent of the applicable transitional yield.

**(C) Election to exclude certain history**

**(i) In general**

Notwithstanding paragraph (2), with respect to 1 or more of the crop years used to establish the actual production history of an agricultural commodity of the producer, the producer may elect to exclude any recorded or appraised yield for any crop year in which the per planted acre yield of the agricultural commodity in the county of the producer was at least 50 percent below the simple average of the per planted acre yield of the agricultural commodity in the county during the previous 10 consecutive crop years.

**(ii) Contiguous counties**

In any crop year that a producer in a county is eligible to make an election to exclude a yield under clause (i), a producer in a contiguous county is eligible to make such an election.

**(iii) Irrigation practice**

For purposes of determining whether the per planted acre yield of the agricultural commodity in the county of the producer was at least 50 percent below the simple average of the per planted acre yield of the agricultural commodity in the county during the previous 10 consecutive crop years,

the Corporation shall make a separate determination for irrigated and nonirrigated acreage.

**(D) Premium adjustment**

In the case of a producer that makes an election under subparagraph (B) or (C), the Corporation shall adjust the premium to reflect the risk associated with the adjustment made in the actual production history of the producer.

**(5) Adjustment to reflect increased yields from successful pest control efforts**

**(A) Situations justifying adjustment**

The Corporation shall develop a methodology for adjusting the actual production history of a producer when each of the following apply:

(i) The producer's farm is located in an area where systematic, area-wide efforts have been undertaken using certain operations or measures, or the producer's farm is a location at which certain operations or measures have been undertaken, to detect, eradicate, suppress, or control, or at least to prevent or retard the spread of, a plant disease or plant pest, including a plant pest (as defined in section 7759<sup>2</sup> of this title).

(ii) The presence of the plant disease or plant pest has been found to adversely affect the yield of the agricultural commodity for which the producer is applying for insurance.

(iii) The efforts described in clause (i) have been effective.

**(B) Adjustment amount**

The amount by which the Corporation adjusts the actual production history of a producer of an agricultural commodity shall reflect the degree to which the success of the systematic, area-wide efforts described in subparagraph (A), on average, increases the yield of the commodity on the producer's farm, as determined by the Corporation.

**(6) Continued authority**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall establish—

(i) underwriting rules that limit the decrease in the actual production history of a producer, at the election of the producer, to not more than 10 percent of the actual production history of the previous crop year provided that the production decline was the result of drought, flood, natural disaster, or other insurable loss (as determined by the Corporation); and

(ii) actuarially sound premiums to cover additional risk.

**(B) Other authority**

The authority provided under subparagraph (A) is in addition to any other authority that adjusts the actual production history of the producer under this subchapter.

**(C) Effect**

Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require a change in the adminis-

tration of any provision of this subchapter as the subchapter was administered for the 2018 reinsurance year.

**(h) Submission of policies and materials to Board**

**(1) Authority to submit**

**(A) In general**

In addition to any standard forms or policies that the Board may require be made available to producers under subsection (c), a person (including an approved insurance provider, a college or university, a cooperative or trade association, or any other person) may prepare for submission or propose to the Board—

(i) other crop insurance policies and provisions of policies; and

(ii) rates of premiums for multiple peril crop insurance pertaining to wheat, soybeans, field corn, and any other crops determined by the Secretary.

**(B) Review and submission by Corporation**

**(i) In general**

The Corporation shall review any policy developed under section 1522(c) of this title or any pilot program developed under section 1523 of this title and submit the policy or program to the Board under this subsection if the Corporation, at the sole discretion of the Corporation, finds that the policy or program—

(I) subject to clause (ii), will likely result in a viable and marketable policy consistent with this subsection;

(II) would provide crop insurance coverage in a significantly improved form; and

(III) adequately protects the interests of producers.

**(ii) Waiver for hemp**

The Corporation may waive the viability and marketability requirement under clause (i)(I) in the case of a policy or pilot program relating to the production of hemp.

**(2) Submission of policies**

A policy or other material submitted to the Board under this subsection may be prepared without regard to the limitations contained in this subchapter, including the requirements concerning the levels of coverage and rates and the requirement that a price level for each commodity insured must equal the expected market price for the commodity as established by the Board.

**(3) Review and approval by the Board**

**(A) In general**

A policy, plan of insurance, or other material submitted to the Board under this subsection shall be reviewed by the Board and shall be approved by the Board for reinsurance and for sale by approved insurance providers to producers at actuarially appropriate rates and under appropriate terms and conditions if the Board determines that—

(i) the interests of producers are adequately protected;

<sup>2</sup> See References in Text note below.

(ii) the proposed policy or plan of insurance will—

(I) provide a new kind of coverage that is likely to be viable and marketable;

(II) provide crop insurance coverage in a manner that addresses a clear and identifiable flaw or problem in an existing policy; or

(III) provide a new kind of coverage for a commodity that previously had no available crop insurance, or has demonstrated a low level of participation or coverage level under existing coverage; and

(iii) the proposed policy or plan of insurance will not have a significant adverse impact on the crop insurance delivery system.

#### **(B) Consideration**

In approving policies or plans of insurance, the Board shall in a timely manner—

(i) first, consider policies or plans of insurance that address underserved commodities, including commodities for which there is no insurance;

(ii) second, consider existing policies or plans of insurance for which there is inadequate coverage or there exists low levels of participation; and

(iii) last, consider all policies or plans of insurance submitted to the Board that do not meet the criteria described in clause (i) or (ii).

#### **(C) Specified review and approval priorities**

In reviewing policies and other materials submitted to the Board under this subsection for approval, the Board—

(i) shall make the development and approval of a revenue policy for peanut producers a priority so that a revenue policy is available to peanut producers in time for the 2015 crop year;

(ii) shall make the development and approval of a margin coverage policy for rice producers a priority so that a margin coverage policy is available to rice producers in time for the 2015 crop year;

(iii) may approve a submission that is made pursuant to this subsection that would, beginning with the 2015 crop year, allow producers that purchase policies in accordance with subsection (e)(5)(A) to separate enterprise units by risk rating for acreage of crops in counties; and

(iv) in the case of reviewing policies and other materials relating to the production of hemp, may waive the viability and marketability requirement under subparagraph (A)(ii)(I).

#### **(4) Guidelines for submission and review**

The Corporation shall issue regulations to establish guidelines for the submission, and Board review, of policies or other material submitted to the Board under this subsection. At a minimum, the guidelines shall ensure the following:

##### **(A) Confidentiality**

###### **(i) In general**

A proposal submitted to the Board under this subsection (including any information

generated from the proposal) shall be considered to be confidential commercial or financial information for the purposes of section 552(b)(4) of title 5.

###### **(ii) Standard of confidentiality**

If information concerning a proposal could be withheld by the Secretary under the standard for privileged or confidential information pertaining to trade secrets and commercial or financial information under section 552(b)(4) of title 5, the information shall not be released to the public.

###### **(iii) Application**

This subparagraph shall apply with respect to a proposal only during the period preceding any approval of the proposal by the Board.

#### **(B) Personal presentation**

The Board shall provide an applicant with the opportunity to present the proposal to the Board in person if the applicant so desires.

#### **(C) Notification of intent to disapprove**

##### **(i) Time period**

The Board shall provide an applicant with notification of intent to disapprove a proposal not later than 30 days prior to making the disapproval.

##### **(ii) Modification of application**

###### **(I) Authority**

An applicant that receives the notification may modify the application, and such application, as modified, shall be considered by the Board in the manner provided in subparagraph (D) within the 30-day period beginning on the date the modified application is submitted.

###### **(II) Time period**

Clause (i) shall not apply to the Board's consideration of the modified application.

##### **(iii) Explanation**

Any notification of intent to disapprove a policy or other material submitted under this subsection shall be accompanied by a complete explanation as to the reasons for the Board's intention to deny approval.

#### **(D) Determination to approve or disapprove policies or materials**

##### **(i) Time period**

Not later than 120 days after a policy or other material is submitted under this subsection, the Board shall make a determination to approve or disapprove the policy or material.

##### **(ii) Explanation**

Any determination by the Board to disapprove any policy or other material shall be accompanied by a complete explanation of the reasons for the Board's decision to deny approval.

##### **(iii) Failure to meet deadline**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, if the Board fails to make

a determination within the prescribed time period, the submitted policy or other material shall be deemed approved by the Board for the initial reinsurance year designated for the policy or material, unless the Board and the applicant agree to an extension.

**(E) Consultation**

**(i) Requirement**

As part of the feasibility and research associated with the development of a policy or other material for fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops (including floriculture), the submitter prior to making a submission under this subsection shall consult with groups representing producers of those agricultural commodities in all major producing areas for the commodities to be served or potentially impacted, either directly or indirectly.

**(ii) Submission to the Board**

Any submission made to the Board under this subsection shall contain a summary and analysis of the feasibility and research findings from the impacted groups described in clause (i), including a summary assessment of the support for or against development of the policy and an assessment on the impact of the proposed policy to the general marketing and production of the crop from both a regional and national perspective.

**(iii) Evaluation by the Board**

In evaluating whether the interests of producers are adequately protected pursuant to paragraph (3) with respect to a submission made under this subsection, the Board shall review the information provided pursuant to clause (ii) to determine if the submission will create adverse market distortions with respect to the production of commodities that are the subject of the submission.

**(5) Premium schedule**

**(A) Payment by Corporation**

In the case of a policy or plan of insurance developed and approved under this subsection or section 1522 of this title, or conducted under section 1523 of this title (other than a policy or plan of insurance applicable to livestock), the Corporation shall pay a portion of the premium of the policy or plan of insurance that is equal to—

- (i) the percentage, specified in subsection (e) for a similar level of coverage, of the total amount of the premium used to define loss ratio; and
- (ii) an amount for administrative and operating expenses determined in accordance with subsection (k)(4).

**(B) Transitional schedule**

Effective only during the 2001 reinsurance year, in the case of a policy or plan of insurance developed and approved under this subsection or section 1522 of this title, or conducted under section 1523 of this title (other

than a policy or plan of insurance applicable to livestock), and first approved by the Board after June 20, 2000, the payment by the Corporation of a portion of the premium of the policy may not exceed the dollar amount that would otherwise be authorized under subsection (e) (consistent with subsection (c)(5), as in effect on the day before June 20, 2000).

**(6) Additional prevented planting policy coverage**

**(A) In general**

Beginning with the 1995 crop year, the Corporation shall offer to producers additional prevented planting coverage that insures producers against losses in accordance with this paragraph.

**(B) Approved insurance providers**

Additional prevented planting coverage shall be offered by the Corporation through approved insurance providers.

**(C) Timing of loss**

A crop loss shall be covered by the additional prevented planting coverage if—

- (i) crop insurance policies were obtained for—
  - (I) the crop year the loss was experienced; and
  - (II) the crop year immediately preceding the year of the prevented planting loss; and
- (ii) the cause of the loss occurred—
  - (I) after the sales closing date for the crop in the crop year immediately preceding the loss; and
  - (II) before the sales closing date for the crop in the year in which the loss is experienced.

**(i) Adoption of rates and coverages**

**(1) In general**

The Corporation shall adopt, as soon as practicable, rates and coverages that will improve the actuarial soundness of the insurance operations of the Corporation for those crops that are determined to be insured at rates that are not actuarially sound, except that no rate may be increased by an amount of more than 20 percent over the comparable rate of the preceding crop year.

**(2) Review of rating methodologies**

To maximize participation in the Federal crop insurance program and to ensure equity for producers, the Corporation shall periodically review the methodologies employed for rating plans of insurance under this subchapter consistent with section 1507(c)(2) of this title.

**(3) Analysis of rating and loss history**

The Corporation shall analyze the rating and loss history of approved policies and plans of insurance for agricultural commodities by area.

**(4) Premium adjustment**

If the Corporation makes a determination that premium rates are excessive for an agri-

cultural commodity in an area relative to the requirements of subsection (d)(2) for that area, then, for the 2002 crop year (and as necessary thereafter), the Corporation shall make appropriate adjustments in the premium rates for that area for that agricultural commodity.

**(j) Claims for losses**

**(1) In general**

Under rules prescribed by the Corporation, the Corporation may provide for adjustment and payment of claims for losses. The rules prescribed by the Corporation shall establish standards to ensure that all claims for losses are adjusted, to the extent practicable, in a uniform and timely manner.

**(2) Denial of claims**

**(A) In general**

Subject to subparagraph (B), if a claim for indemnity is denied by the Corporation or an approved provider on behalf of the Corporation, an action on the claim may be brought against the Corporation or Secretary only in the United States district court for the district in which the insured farm is located.

**(B) Statute of limitations**

A suit on the claim may be brought not later than 1 year after the date on which final notice of denial of the claim is provided to the claimant.

**(3) Indemnification**

The Corporation shall provide approved insurance providers with indemnification, including costs and reasonable attorney fees incurred by the approved insurance provider, due to errors or omissions on the part of the Corporation.

**(4) Marketing windows**

The Corporation shall consider marketing windows in determining whether it is feasible to require planting during a crop year.

**(5) Settlement of claims on farm-stored production**

A producer with farm-stored production may, at the option of the producer, delay settlement of a crop insurance claim relating to the farm-stored production for up to 4 months after the last date on which claims may be submitted under the policy of insurance.

**(k) Reinsurance**

**(1) In general**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the Corporation shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide reinsurance to insurers approved by the Corporation that insure producers of any agricultural commodity under 1 or more plans acceptable to the Corporation.

**(2) Terms and conditions**

The reinsurance shall be provided on such terms and conditions as the Board may determine to be consistent with subsections (b) and (c) and sound reinsurance principles.

**(3) Share of risk**

The reinsurance agreements of the Corporation with the reinsured companies shall re-

quire the reinsured companies to bear a sufficient share of any potential loss under the agreement so as to ensure that the reinsured company will sell and service policies of insurance in a sound and prudent manner, taking into consideration the financial condition of the reinsured companies and the availability of private reinsurance.

**(4) Rate**

**(A) In general**

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the rate established by the Board to reimburse approved insurance providers and agents for the administrative and operating costs of the providers and agents shall not exceed—

- (i) for the 1998 reinsurance year, 27 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio; and
- (ii) for each of the 1999 and subsequent reinsurance years, 24.5 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio.

**(B) Proportional reductions**

A policy of additional coverage that received a rate of reimbursement for administrative and operating costs for the 1998 reinsurance year that is lower than the rate specified in subparagraph (A)(i) shall receive a reduction in the rate of reimbursement that is proportional to the reduction in the rate of reimbursement between clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A).

**(C) Other reductions**

Beginning with the 2002 reinsurance year, in the case of a policy or plan of insurance approved by the Board that was not reinsured during the 1998 reinsurance year but, had it been reinsured, would have received a reduced rate of reimbursement during the 1998 reinsurance year, the rate of reimbursement for administrative and operating costs established for the policy or plan of insurance shall take into account the factors used to determine the rate of reimbursement for administrative and operating costs during the 1998 reinsurance year, including the expected difference in premium and actual administrative and operating costs of the policy or plan of insurance relative to an individual yield policy or plan of insurance and other appropriate factors, as determined by the Corporation.

**(D) Time for reimbursement**

Effective beginning with the 2012 reinsurance year, the Corporation shall reimburse approved insurance providers and agents for the allowable administrative and operating costs of the providers and agents as soon as practicable after October 1 (but not later than October 31) after the reinsurance year for which reimbursements are earned.

**(E) Reimbursement rate reduction**

In the case of a policy of additional coverage that received a rate of reimbursement for administrative and operating costs for the 2008 reinsurance year, for each of the 2009 and subsequent reinsurance years, the

reimbursement rate for administrative and operating costs shall be 2.3 percentage points below the rates in effect as of the date of enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 for all crop insurance policies used to define loss ratio, except that only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the reduction shall apply in a reinsurance year to the total premium written in a State in which the State loss ratio is greater than 1.2.

**(F) Reimbursement rate for area policies and plans of insurance**

Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) through (E), for each of the 2009 and subsequent reinsurance years, the reimbursement rate for area policies and plans of insurance widely available as of the date of enactment of this subparagraph or authorized under subsection (c)(4)(C) or section 1508b of this title shall be 12 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio for that reinsurance year.

**(5) Cost and regulatory reduction**

Consistent with section 118 of the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994, and consistent with maintenance of program integrity, prevention of fraud and abuse, the need for program expansion, and improvement of quality of service to customers, the Board shall alter program procedures and administrative requirements in order to reduce the administrative and operating costs of approved insurance providers and agents in an amount that corresponds to any reduction in the reimbursement rate required under paragraph (4) during the 5-year period beginning on October 13, 1994.

**(6) Agency discretion**

The determination of whether the Corporation is achieving, or has achieved, corresponding administrative cost savings shall not be subject to administrative review, and is wholly committed to agency discretion within the meaning of section 701(a)(2) of title 5.

**(7) Plan**

The Corporation shall submit to Congress a plan outlining the measures that will be used to achieve the reduction required under paragraph (5). If the Corporation can identify additional cost reduction measures, the Corporation shall describe the measures in the plan.

**(8) Renegotiation of standard reinsurance agreement**

**(A) In general**

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), notwithstanding section 536 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 1506 note; Public Law 105-185) and section 148 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1506 note; Public Law 106-224), the Corporation may renegotiate the financial terms and conditions of each Standard Reinsurance Agreement—

- (i) to be effective for the 2011 reinsurance year beginning July 1, 2010; and
- (ii) once during each period of 5 reinsurance years thereafter.

**(B) Exceptions**

**(i) Adverse circumstances**

Subject to clause (ii), subparagraph (A) shall not apply in any case in which the approved insurance providers, as a whole, experience unexpected adverse circumstances, as determined by the Secretary.

**(ii) Effect of Federal law changes**

If Federal law is enacted after the date of enactment of this paragraph that requires revisions in the financial terms of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement, and changes in the Agreement are made on a mandatory basis by the Corporation, the changes shall not be considered to be a renegotiation of the Agreement for purposes of subparagraph (A).

**(C) Notification requirement**

If the Corporation renegotiates a Standard Reinsurance Agreement under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Corporation shall notify the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate of the renegotiation.

**(D) Consultation**

The approved insurance providers may confer with each other and collectively with the Corporation during any renegotiation under subparagraph (A).

**(E) 2011 reinsurance year**

**(i) In general**

As part of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement renegotiation authorized under subparagraph (A)(i), the Corporation shall consider alternative methods to determine reimbursement rates for administrative and operating costs.

**(ii) Alternative methods**

Alternatives considered under clause (i) shall include—

**(I) methods that—**

(aa) are graduated and base reimbursement rates in a State on changes in premiums in that State;

(bb) are graduated and base reimbursement rates in a State on the loss ratio for crop insurance for that State; and

(cc) are graduated and base reimbursement rates on individual policies on the level of total premium for each policy; and

(II) any other method that takes into account current financial conditions of the program and ensures continued availability of the program to producers on a nationwide basis.

**(F) Budget**

**(i) In general**

The Board shall ensure that any Standard Reinsurance Agreement negotiated under subparagraph (A)(ii) shall—

(I) to the maximum extent practicable, be estimated as budget neutral with re-



spect to the total amount of payments described in paragraph (9) as compared to the total amount of such payments estimated to be made under the immediately preceding Standard Reinsurance Agreement if that Agreement were extended over the same period of time;

(II) comply with the applicable provisions of this subchapter establishing the rates of reimbursement for administrative and operating costs for approved insurance providers and agents, except that, to the maximum extent practicable, the estimated total amount of reimbursement for those costs shall not be less than the total amount of the payments to be made under the immediately preceding Standard Reinsurance Agreement if that Agreement were extended over the same period of time, as estimated on February 7, 2014; and

(III) in no event significantly depart from budget neutrality unless otherwise required by this subchapter.

**(ii) Use of savings**

To the extent that any budget savings are realized in the renegotiation of a Standard Reinsurance Agreement under subparagraph (A)(ii), and the savings are determined not to be a significant departure from budget neutrality under clause (i), the savings shall be used to increase reimbursements or payments described under paragraphs (4) and (9).

**(9) Due date for payment of underwriting gains**

Effective beginning with the 2011 reinsurance year, the Corporation shall make payments for underwriting gains under this subchapter on—

(A) for the 2011 reinsurance year, October 1, 2012; and

(B) for each reinsurance year thereafter, October 1 of the following calendar year.

**(I) Optional coverages**

The Corporation may offer specific risk protection programs, including protection against prevented planting, wildlife depredation, tree damage and disease, and insect infestation, under such terms and conditions as the Board may determine, except that no program may be undertaken if insurance for the specific risk involved is generally available from private companies.

**(m) Quality loss adjustment coverage**

**(1) Effect of coverage**

If a policy or plan of insurance offered under this subchapter includes quality loss adjustment coverage, the coverage shall provide for a reduction in the quantity of production of the agricultural commodity considered produced during a crop year, or a similar adjustment, as a result of the agricultural commodity not meeting the quality standards established in the policy or plan of insurance.

**(2) Additional quality loss adjustment**

**(A) Producer option**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in addition to the quality loss adjust-

ment coverage available under paragraph (1), the Corporation shall offer producers the option of purchasing quality loss adjustment coverage on a basis that is smaller than a unit with respect to an agricultural commodity that satisfies each of the following:

(i) The agricultural commodity is sold on an identity-preserved basis.

(ii) All quality determinations are made solely by the Federal agency designated to grade or classify the agricultural commodity.

(iii) All quality determinations are made in accordance with standards published by the Federal agency in the Federal Register.

(iv) The discount schedules that reflect the reduction in quality of the agricultural commodity are established by the Secretary.

**(B) Basis for adjustment**

Under this paragraph, the Corporation shall set the quality standards below which quality losses will be paid based on the variability of the grade of the agricultural commodity from the base quality for the agricultural commodity.

**(3) Review of criteria and procedures**

**(A) Review**

The Corporation shall contract with a qualified person to review the quality loss adjustment procedures of the Corporation so that the procedures more accurately reflect local quality discounts that are applied to agricultural commodities insured under this subchapter.

**(B) Procedures**

Effective beginning not later than the 2004 reinsurance year, based on the review, the Corporation shall make adjustments in the procedures, taking into consideration the actuarial soundness of the adjustment and the prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse.

**(4) Quality of agricultural commodities delivered to warehouse operators**

In administering this subchapter, the Secretary shall accept, in the same manner and under the same terms and conditions, evidence of the quality of agricultural commodities delivered to—

(A) warehouse operators that are licensed under the United States Warehouse Act (7 U.S.C. 241 et seq.);

(B) warehouse operators that—

(i) are licensed under State law; and

(ii) have entered into a storage agreement with the Commodity Credit Corporation; and

(C) warehouse operators that—

(i) are not licensed under State law but are in compliance with State law regarding warehouses; and

(ii) have entered into a commodity storage agreement with the Commodity Credit Corporation.

**(5) Special provisions for malting barley**

The Corporation shall promulgate special provisions under this subsection specific to

malting barley, taking into consideration any changes in quality factors, as required by applicable market conditions.

**(6) Test weight for corn**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall establish procedures to allow insured producers not more than 120 days to settle claims, in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary, involving corn that is determined to have low test weight.

**(B) Implementation**

As soon as practicable after February 7, 2014, the Corporation shall implement subparagraph (A) on a regional basis based on market conditions and the interests of producers.

**(C) Termination of effectiveness**

The authority provided by this paragraph terminates effective on the date that is 5 years after the date on which subparagraph (A) is implemented.

**(n) Limitation on multiple benefits for same loss**

**(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), if a producer who is eligible to receive benefits under catastrophic risk protection under subsection (b) is also eligible to receive assistance for the same loss under any other program administered by the Secretary, the producer shall be required to elect whether to receive benefits under this subchapter or under the other program, but not both. A producer who purchases additional coverage under subsection (c) may also receive assistance for the same loss under other programs administered by the Secretary, except that the amount received for the loss under the additional coverage together with the amount received under the other programs may not exceed the amount of the actual loss of the producer.

**(2) Exception**

Paragraph (1) shall not apply to emergency loans under subtitle C of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.).

**(o) Crop production on native sod**

**(1) Definition of native sod**

In this subsection, the term “native sod” means land—

(A) on which the plant cover is composed principally of native grasses, grasslike plants, forbs, or shrubs suitable for grazing and browsing; and

(B) that has never been tilled, or the producer cannot substantiate that the ground has ever been tilled, for the production of an annual crop as of the date of enactment of this subsection.

**(2) Reduction in benefits**

**(A) In general**

**(i) First 4 crop years**

During the first 4 crop years of planting, as determined by the Secretary, native sod acreage that has been tilled for the pro-

duction of an annual crop beginning on February 8, 2014, and ending on December 20, 2018, shall be subject to a reduction in benefits under this subchapter as described in this paragraph.

**(ii) Subsequent crop years**

Native sod acreage that has been tilled for the production of an insurable crop after December 20, 2018, shall be subject to a reduction in benefits under this subchapter as described in this paragraph for not more than 4 cumulative years—

(I) during the first 10 years after initial tillage; and

(II) during each of which a crop on that acreage is insured under subsection (c).

**(B) De minimis acreage exemption**

The Secretary shall exempt areas of 5 acres or less from subparagraph (A).

**(C) Administration**

**(i) Reduction**

For purposes of the reduction in benefits for the acreage described in subparagraph (A)—

(I) the crop insurance guarantee shall be determined by using a yield equal to 65 percent of the transitional yield of the producer; and

(II) the crop insurance premium subsidy provided for the producer under this subchapter, except for coverage authorized pursuant to subsection (b)(1), shall be 50 percentage points less than the premium subsidy that would otherwise apply.

**(ii) Yield substitution**

During the period native sod acreage is covered by this subsection, a producer may not substitute yields for the native sod.

**(3) Application**

This subsection shall only apply to native sod acreage in the States of Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Nebraska.

**(p) Coverage levels by practice**

Beginning with the 2015 crop year, a producer that produces an agricultural commodity on both dry land and irrigated land may elect a different coverage level for each production practice.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §508, 52 Stat. 74; June 22, 1938, ch. 563, 52 Stat. 835; June 21, 1941, ch. 214, §§3–7, 10, 55 Stat. 255, 256; Dec. 23, 1944, ch. 713, §§1–3, 58 Stat. 918, 919; Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 440, §§1–3, 61 Stat. 718; Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, §§1–3, 63 Stat. 663; Aug. 13, 1953, ch. 431, 67 Stat. 575; Pub. L. 85–111, July 23, 1957, 71 Stat. 309; Pub. L. 86–131, Aug. 4, 1959, 73 Stat. 278; Pub. L. 88–589, Sept. 12, 1964, 78 Stat. 933; Pub. L. 96–365, title I, §§105, 106, 107(b), Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1314, 1315, 1317; Pub. L. 100–387, title II, §208(a), Aug. 11, 1988, 102 Stat. 941; Pub. L. 101–624, title XXII, §§2203–2205, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3955–3957; Pub. L. 102–237, title VI, §601(4), (5), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1878; Pub. L. 103–66, title XIV, §1403(b)(1), (2), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 333,

334; Pub. L. 103–354, title I, § 106, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3183; Pub. L. 104–127, title I, §§ 193(a)(1), (2), (c), (d), (f), 195, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 943–946; Pub. L. 105–185, title V, §§ 532, 534, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 581, 583; Pub. L. 105–277, div. A, § 101(a) [title VIII, § 803(a)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681–38; Pub. L. 106–113, div. B, § 1000(a)(5) [title II, §§ 205(a), 206], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A–294; Pub. L. 106–224, title I, §§ 101–103(b)(1), (c), (d), 104–107, 123, 124(a), 144–146, 161, 162, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 360–368, 378, 391, 392, 395; Pub. L. 107–171, title X, §§ 10001–10003, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 486; Pub. L. 109–97, title VII, § 780, Nov. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 2162; Pub. L. 110–234, title XII, §§ 12003(b)–12006(a), 12007–12014(a), 12015–12020(a), 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1372–1381, 1405; Pub. L. 110–246, § 4(a), title XII, §§ 12003(b)–12006(a), 12007–12014(a), 12015–12020(a), 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2133–2142, 2167; Pub. L. 113–79, title XI, §§ 11002–11003(c), 11004–11010(a), 11011–11014(a), 11015, 11016(b), 11017(b), 11023(a), 11028(a), title XII, § 12305(b), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 954–957, 960, 961, 963, 966, 973, 977, 988; Pub. L. 114–74, title II, § 201, Nov. 2, 2015, 129 Stat. 587; Pub. L. 114–94, div. C, title XXXII, § 32205, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1740; Pub. L. 115–334, title XI, §§ 11105(b)–11109(a), 11110–11114, title XII, § 12306(b)(2), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4921–4924, 4968.)

### Editorial Notes

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994, referred to in subsec. (a)(3)(B)(ii)(I), is title II of Pub. L. 103–354, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3209. Subtitle H of the Act is classified principally to subchapter VIII (§ 6991 et seq.) of chapter 98 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

The date of enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, the date of enactment of this subsection, the date of enactment of this paragraph, and the date of enactment of this subparagraph, referred to in subssecs. (a)(9)(B)(iii)(I), (c)(5)(D)(i)(I), (ii)(I), (d)(1)(B), (C), (k)(4)(E), (F), (8)(B)(ii), and (o)(1)(B), mean the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110–246, which was approved June 18, 2008.

For the effective date of this paragraph, referred to in subssecs. (b)(9)(B) and (g)(3)(C), as being Oct. 13, 1994, see Effective Date of 1994 Amendment note below.

The Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, referred to in subsec. (c)(6)(D)(i), is title XXI of Pub. L. 101–624, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3935, which is classified generally to chapter 94 (§ 6501 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6501 of this title and Tables.

Section 7759 of this title, referred to in subsec. (g)(5)(A)(i), was amended by Pub. L. 106–224, title IV, § 438(a)(3), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 454, and, as amended, no longer contains provisions defining the term “plant pest”. See section 7702 of this title.

Section 118 of the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994, referred to in subsec. (k)(5), is section 118 of Pub. L. 103–354, which is set out as a note under section 1506 of this title.

This subchapter, referred to in subssecs. (g)(6)(B), (C) and (k)(8)(F)(i)(II), (III), was in the original “this Act”, meaning the Federal Crop Insurance Act, which is subtitle A of title V of act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30.

The United States Warehouse Act, referred to in subsec. (m)(4)(A), is part C of act Aug. 11, 1916, ch. 313, 39 Stat. 486, which is classified generally to chapter 10 (§ 241 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 241 of this title and Tables.

The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, referred to in subsec. (n)(2), is title III of Pub. L. 87–128,

Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 307. Subtitle C of the Act is classified generally to subchapter III (§ 1961 et seq.) of chapter 50 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1921 of this title and Tables.

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110–234 and Pub. L. 110–246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110–234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110–246.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11106, substituted “sweet potatoes, and hemp” for “and sweet potatoes”.

Subsec. (a)(3)(B). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11107(1), inserted “determination review” after “practices” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11105(b)(1), inserted “(including value-added crops)” after “crops” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(6)(A). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11105(b)(2), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subsec. (A). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Not later than 180 days after October 13, 1994, the Secretary shall issue guidelines for publication in the Federal Register for data collection to assist the Corporation in formulating crop insurance policies for new and specialty crops.”

Subsec. (a)(6)(B). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11105(b)(3), substituted “Report” for “Addition of new crops” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(6)(C), (D). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11105(b)(4), struck out subpars. (C) and (D) which read as follows:

“(C) ADDITION OF DIRECT SALE PERISHABLE CROPS.—Not later than 1 year after October 13, 1994, the Corporation shall report to Congress on the feasibility of offering a crop insurance program designed to meet the needs of specialized producers of vegetables and other perishable crops who market through direct marketing channels.

“(D) ADDITION OF NURSERY CROPS.—Not later than 2 years after April 4, 1996, the Corporation shall conduct a study and limited pilot program on the feasibility of insuring nursery crops.”

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11108(1), inserted “and underserved producers” after “States” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(7)(A). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11108(2)(A), (C), substituted “Definitions” for “Definition of adequately served” in subpar. heading, inserted introductory provisions, designated existing provisions as cl. (i), inserted cl. heading, substituted “The term” for “In this paragraph, the term”, and added cl. (ii).

Subsec. (a)(7)(A)(i). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11108(2)(B), which directed substitution of “participation rate, by crop,” for “participation rate”, was executed by making the substitution the first place appearing, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (a)(7)(B). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11108(3), substituted “Using resources and information available to the Board or the Secretary, the Board” for “The Board” and “subchapter, including policies and plans of insurance for underserved producers,” for “subchapter”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(C). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11108(4), added subpar. (C) and struck out former subpar. (C). Prior to amendment, text read as follows:

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after completion of the review under subparagraph (B), the Board shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the review.

“(ii) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The report shall include recommendations to increase participation in States that are not adequately served by the policies and plans of insurance.”

Subsec. (a)(11). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11107(2), added par. (11).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11109(a), struck out subpar. (A) designation and heading, substituted “The” for “Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the”, and

struck out subpar. (B). Prior to amendment, text of subpar. (B) read as follows: “Coverage described in subparagraph (A) shall not be available for crops and grasses used for grazing.”

Subsec. (b)(5)(A). Pub. L. 115–334, §11110, substituted “\$655” for “\$300”.

Subsec. (b)(5)(E). Pub. L. 115–334, §12306(b)(2)(A), designated existing provisions as cl. (i), inserted heading, inserted “, and veteran farmers or ranchers” before period at end, and added cl. (ii).

Subsec. (e)(5)(E). Pub. L. 115–334, §11111, added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (e)(8). Pub. L. 115–334, §12306(b)(2)(B), inserted “and veteran” after “beginning” in heading and “or veteran farmer or rancher” after “beginning farmer or rancher” in two places in text.

Subsec. (g)(2)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 115–334, §12306(b)(2)(C)(i), inserted “or veteran farmer or rancher” after “beginning farmer or rancher” in two places in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (g)(4)(B)(ii)(II). Pub. L. 115–334, §12306(b)(2)(C)(ii), inserted “and veteran farmers or ranchers” after “beginning farmers or ranchers”.

Subsec. (g)(6). Pub. L. 115–334, §11112, added par. (6).

Subsec. (h)(1)(B). Pub. L. 115–334, §11113(1), designated existing provisions as cl. (i), inserted heading, redesignated former cls. (i) to (iii) as subcls. (I) to (III), respectively, of cl. (i) and inserted “subject to clause (ii),” before “will likely” in subcl. (I), realigned margins, and added cl. (ii).

Subsec. (h)(3)(C)(iv). Pub. L. 115–334, §11113(2), added cl. (iv).

Subsec. (o)(2)(A). Pub. L. 115–334, §11114, designated existing provisions as cl. (i), inserted heading, substituted “beginning on February 8, 2014, and ending on December 20, 2018,” for “after February 7, 2014,” and added cl. (ii).

2015—Subsec. (k)(8). Pub. L. 114–94, §32205, repealed Pub. L. 114–74, §201, effective Nov. 2, 2015, and provided that the provisions of law amended by such section are restored as if such section had not been enacted. See notes below and Effective Date of 2015 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (k)(8)(A). Pub. L. 114–74, §201(1), which directed substitution of “shall renegotiate the financial terms and conditions of each Standard Reinsurance Agreement—

“(i) not later than December 31, 2016; and

“(ii) not less than once during each period of 5 reinsurance years thereafter.”

for “may renegotiate the financial terms and conditions of each Standard Reinsurance Agreement—

“(i) to be effective for the 2011 reinsurance year beginning July 1, 2010; and

“(ii) once during each period of 5 reinsurance years thereafter.”

was repealed by Pub. L. 114–94, §32205. See above.

Subsec. (k)(8)(E). Pub. L. 114–74, §201(2), which directed striking subpar. (E) and adding a new subpar. (E) to read “CAP ON OVERALL RATE OF RETURN.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (F), the Board shall ensure that the Standard Reinsurance Agreement renegotiated under subparagraph (A)(i) establishes a target rate of return for the approved insurance providers, taken as a whole, that does not exceed 8.9 percent of retained premium for each of the 2017 through 2026 reinsurance years.”, was repealed by Pub. L. 114–94, §32205. See above.

2014—Subsec. (a)(9)(C). Pub. L. 113–79, §11002, added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 113–79, §12305(b), added par. (1) and struck out former par. (1). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Corporation shall offer a catastrophic risk protection plan to indemnify producers for crop loss due to loss of yield or prevented planting, if provided by the Corporation, when the producer is unable, because of drought, flood, or other natural disaster (as determined by the Secretary), to plant other crops for harvest on the acreage for the crop year.”

Subsec. (b)(5)(E). Pub. L. 113–79, §11016(b)(1), inserted “and beginning farmers or ranchers” after “limited resource farmers”.

Subsec. (b)(7) to (11). Pub. L. 113–79, §11028(a)(1), redesignated pars. (8) to (11) as (7) to (10), respectively, and struck out former par. (7) which related to eligibility for Department programs.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 113–79, §11003(a), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3). Text read as follows: “A producer shall have the option of purchasing additional coverage based on an individual yield and loss basis or on an area yield and loss basis, if both options are offered by the Corporation.”

Subsec. (c)(3)(C). Pub. L. 113–79, §11004, added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 113–79, §11003(b), added par. (4) and struck out former par. (4). Text read as follows: “The level of coverage shall be dollar denominated and may be purchased at any level not to exceed 85 percent of the individual yield or 95 percent of the area yield (as determined by the Corporation). Not later than the beginning of the 1996 crop year, the Corporation shall provide producers with information on catastrophic risk and additional coverage in terms of dollar coverage (within the allowable limits of coverage provided in this paragraph).”

Subsec. (c)(6)(D). Pub. L. 113–79, §11023(a), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (d)(2)(A). Pub. L. 113–79, §11005, added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “In the case of catastrophic risk protection, the amount of the premium shall be sufficient to cover anticipated losses and a reasonable reserve.”

Subsec. (e)(2). Pub. L. 113–79, §11028(a)(2), substituted “paragraphs (3), (6), and (7)” for “paragraph (3)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e)(2)(H). Pub. L. 113–79, §11003(c), added subpar. (H).

Subsec. (e)(5)(A). Pub. L. 113–79, §11006, added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A). Text read as follows: “The Corporation may carry out a pilot program under which the Corporation pays a portion of the premiums for plans or policies of insurance for which the insurable unit is defined on a whole farm or enterprise unit basis that is higher than would otherwise be paid in accordance with paragraph (2).”

Subsec. (e)(5)(D). Pub. L. 113–79, §11007, added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (e)(8). Pub. L. 113–79, §11016(b)(2), added par. (8).

Subsec. (g)(2)(A). Pub. L. 113–79, §11009(1), inserted “and paragraph (4)(C)” after “subparagraph (B)”.

Subsec. (g)(2)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 113–79, §11016(b)(3)(A), added cl. (iii).

Subsec. (g)(2)(E). Pub. L. 113–79, §11008, added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (g)(4)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 113–79, §11016(b)(3)(B), designated existing provisions as subcl. (I) and added subcl. (II).

Subsec. (g)(4)(C), (D). Pub. L. 113–79, §11009(2), added subpar. (C), redesignated former subpar. (C) as (D), and in subpar. (D) inserted “or (C)” after “subparagraph (B)”.

Subsec. (h)(1). Pub. L. 113–79, §11010(a)(1), designated existing provisions as subpar. (A) and inserted heading, redesignated former subpars. (A) and (B) as cls. (i) and (ii), respectively, of subpar. (A), and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (h)(3). Pub. L. 113–79, §11010(a)(2), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3). Text read as follows: “A policy or other material submitted to the Board under this subsection shall be reviewed by the Board and, if the Board finds that the interests of producers are adequately protected and that any premiums charged to the producers are actuarially appropriate, shall be approved by the Board for reinsurance and for sale by approved insurance providers to producers as an additional choice at actuarially appropriate rates and under appropriate terms and conditions. The Corporation may enter into more than 1 reinsurance agreement with the approved insurance provider simultaneously to facilitate the offering of the new policies.”

Subsec. (h)(4)(E). Pub. L. 113–79, §11011, added subpar. (E).

Subsec. (k)(4)(F). Pub. L. 113-79, §11017(b), inserted “or authorized under subsection (c)(4)(C) or section 1508b of this title” after “of this subparagraph”.

Subsec. (k)(8)(C). Pub. L. 113-79, §11028(a)(3), substituted “subparagraph (A)(ii)” for “subparagraph (A)(iii)”.

Subsec. (k)(8)(F). Pub. L. 113-79, §11012, added subpar. (F).

Subsec. (m)(6). Pub. L. 113-79, §11013, added par. (6).

Subsec. (o)(1)(B). Pub. L. 113-79, §11014(a)(1), inserted “, or the producer cannot substantiate that the ground has ever been tilled,” after “never been tilled”.

Subsec. (o)(2). Pub. L. 113-79, §11014(a)(2)(A), substituted “Reduction in” for “Ineligibility for” in heading.

Subsec. (o)(2)(A). Pub. L. 113-79, §11014(a)(2)(B), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A). Text read as follows: “Subject to subparagraph (B) and paragraph (3), native sod acreage that has been tilled for the production of an annual crop after the date of enactment of this subsection shall be ineligible during the first 5 crop years of planting, as determined by the Secretary, for benefits under—

“(i) this subchapter; and

“(ii) section 7333 of this title.”

Subsec. (o)(2)(C). Pub. L. 113-79, §11014(a)(2)(C), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (o)(3). Pub. L. 113-79, §11014(a)(3), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3). Text read as follows: “Paragraph (2) may apply to native sod acreage in the Prairie Pothole National Priority Area at the election of the Governor of the respective State.”

Subsec. (p). Pub. L. 113-79, §11015, added subsec. (p).

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (a)(9), (10). Pub. L. 110-246, §§12004, 12005, added pars. (9) and (10).

Subsec. (b)(5)(A). Pub. L. 110-246, §12006(a)(1), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Each producer shall pay an administrative fee for catastrophic risk protection in an amount equal to 10 percent of the premium for the catastrophic risk protection or \$100 per crop per county, whichever is greater, as determined by the Corporation.”

Subsec. (b)(5)(B). Pub. L. 110-246, §12006(a)(2)(A), substituted “Payment of catastrophic risk protection fee on behalf of producers” for “Payment on behalf of producers” in heading.

Subsec. (b)(5)(B)(i). Pub. L. 110-246, §12006(a)(2)(B), struck out “or other payment” after “licensing fee” and substituted “through the payment of catastrophic risk protection administrative fees” for “with catastrophic risk protection or additional coverage”.

Subsec. (b)(5)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 110-246, §12006(a)(2)(C), (D), redesignated cl. (iii) as (ii) and struck out former cl. (ii). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “A licensing fee or other payment made by an insurance provider to the cooperative association or trade association in connection with the issuance of catastrophic risk protection or additional coverage to members of the cooperative association or trade association shall be subject to the laws regarding rebates of the State in which the fee or other payment is made.”

Subsec. (b)(5)(B)(iii) to (v). Pub. L. 110-246, §12006(a)(2)(D)–(F), redesignated cls. (iv) and (v) as (iii) and (iv), respectively, in cl. (iii), substituted “Catastrophic risk protection coverage” for “A policy or plan of insurance”, and, in cl. (iv), struck out “or other arrangement under this subparagraph” after “licensing fee” and “additional” before “coverage”. Former cl. (iii) redesignated (ii).

Subsec. (b)(5)(B)(vi). Pub. L. 110-246, §12006(a)(2)(C), struck out cl. (vi). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Not later than April 1, 2002, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that evaluates—

“(I) the operation of this subparagraph; and

“(II) the impact of this subparagraph on participation in the Federal crop insurance program, including the impact on levels of coverage purchased.”

Subsec. (b)(5)(C). Pub. L. 110-246, §12007(1), substituted “the same date on which the premium” for “the date that premium”.

Subsec. (b)(9), (10). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (b)(11). Pub. L. 110-246, §12008, substituted “6 percent” for “8 percent”.

Subsec. (c)(5)(A). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in two places.

Subsec. (c)(5)(D). Pub. L. 110-246, §12009, added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (c)(10)(C). Pub. L. 110-246, §12007(2), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, §12003(b), substituted “not greater than—” for “not greater than 1.1 through September 30, 1998, and not greater than 1.075 after October 1, 1998,” and added subpars. (A) to (C).

Subsec. (d)(4). Pub. L. 110-246, §12007(3), added par. (4).

Subsec. (e)(2). Pub. L. 110-246, §12012(1), which directed amendment of par. (2) by substituting “paragraphs (4), (6), and (7)” for “paragraph (4)” in introductory provisions, was not executed. See below.

Pub. L. 110-246, §12010(1), substituted “paragraph (3)” for “paragraph (4)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e)(3). Pub. L. 110-246, §12010(2), (3), redesignated par. (4) as (3) and struck out former par. (3). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “If an approved insurance provider determines that the provider may provide insurance more efficiently than the expense reimbursement amount established by the Corporation, the approved insurance provider may reduce, subject to the approval of the Corporation, the premium charged the insured by an amount corresponding to the efficiency. The approved insurance provider shall apply to the Corporation for authority to reduce the premium before making such a reduction, and the reduction shall be subject to the rules, limitations, and procedures established by the Corporation.”

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Pub. L. 110-246, §12010(3), redesignated par. (5) as (4). Former par. (4) redesignated (3).

Subsec. (e)(5). Pub. L. 110-246, §12011, added par. (5).

Pub. L. 110-246, §12010(3), redesignated par. (5) as (4).

Subsec. (e)(6), (7). Pub. L. 110-246, §12012(2), added pars. (6) and (7).

Subsecs. (f), (h), (i). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (j)(2)(A). Pub. L. 110-246, §12013, inserted “on behalf of the Corporation” after “approved provider”.

Subsec. (j)(5). Pub. L. 110-246, §12014(a), added par. (5).

Subsec. (k)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Subsec. (k)(4)(A). Pub. L. 110-246, §12016(1), substituted “Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph” for “Except as provided in subparagraph (B)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (k)(4)(D). Pub. L. 110-246, §12015, added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (k)(4)(E), (F). Pub. L. 110-246, §12016(2), added subpars. (E) and (F).

Subsec. (k)(8). Pub. L. 110-246, §12017, added par. (8).

Subsec. (k)(9). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in introductory provisions.

Pub. L. 110-246, §12018, added par. (9).

Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (m)(5). Pub. L. 110-246, §12019, added par. (5).

Subsec. (n)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Subsec. (o). Pub. L. 110-246, §12020(a), added subsec. (o).

Subsec. (o)(2)(A)(i). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

2005—Subsec. (a)(4)(B). Pub. L. 109-97 inserted “or similar commodities” after “the commodity”.

2002—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 107-171, §10001, substituted “, potatoes, and sweet potatoes” for “and potatoes”.

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 107-171, §10002, substituted “Prohibition” for “Temporary prohibition” in heading and “and subsequent reinsurance years” for “through 2005 reinsurance years” in text.

Subsec. (m)(3). Pub. L. 107-171, §10003(1), designated first sentence of par. (3) as subpar. (A) and inserted heading and designated second sentence of par. (3) as subpar. (B), inserted heading, and substituted “Effective beginning not later than the 2004 reinsurance year, based on” for “Based on” in text.

Subsec. (m)(4). Pub. L. 107-171, §10003(2), added par. (4).

2000—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 106-224, §123, added par. (3) and struck out heading and text of former par. (3). Text read as follows: “Insurance provided under this subsection shall not cover losses due to—

“(A) the neglect or malfeasance of the producer;

“(B) the failure of the producer to reseed to the same crop in such areas and under such circumstances as it is customary to reseed; or

“(C) the failure of the producer to follow good farming practices (as determined by the Secretary).”

Subsec. (a)(3)(C). Pub. L. 106-224, §161, added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 106-224, §144, designated existing provisions as subpar. (A) and inserted heading, redesignated former subpars. (A) and (B) as cls. (i) and (ii), respectively, and realigned their margins, and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 106-224, §145, added par. (7).

Subsec. (a)(8). Pub. L. 106-224, §162, added par. (8).

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 106-224, §103(a), added par. (3) and struck out heading and text of former par. (3). Text read as follows: “A producer shall have the option of basing the catastrophic coverage of the producer on an individual yield and loss basis or on an area yield and loss basis, if both options are offered by the Corporation.”

Subsec. (b)(5)(A). Pub. L. 106-224, §103(b)(1)(A), substituted “\$100” for “\$50”.

Subsec. (b)(5)(B). Pub. L. 106-224, §103(b)(1)(B), (c), added subpar. (B) and struck out heading and text of former subpar. (B). Text read as follows: “In addition to the amount required under subparagraph (A), the producer shall pay a \$10 fee for each amount determined under subparagraph (A).”

Subsec. (b)(5)(C). Pub. L. 106-224, §103(b)(1)(C), substituted “administrative fee required by this paragraph” for “amounts required under subparagraphs (A) and (B)”.

Subsec. (b)(11). Pub. L. 106-224, §103(d), substituted “8 percent” for “11 percent”.

Subsec. (c)(5). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(a), added par. (5) and struck out heading and text of former par. (5). Text read as follows: “The Corporation shall establish a price level for each commodity on which insurance is offered that—

“(A) shall not be less than the projected market price for the commodity (as determined by the Corporation); or

“(B) at the discretion of the Corporation, may be based on the actual market price at the time of harvest (as determined by the Corporation).”

Subsec. (c)(10). Pub. L. 106-224, §104, added par. (10) and struck out former par. (10), which required administrative fee where producer elected to purchase additional coverage for crop at level that was less than 65 percent of recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of expected market price, or equivalent coverage, and provided for exception to fee if producer elected to purchase additional coverage for crop equal to 65 percent or more of recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of expected mar-

ket price, or equivalent coverage, additional fee if producer elected to purchase additional coverage for crop equal to or exceeding 65 percent of recorded or appraised average yield and 100 percent of expected market price or equivalent coverage, and for deposit of fees.

Subsec. (d)(2)(B), (C). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(b)(1), added subpar. (B) and struck out former subpars. (B) and (C), which described premium amounts in the case of additional coverage below, equal to, or greater than 65 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of the expected market price, or an equivalent coverage.

Subsec. (d)(3). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(b)(2), added par. (3).

Subsec. (e)(2). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(c)(1), substituted “Subject to paragraph (4), the amount” for “The amount” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e)(2)(B) to (G). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(c)(2), added subpars. (B) to (G) and struck out former subpars. (B) and (C), which set forth amount of premium to be paid by Corporation in the case of coverage below, equal to, or greater than 65 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of the expected market price, or an equivalent coverage.

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(d), added par. (4) and struck out former par. (4), which authorized Corporation to allow approved providers to offer insurance plan to producers that would combine both individual and area yield coverage at a premium rate determined under certain conditions.

Subsec. (e)(5). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(e), added par. (5).

Subsec. (f)(3)(A). Pub. L. 106-224, §124(a), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “provide, to the extent required by the Corporation, records acceptable to the Corporation of historical acreage and production of the crops for which the insurance is sought or accept a yield determined by the Corporation; and”.

Subsec. (g)(2)(B). Pub. L. 106-224, §105(a), designated existing provisions of subpar. (B) as cl. (i) and added cl. (ii).

Subsec. (g)(2)(D). Pub. L. 106-224, §101(f), struck out “(as provided in subsection (e)(4) of this section)” after “combined coverage”.

Subsec. (g)(4), (5). Pub. L. 106-224, §105(b), added pars. (4) and (5).

Subsec. (h)(1). Pub. L. 106-224, §146(a), inserted “(including an approved insurance provider, a college or university, a cooperative or trade association, or any other person)” after “a person” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (h)(2). Pub. L. 106-224, §102(a)(1), struck out at end “In the case of such a policy, the payment by the Corporation of a portion of the premium of the policy may not exceed the amount that would otherwise be authorized under subsection (e) of this section.”

Subsec. (h)(3). Pub. L. 106-224, §146(b), inserted “by approved insurance providers” after “for sale” in first sentence.

Subsec. (h)(4)(A). Pub. L. 106-224, §146(c)(1), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “A proposal submitted to the Board under this subsection shall be considered as confidential commercial or financial information for purposes of section 552(b)(4) of title 5 until approved by the Board. A proposal disapproved by the Board shall remain confidential commercial or financial information.”

Subsec. (h)(4)(B). Pub. L. 106-224, §146(c)(2), inserted subpar. heading.

Subsec. (h)(4)(C), (D). Pub. L. 106-224, §146(c)(3), added subpars. (C) and (D) and struck out former subpars. (C) and (D), which required notice of intent to disapprove, provided that modification would be considered an original application, and directed that specific guidelines were to prescribe timely submission and consideration of proposals.

Subsec. (h)(5). Pub. L. 106-224, §102(a)(2), added par. (5) and struck out heading and text of former par. (5). Text

read as follows: “Any policy, provision of a policy, or rate approved under this subsection shall be published as a notice in the Federal Register and made available to all persons contracting with or reinsured by the Corporation under the terms and conditions of the contract between the Corporation and the person originally submitting the policy or other material.”

Subsec. (h)(6) to (10). Pub. L. 106-224, §146(d), redesignated par. (7) as (6) and struck out former pars. (6) which related to pilot cost of production risk protection plan, (8) which related to pilot program of assigned yields for new producers, (9) which related to revenue insurance pilot program, and (10) which related to time limits for response to submission of new policies.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 106-224, §106, designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted heading, and added pars. (2) to (4).

Subsec. (k)(4)(C). Pub. L. 106-224, §102(b), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 106-224, §107, added subsec. (m) and struck out former subsec. (m), which authorized research, surveys, pilot programs, and investigations relating to crop insurance and agriculture-related risks and losses and required evaluation of pilot programs and submission of reports, including recommendations with respect to implementation of programs on a national basis.

1999—Subsec. (f)(2). Pub. L. 106-113, §1000(a)(5) [title II, §206], designated existing provisions as subpar. (A), inserted heading, struck out “Beginning with the 1995 crop year, the Corporation shall establish, for an insurance policy for each insurable crop that is planted in the spring, a sales closing date that is 30 days earlier than the corresponding sales closing date that was established for the 1994 crop year.” after “price and production adjustment programs of the Department.”, and added subpars. (B) and (C).

Subsec. (h)(9)(A). Pub. L. 106-113, §1000(a)(5) [title II, §205(a)], substituted “1997 through 2001” for “1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000”.

1998—Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 105-185, §532(a), added par. (5) and struck out heading and text of former par. (5) which, in subpar. (A) required payment of \$50 fee per crop per county up to a maximum of \$200 per producer per county and \$600 per producer for all counties, in subpar. (B) directed crediting of fees up to \$100 collected by USDA offices to appropriations account, retention of fees up to \$100 collected by approved insurance providers, and deposit of fees in excess of \$100 in crop insurance fund, and in subpar. (C) waived fee for limited resource farmers as defined by Corporation.

Subsec. (b)(11). Pub. L. 105-185, §532(d), added par. (11).

Subsec. (c)(10)(A). Pub. L. 105-185, §532(b)(1), added subpar. (A) and struck out heading and text of former subpar. (A). Text read as follows: “Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, if a producer elects to purchase additional coverage for a crop at a level that is less than 65 percent of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of the expected market price, or an equivalent coverage, the producer shall pay an administrative fee for the additional coverage. Subsection (b)(5) of this section shall apply in determining the amount and use of the administrative fee or in determining whether to waive the administrative fee.”

Subsec. (c)(10)(C). Pub. L. 105-185, §532(b)(2), substituted “\$20” for “\$10” in first sentence.

Subsec. (h)(10). Pub. L. 105-185, §534, added par. (10).

Subsec. (k)(4). Pub. L. 105-185, §532(c), added par. (4) and struck out heading and text of former par. (4). Text read as follows: “The rate established by the Board to reimburse approved insurance providers and agents for the administrative and operating costs of the providers and agents shall not exceed—

“(A) for the 1997 reinsurance year, 29 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio;

“(B) for the 1998 reinsurance year, 28 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio; and

“(C) for the 1999 reinsurance year, 27.5 percent of the premium used to define loss ratio.”

Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 105-277 designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted heading, substituted “Except as provided in paragraph (2), if a producer” for “If a producer”, and added par. (2).

1996—Subsec. (a)(6)(D). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(c), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (b)(4)(C). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(a)(1), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (b)(7)(A). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(a)(2), added subpar. (A) and struck out heading and text of former subpar. (A). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “To be eligible for any price support or production adjustment program, the conservation reserve program, or any benefit described in section 2008f of this title, the producer must obtain at least the catastrophic level of insurance for each crop of economic significance grown on each farm in the county in which the producer has an interest, if insurance is available in the county for the crop.”

Subsec. (h)(9). Pub. L. 104-127, §195, added par. (9).

Subsec. (j)(4). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(d), added par. (4).

Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(f), added subsec. (n).

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 amended section generally, substituting present provisions for former provisions which related to: in subsec. (a), authority to offer insurance; in subsec. (b), submission of policies and materials to Board; in subsec. (c), actuarial soundness; in subsec. (d), adoption of rates and coverages; in subsec. (e), premiums; in subsec. (f), claims for losses; in subsec. (g), special rule for cotton; in subsec. (h), reinsurance; in subsec. (i), application to other areas; in subsec. (j), optional coverages; in subsec. (k), research; in subsec. (l), crop insurance for dry edible beans; in subsec. (m), information collection on crop insurance; and in subsec. (n), area yield plan.

1993—Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 103-66, §1403(b)(1), substituted fifth sentence for former fifth sentence which read as follows: “The Corporation shall also pay operating and administrative costs to insurers of policies on which the Corporation provides reinsurance to the same extent that such costs are covered by the Corporation on the Corporation’s policies of insurance.”

Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 103-66, §1403(b)(2), added subsec. (n).

1991—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-237, §601(4), struck out par. (1) designation.

Subsecs. (k) to (n). Pub. L. 102-237, §601(5), redesignated subsecs. (l) to (n) as (k) to (m), respectively.

1990—Pub. L. 101-624, §2204(b)(1), inserted section catchline and struck out “To carry out the purposes of this chapter the Corporation is authorized and empowered—” before subsec. (a).

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-624, §2205(1), inserted heading, substituted “the Corporation may insure” for “to insure” in first sentence, and inserted provisions relating to amount of insurance to be provided in cases where Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service has established adjusted yields, and provisions relating to establishment of a price level for each commodity beginning with the 1992 crop year.

Subsecs. (b) to (d). Pub. L. 101-624, §2204(a)(1), (2), added subsecs. (b) to (d) and redesignated subsecs. (b) to (d) as (e) to (g), respectively.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 101-624, §2204(a)(1), (b)(2), redesignated subsec. (b) as (e), inserted heading, and substituted “The Corporation may fix” for “To fix” in par. (1). Former subsec. (e) redesignated (h).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 101-624, §2204(a)(1), redesignated subsec. (c) as (f). Former subsec. (f) redesignated (i).

Pub. L. 101-624, §2203(a), inserted heading, substituted “The Corporation may adjust and pay claims for losses as provided under subsection (a) of this section” for “To adjust and pay claims for losses”, and inserted after first sentence “The rules prescribed by the Board shall establish standards to ensure that all claims for losses are adjusted to the extent practicable in a uniform and timely manner.”

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 101-624, §2204(a)(1), (b)(3), redesignated subsec. (d) as (g), inserted heading, and substituted “the Corporation may include” for “to include”. Former subsec. (g) redesignated (j).

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(a)(1), redesignated subsec. (e) as (h). Former subsec. (h) redesignated (k).

Pub. L. 101-624, § 2203(b), inserted heading, substituted "The Corporation is directed" for "And directed", and inserted sentence at end relating to revision of reinsurance agreements beginning with the 1992 reinsurance year.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(a)(1), (b)(4), redesignated subsec. (f) as (i), inserted heading, and substituted "The Corporation may provide" for "To provide". Former subsec. (i) redesignated (l).

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(a)(1), (b)(5), redesignated subsec. (g) as (j), inserted heading, and substituted "The Corporation may offer" for "To offer". Former subsec. (j) redesignated (m).

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2205(2), struck out subsec. (k) which set out a special rule for calculating premiums and indemnities, with respect to insuring timber and forest yields.

Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(a)(1), (b)(6), redesignated subsec. (h) as (k), inserted heading, and substituted "The Corporation may include" for "To include".

Subsec. (l). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(a)(1), (b)(7), redesignated subsec. (i) as (l), inserted heading, substituted "The Corporation may conduct" for "To conduct", and struck out second and third sentences which read as follows: "Beginning in the 1981 crop year and ending after the 1985 crop year, the Corporation shall also conduct a pilot program of individual risk underwriting of crop insurance in not less than twenty-five counties. Under this pilot program, to the extent that appropriate yield data are available, the Corporation shall make available to producers in such counties crop insurance under this chapter based on personalized rates and with guarantees determined from the producer's actual yield history."

Subsec. (m). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(b)(8), added subsec. (m) and struck out former subsec. (m) which read as follows: "To accumulate, prior to the 1989 crop year, sufficient actuarial data to enable the Corporation to provide crop insurance that meets the differentiated needs of producers of different types of dry edible beans. Commencing with the 1989 crop year, the Corporation shall make such crop insurance available to producers."

Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(a)(1), redesignated subsec. (j) as (m).

Subsec. (n). Pub. L. 101-624, § 2204(a)(3), added subsec. (n).

1988—Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 100-387 added subsec. (j).

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-365, § 105, authorized Corporation, if sufficient actuarial data is available, to insure producers of any agricultural commodity grown in the United States under any plan of insurance determined to be adapted to the commodity involved; defined "field" in the case of aquacultural species to mean the environment in which the commodity is produced; in revising percentage limitations for crop insurance coverage, prescribed 75 per centum protection for recorded or appraised average yield (previously protected up to such percentage), offered producers lesser levels of coverage including 50 per centum of recorded or appraised average yield as adjusted, barred protection exceeding 75 per centum, offered price election approximating (but not less than 90 per centum of) projected market price for commodity involved, and struck out requirement for downward adjustment of minimum percentage in yield which may be insured to reflect investment in crop; and struck out limitations on Federal crop insurance program which: limited crop insurance to not more than seven agricultural commodities in 1948 and to not more than three additional commodities yearly thereafter, beginning with 1954 crop authorized yearly expansion of crop insurance program to not more than 150 counties in addition to counties offered insurance the previous year, limited reinsurance for private insurance companies to 20 counties, and required counties selected by the Board for crop insurance to be representative of areas where the commodity involved normally was produced; and struck

out general reinsurance provision, covered in subsec. (e) of this section.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-365, § 106(1), designated existing provisions as par. (1), struck out "in the agricultural commodity or in cash," after "premiums for insurance" and proviso from first sentence authorizing establishment of premiums on the basis of the parity or comparable price for the commodity as determined and publish by Secretary of Agriculture, or on the basis of an average market price designated by the Board and second sentence providing for collection of premiums at such time or times, or for securing in such manner, as the Board may determine, which is covered in par. (4), required the rates to be actuarially sufficient, added pars. (2) and (3), incorporated existing provision in par. (4), and added pars. (5) and (6).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-365, § 106(2), struck out "in the agricultural commodity or in cash," after "claims for losses" and provisions respecting: determination of indemnities on same price basis as premiums were determined for the crop with respect to which the indemnities were paid; requirement that the Corporation post annually for each county at the county courthouse a list of indemnities paid for losses on farms in the county; action on claims in any court of the State having general jurisdiction, sitting in the county where the insured farm was located; and jurisdiction of district courts without regard to amount in controversy.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-365, § 106(3), redesignated subsec. (e) as (d) and struck out prior subsec. (d) authorizing Corporation to purchase, handle, store, insure, provide storage facilities for, and sell agricultural commodities.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 96-365, § 106(4), added subsec. (e). Former subsec. (e) redesignated (d).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 96-365, § 106(4), substituted provisions for insurance and reinsurance in the territories and possessions for prior provision for reinsurance in Puerto Rico when not available from recognized private sources.

Subsecs. (g), (h). Pub. L. 96-365, § 106(4), added subsecs. (g) and (h).

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 96-365, § 107(b), added subsec. (i).

1964—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 88-589 increased from 100 to 150 the number of counties into which the Federal crop insurance program may be extended.

1959—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 86-131 struck out provision prohibiting Federal crop insurance in a county unless two hundred farms or one third of the farms normally producing the commodity apply for such insurance, excluding farms refused insurance on the basis of risk involved.

1957—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 85-111 added subsec. (f).

1953—Subsec. (a). Act Aug. 13, 1953, authorized extension of Federal crop insurance program into an additional 100 counties, struck out commodity formula basis on which this expansion may take place, and provided an exception to the strict county limitation by providing that producers on farms situated in a local producing area bordering on a county with a crop insurance program may be included in that county's program.

1949—Subsec. (a). Act Aug. 25, 1949, § 1, provided for an annual increase in number of counties in which insurance now offered by Corporation can be issued.

Subsec. (b). Act Aug. 25, 1949, § 2, struck out provision under which Corporation's administrative expenses are restricted, after the crop year 1949, to a sum equivalent to 25 percent of the premiums collected in the preceding year.

Subsec. (c). Act Aug. 25, 1949, § 3, struck out provision which required prorating of losses beginning with crop year 1950.

1947—Subsec. (a). Act Aug. 1, 1947, § 1, amended subsec. (a) generally, and among other changes, provided for crop insurance, commencing with crops planted for harvest in 1948, made provision for reinsurance, enumerated specific crops insurable in 1948, provided for additional crops in subsequent years, limited number of counties in which certain crops were insurable, in-



creased required number of applications in any one county from fifty to two hundred, and authorized Board to refuse insurance in any county where agricultural commodity to be insured constitutes an unimportant part of total agricultural income.

Subsec. (b). Act Aug. 1, 1947, §2, inserted proviso relating to basis for premiums.

Subsec. (c). Act Aug. 1, 1947, §3, inserted first proviso relating to determination of price basis for indemnities.

1944—Subsec. (a). Act Dec. 23, 1944, §1, amended subsec. (a) generally to provide insurance against loss not only for wheat and cotton crops but also for flax, corn, oats, etc.

Subsec. (b). Act Dec. 23, 1944, §2, provided for the establishment of such rates as would cover crop losses and build up a reasonable reserve, and inserted proviso.

Subsec. (c). Act Dec. 23, 1944, §3, inserted first proviso, and inserted “and received” after “mailed to” in last proviso.

1941—Subsec. (a). Act June 21, 1941, §§3–5, struck out comma after “1939” and inserted “and with the cotton crop planted for harvest in 1942”, and substituted “producers of the agricultural commodity against loss in yields of the agricultural commodity” for “producers of wheat against loss in yields of wheat” in the first sentence, and “the agricultural commodity” for “wheat” in the third sentence, respectively.

Subsecs. (b), (c). Act June 21, 1941, §6, substituted “the agricultural commodity” for “wheat” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (d). Act June 21, 1941, §§6, 10, substituted “the agricultural commodity” for “wheat” wherever appearing, and inserted second sentence.

Subsec. (e). Act June 21, 1941, §7, added subsec. (e).

1938—Subsec. (a). Act June 22, 1938, inserted second proviso in first sentence.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2015 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114–94, div. C, title XXXII, §32205, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1740, provided that: “Effective as of November 2, 2015, the date of the enactment of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–74), section 201 of such Act [amending this section] and the amendments made by such section are repealed, and the provisions of law amended by such section are hereby restored to appear as if such section had not been enacted into law.”

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2014 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 113–79, title XI, §11003(d), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 956, provided that: “The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation shall begin to provide additional coverage based on an individual yield and loss basis, supplemented with coverage based on an area yield and loss basis, as described in the amendments made by this section [amending this section], not later than for the 2015 crop year.”

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110–234 by Pub. L. 110–246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110–234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110–246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Amendment by sections 101(a)–(c), 102(a), 103(a), (b)(1), (c), 104, 105(b), and 162 of Pub. L. 106–224 applicable beginning with the 2001 crop of an agricultural commodity, amendment by sections 101(d), 102(b), and 103(d) of Pub. L. 106–224 applicable beginning with the 2001 reinsurance year, amendment by sections 101(e), (f), 105(a), 106, 107, 123, 124(a), 144, 145, and 161 of Pub. L. 106–224 effective June 20, 2000, and amendment by section 146 of Pub. L. 106–224 effective Oct. 1, 2000, see section 171 of Pub. L. 106–224, set out as a note under section 1501 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105–185 effective July 1, 1998, see section 537 of Pub. L. 105–185, set out as a note under section 1506 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103–354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103–354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103–66 effective Oct. 1, 1993, see section 1403(c) of Pub. L. 103–66, set out as a note under section 1506 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 96–365, title I, §105, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1314, provided that the amendment made by section 105 is effective with respect to the 1981 and subsequent crops.

Pub. L. 96–365, title I, §106, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1315, provided that the amendment made by section 106 is effective with respect to the 1981 and subsequent crops.

Amendment by section 107(b) of Pub. L. 96–365 effective Sept. 26, 1980, see section 112 of Pub. L. 96–365, set out as a note under section 1504 of this title.

##### CROP INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR HEMP

Pub. L. 116–20, title I, §107, June 6, 2019, 133 Stat. 875, provided that: “Beginning not later than the 2020 reinsurance year, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation shall offer coverage under the wholefarm revenue protection insurance policy (or a successor policy or plan of insurance) for hemp (as defined in section 297A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1639o)): *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 [2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)].”

##### CONSIDERATION OF LOSSES IN FISCAL YEAR 2014 AND SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS

Pub. L. 113–235, div. A, title VII, §733, Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2168, provided that: “For the 2014 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, losses under section 1501 of Public Law 113–79 [enacting section 9081 of this title] shall not be considered the same loss for the purposes of 7 U.S.C. 7333(i)(3) and 7 U.S.C. 1508(n).”

##### EXPANSION OF CROP INSURANCE PILOTS

Pub. L. 106–113, div. B, §1000(a)(5) [title II, §205(b)], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1536, 1501A–294, provided that: “In the case of any pilot program offered under the Federal Crop Insurance Act [7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.] that was approved by the Board of Directors of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation on or before September 30, 1999, the pilot program may be offered on a regional, whole State, or national basis for the 2000 and 2001 crop years notwithstanding section 553 of title 5, United States Code.”

##### LIMITATION ON FEE FOR CATASTROPHIC RISK PROTECTION

Pub. L. 105–277, div. A, §101(a) [title VII, §748], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681–32, as amended by Pub. L. 106–224, title I, §103(b)(2), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 364, which directed that, for the 1999 reinsurance and subsequent reinsurance years, no producer was to pay more than \$100 per crop per county as an administrative fee for catastrophic risk protection under former subsec. (b)(5)(A) of this section, was repealed by Pub. L. 110–234, title XII, §12006(b), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1374, and Pub. L. 110–246, §4(a), title XII, §12006(b), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2136.

[Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 repealed Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, § 101(a) [title VII, § 748], formerly set out above. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.]

**SPECIAL RULE FOR 1996 CROP YEAR REGARDING  
CATASTROPHIC RISK PROTECTION INSURANCE**

Pub. L. 104-127, title I, § 193(a)(3), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 944, provided that:

“(A) **EFFECTIVE PERIOD.**—This paragraph shall apply only to the 1996 crop year.

“(B) **AVAILABILITY.**—During a period of not less than 2 weeks, but not more than 4 weeks, beginning on the date of enactment of this title [Apr. 4, 1996], the Secretary shall provide producers with an opportunity to obtain catastrophic risk protection insurance under section 508(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(b)) for a spring-planted crop, and limited additional coverage for malting barley under the Malting Barley Price and Quality Endorsement. The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation may attach such limitations and restrictions on obtaining insurance during this period as the Corporation considers necessary to maintain the actuarial soundness of the crop insurance program.

“(C) **ATTACHMENT.**—Insurance coverage under any policy obtained under this paragraph during the extended sales period shall not attach until 10 days after the application.

“(D) **CANCELLATION.**—During the extended period, a producer may cancel a catastrophic risk protection policy if—

“(i) the policy is a continuation of a policy that was obtained for a previous crop year; and

“(ii) the cancellation request is made before the acreage reporting date for the policy for the 1996 crop year.”

**CROP INSURANCE PILOT PROGRAM**

Pub. L. 104-127, title I, § 193(b), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 944, provided that:

“(1) **COVERAGE.**—The Secretary of Agriculture shall develop and administer a pilot project for crop insurance coverage that indemnifies crop losses due to a natural disaster such as insect infestation or disease.

“(2) **ACTUARIAL SOUNDNESS.**—A pilot project under this paragraph shall be actuarially sound, as determined by the Secretary and administered at no net cost.

“(3) **DURATION.**—A pilot project under this paragraph shall be of two years’ duration.”

**PREVENTED PLANTING**

Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 116, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3204, provided that:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Effective for the 1994 crop year, a producer described in subsection (b) shall receive compensation under the prevented planting coverage policy provision described in subsection (b)(1) by—

“(1) obtaining from the Secretary of Agriculture the applicable amount that is payable under the conserving use program described in subsection (b)(4); and

“(2) obtaining from the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation the amount that is equal to the difference between—

“(A) the amount that is payable under the conserving use program; and

“(B) the amount that is payable under the prevented planting coverage policy.

“(b) **ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS.**—Subsection (a) shall apply to a producer who—

“(1) purchased a prevented planting policy for the 1994 crop year from the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation prior to the spring sales closing date for the 1994 crop year;

“(2) is unable to plant a crop due to major, widespread flooding in the Midwest, or excessive ground moisture, that occurred prior to the spring sales closing date for the 1994 crop year;

“(3) had a reasonable expectation of planting a crop on the prevented planting acreage for the 1994 crop year; and

“(4) participates in a conserving use program established for the 1994 crop of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, or rice established under section 107B(c)(1)(E), 105B(c)(1)(E), 103B(c)(1)(D), or 101B(c)(1)(D), respectively, of the Agricultural Act of 1949 ([former] 7 U.S.C. 1445b-3a(c)(1)(E), 1444f(c)(1)(E), 1444-2(c)(1)(D), or 1441-2(c)(1)(D)).

“(c) **OILSEED PREVENTED PLANTING PAYMENTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Effective for the 1994 crop year, a producer of a crop of oilseeds (as defined in section 205(a) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 ([former] 7 U.S.C. 1446f(a))) shall receive a prevented planting payment for the crop if the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b) are satisfied.

“(2) **SOURCE OF PAYMENT.**—The total amount of payments required under this subsection shall be made by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

“(d) **PAYMENT.**—A payment under this section may not be made before October 1, 1994.”

**REPORT ON IMPROVING DISSEMINATION OF CROP  
INSURANCE INFORMATION**

Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 117, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3205, provided that: “Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Oct. 13, 1994] and at the end of each of the 2 1-year periods thereafter, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation shall submit a report to Congress containing a plan to implement a sound program for producer education regarding the crop insurance program and for the dissemination of crop insurance information to producers, as required by section 508(a)(5) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act [7 U.S.C. 1508(a)(5)] (as amended by section 106).”

**FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE COMMISSION**

Pub. L. 100-546, Oct. 28, 1988, 102 Stat. 2730, provided for establishment, membership, compensation, etc., of Commission for the Improvement of the Federal Crop Insurance Program, directed Commission to study and determine why participation in program had not reached levels anticipated when Federal Crop Insurance Act of 1980 was enacted, to identify States and commodities to which lack of participation in program is most serious, and to prepare findings and recommendations setting forth means by which participation in program could be increased and natural protection for producers of agricultural commodities could be improved, required Commission to submit an interim report to Congressional committees and Secretary of Agriculture, not later than Apr. 1, 1989, containing findings and recommendations for immediate administrative improvement in program, aimed at improving program in 1990 sales year, and a final report, not later than July 1, 1989, to include Commission’s findings and recommendation and a status report on improvement of program, authorized Commission to continue to monitor program and to submit monthly reports beginning July 1, 1989, and ending Dec. 31, 1990, and terminated Commission on Dec. 31, 1990.

**LOSS ADJUSTMENT OBLIGATIONS**

Pub. L. 100-203, title I, § 1507, Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1330-29, provided that: “It is the sense of Congress that, in carrying out the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.), the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation—

“(1) should not be required to assume 100 percent of all loss adjustments in the Federal crop insurance program; and

“(2) should assume and perform the loss adjustment obligations of a reinsured company if the Corporation determines that such company’s loss adjustment per-

formance and practices are not carried out in accordance with the applicable reinsurance agreement.”

**NOTICE TO PRODUCERS OF RIGHT TO ELECT SUBSIDIZED CROP INSURANCE OR DISASTER PAYMENTS ON 1981 CROPS**

Pub. L. 96-365, title II, §202, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1321, provided that: “The Secretary of Agriculture, after consultation with the Board of Directors of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, shall, at least sixty days prior to the beginning of the planting of the 1981 crops of wheat, feed grains, upland cotton, and rice, or thirty days after the date of enactment of this Act [Sept. 26, 1980], whichever is the later, notify producers of those commodities of their right to elect, with respect to the 1981 crop, between (1) declaring the farm acreage of the respective commodity eligible for disaster payments under the Agricultural Act of 1949 [7 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.], or (2) covering such farm acreage with crop insurance, part of the premium for which is paid by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation under the provisions of section 508(b)(3) or 508(e) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act [subsec. (b)(3) or (e) of this section]. Such notice shall include a statement of the percent of crop insurance premium that will be paid by the Corporation.”

**STUDY OF ALTERNATIVE ALL-RISK, ALL-CROP INSURANCE PROGRAMS**

Pub. L. 95-181, §2, Nov. 15, 1977, 91 Stat. 1373, provided that: “The Secretary of Agriculture shall undertake an immediate study of alternative programs which could be established for an all-risk, all-crop insurance to help provide protection to those suffering crop losses in floods, droughts, and other natural disasters, including alternative methods of administration, Federal assistance, reinsurance, rate setting and private insurance industry involvement, as well as variations on the existing crop insurance program, and such other matters as he determines are relevant, and shall report his findings and recommendations to the President for transmission to the Congress by March 1, 1978. The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on behalf of the Federal Insurance Administration; the Secretary of Treasury and representatives of the private insurance industry in the course of the study and shall identify the views of each in forwarding his findings and recommendations to the President. Such sums, not exceeding \$200,000, as are appropriated for fiscal year 1978 under section 504 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended [section 1504 of this title], may be utilized to conduct such a study.”

**VALIDITY AND TERMINATION OF PRIOR INSURANCE CONTRACTS**

Act Aug. 1, 1947, ch. 440, §5, 61 Stat. 719, provided: “Nothing in this Act [amending sections 1502, 1505 (a to d), 1506(d), 1507(d), and 1508 (a to c) of this title] shall be construed to affect the validity of any insurance contract entered into prior to the enactment of this Act [Aug. 1, 1947] insofar as such contract covers the 1947 crop year. Any such contract which purports to cover a crop in the 1948 or any subsequent crop year in any county in which insurance on such crop will be discontinued pursuant to this Act is hereby terminated at the end of the 1947 crop year.”

**Executive Documents**

**TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

**§ 1508a. Double insurance and prevented planting**

**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) First crop**

The term “first crop” means the first crop of the first agricultural commodity planted for harvest, or prevented from being planted, on specific acreage during a crop year and insured under this subchapter.

**(2) Second crop**

The term “second crop” means a second crop of the same agricultural commodity as the first crop, or a crop of a different agricultural commodity following the first crop, planted on the same acreage as the first crop for harvest in the same crop year, except the term does not include a replanted crop.

**(3) Replanted crop**

The term “replanted crop” means any agricultural commodity replanted on the same acreage as the first crop for harvest in the same crop year if the replanting is required by the terms of the policy of insurance covering the first crop.

**(b) Double insurance**

**(1) Options on loss to first crop**

Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e), if a first crop insured under this subchapter in a crop year has a total or partial insurable loss, the producer of the first crop may elect one of the following options:

**(A) No second crop planted**

The producer may—

(i) elect to not plant a second crop on the same acreage for harvest in the same crop year; and

(ii) collect an indemnity payment that is equal to 100 percent of the insurable loss for the first crop.

**(B) Second crop planted**

The producer may—

(i) plant a second crop on the same acreage for harvest in the same crop year; and

(ii) collect an indemnity payment established by the Corporation for the first crop, but not to exceed 35 percent of the insurable loss for the first crop.

**(2) Effect of no loss to second crop**

If a producer makes an election under paragraph (1)(B) and the producer does not suffer an insurable loss to the second crop, the producer may collect an indemnity payment for the first crop that is equal to—

(A) 100 percent of the insurable loss for the first crop; less

(B) the amount previously collected under paragraph (1)(B)(ii).

**(3) Premium for first crop if second crop planted**

**(A) Initial premium**

If a producer makes an election under paragraph (1)(B), the producer shall be responsible for a premium for the first crop

that is commensurate with the indemnity paid under paragraph (1)(B)(ii). The Corporation shall adjust the total premium for the first crop to reflect the reduced indemnity.

**(B) Effect of no loss to second crop**

If the producer makes an election under paragraph (1)(B) and the producer does not suffer an insurable loss to the second crop, the producer shall be responsible for a premium for the first crop that is equal to—

- (i) the full premium owed by the producer for the first crop; less
- (ii) the amount of premium previously paid under subparagraph (A).

**(c) Prevented planting coverage**

**(1) Options on loss to first crop**

Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e), if a first crop insured under this subchapter in a crop year is prevented from being planted, the producer of the first crop may elect one of the following options:

**(A) No second crop planted**

The producer may—

- (i) elect to not plant a second crop on the same acreage for harvest in the same crop year; and
- (ii) subject to paragraph (4), collect an indemnity payment that is equal to 100 percent of the prevented planting guarantee for the acreage for the first crop.

**(B) Second crop planted**

The producer may—

- (i) plant a second crop on the same acreage for harvest in the same crop year; and
- (ii) subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), collect an indemnity payment established by the Corporation for the first crop, but not to exceed 35 percent of the prevented planting guarantee for the acreage for the first crop.

**(2) Premium for first crop if second planted**

If the producer makes an election under paragraph (1)(B), the producer shall pay a premium for the first crop that is commensurate with the indemnity paid under paragraph (1)(B)(ii). The Corporation shall adjust the total premium for the first crop to reflect the reduced indemnity.

**(3) Effect on actual production history**

Except in the case of double cropping described in subsection (d), if a producer make an election under paragraph (1)(B) for a crop year, the Corporation shall assign the producer a recorded yield for that crop year for the first crop equal to 60 percent of the producer's actual production history for the agricultural commodity involved, for purposes of determining the producer's actual production history for subsequent crop years.

**(4) Area conditions required for payment**

The Corporation shall limit prevented planting payments for producers to those situations in which other producers, in the area where a first crop is prevented from being planted is located, are also generally affected by the conditions that prevented the first crop from being planted.

**(5) Planting date**

If a producer plants the second crop before the latest planting date established by the Corporation for the first crop, the Corporation shall not make a prevented planting payment with regard to the first crop.

**(d) Exception for established double cropping practices**

A producer may receive full indemnity payments on two or more crops planted for harvest in the same crop year and insured under this subchapter if each of the following conditions are met:

- (1) There is an established practice of planting two or more crops for harvest in the same crop year in the area, as determined by the Corporation.
- (2) An additional coverage policy or plan of insurance is offered with respect to the agricultural commodities planted on the same acreage for harvest in the same crop year in the area.
- (3) The producer has a history of planting two or more crops for harvest in the same crop year or the applicable acreage has historically had two or more crops planted for harvest in the same crop year.
- (4) The second or more crops are customarily planted after the first crop for harvest on the same acreage in the same year in the area.

**(e) Subsequent crops**

Except in the case of double cropping described in subsection (d), if a producer elects to plant a crop (other than a replanted crop) subsequent to a second crop on the same acreage as the first crop and second crop for harvest in the same crop year, the producer shall not be eligible for insurance under this subchapter, or non-insured crop assistance under section 7333 of this title, for the subsequent crop.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §508A, as added Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §108, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 368; amended Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

**Editorial Notes**

**CODIFICATION**

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 1508a, act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §508A, as added Aug. 14, 1989, Pub. L. 101-82, title VI, §604, 103 Stat. 587; amended Aug. 10, 1993, Pub. L. 103-66, title XIV, §1403(b)(3), 107 Stat. 334, related to crop insurance yield coverage, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §§107, 120, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3197, 3208, effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance beginning with 1995 crop year.

**AMENDMENTS**

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT**

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section applicable beginning with the 2001 crop of an agricultural commodity, see section 171(b)(2)(F) of Pub. L. 106-224, set out as an Effective Date of 2000 Amendment note under section 1501 of this title.

**§ 1508b. Stacked Income Protection Plan for producers of upland cotton****(a) Availability**

Beginning not later than the 2015 crop of upland cotton, the Corporation shall make available to producers of upland cotton an additional policy (to be known as the “Stacked Income Protection Plan”), which shall provide coverage consistent with the Group Risk Income Protection Plan (and the associated Harvest Revenue Option Endorsement) offered by the Corporation for the 2011 crop year.

**(b) Required terms**

The Corporation may modify the Stacked Income Protection Plan on a program-wide basis, except that the Stacked Income Protection Plan shall comply with the following requirements:

(1) Provide coverage for revenue loss of not less than 10 percent and not more than 30 percent of expected county revenue, specified in increments of 5 percent. The deductible shall be the minimum percent of revenue loss at which indemnities are triggered under the plan, not to be less than 10 percent of the expected county revenue.

(2) Be offered to producers of upland cotton in all counties with upland cotton production—

(A) at a county-wide level to the fullest extent practicable; or

(B) in counties that lack sufficient data, on the basis of such larger geographical area as the Corporation determines to provide sufficient data for purposes of providing the coverage.

(3) Be purchased in addition to any other individual or area coverage in effect on the producer’s acreage or as a stand-alone policy, except that if a producer has an individual or area coverage for the same acreage, the maximum coverage available under the Stacked Income Protection Plan shall not exceed the deductible for the individual or area coverage.

(4) Establish coverage based on—

(A) the expected price established under existing Group Risk Income Protection or area wide policy offered by the Corporation for the applicable county (or area) and crop year; and

(B) an expected county yield that is the higher of—

(i) the expected county yield established for the existing area-wide plans offered by the Corporation for the applicable county (or area) and crop year (or, in geographic

areas where area-wide plans are not offered, an expected yield determined in a manner consistent with those of area-wide plans); or

(ii) the average of the applicable yield data for the county (or area) for the most recent 5 years, excluding the highest and lowest observations, from the Risk Management Agency or the National Agricultural Statistics Service (or both) or, if sufficient county data is not available, such other data considered appropriate by the Secretary.

(5) Use a multiplier factor to establish maximum protection per acre (referred to as a “protection factor”) of not less than the higher of the level established on a program wide basis or 120 percent.

(6) Pay an indemnity based on the amount that the expected county revenue exceeds the actual county revenue, as applied to the individual coverage of the producer. Indemnities under the Stacked Income Protection Plan shall not include or overlap the amount of the deductible selected under paragraph (1).

(7) In all counties for which data are available, establish separate coverage levels for irrigated and nonirrigated practices.

**(c) Premium**

Notwithstanding section 1508(d) of this title, the premium for the Stacked Income Protection Plan shall—

(1) be sufficient to cover anticipated losses and a reasonable reserve; and

(2) include an amount for operating and administrative expenses established in accordance with section 1508(k)(4)(F) of this title.

**(d) Payment of portion of premium by corporation**

Subject to section 1508(e)(4) of this title, the amount of premium paid by the Corporation for all qualifying coverage levels of the Stacked Income Protection Plan shall be—

(1) 80 percent of the amount of the premium established under subsection (c) for the coverage level selected; and

(2) the amount determined under subsection (c)(2), subject to section 1508(k)(4)(F) of this title, for the coverage to cover administrative and operating expenses.

**(e) Relation to other coverages**

The Stacked Income Protection Plan is in addition to all other coverages available to producers of upland cotton.

**(f) Limitation**

Effective beginning with the 2019 crop year, a farm shall not be eligible for the Stacked Income Protection Plan for upland cotton for a crop year for which the farm is enrolled in coverage for seed cotton under—

(1) price loss coverage under section 9016 of this title; or

(2) agriculture risk coverage under section 9017 of this title.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 508B, as added Pub. L. 113-79, title XI, § 11017(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 964; amended Pub. L. 115-123, div. F, § 60101(a)(10), Feb. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 310.)

**Editorial Notes****AMENDMENTS**

2018—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 115–123 added subsec. (f).

**§ 1508c. Peanut revenue crop insurance****(a) In general**

Effective beginning with the 2015 crop year, the Risk Management Agency and the Corporation shall make available to producers of peanuts a revenue crop insurance program for peanuts.

**(b) Effective price**

Subject to subsection (c), for purposes of the revenue crop insurance program and the multiperil crop insurance program under this subchapter, the effective price for peanuts shall be equal to the Rotterdam price index for peanuts or other appropriate price as determined by the Secretary, as adjusted to reflect the farmer stock price of peanuts in the United States.

**(c) Adjustments****(1) In general**

The effective price for peanuts established under subsection (b) may be adjusted by the Risk Management Agency and the Corporation to correct distortions.

**(2) Administration**

If an adjustment is made under paragraph (1), the Risk Management Agency and the Corporation shall—

(A) make the adjustment in an open and transparent manner; and

(B) submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the reasons for the adjustment.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 508C, as added Pub. L. 113–79, title XI, § 11018, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 966.)

**§ 1508d. Coverage for forage and grazing**

Notwithstanding section 1508a of this title, and in addition to any other available coverage, for crops that can be both grazed and mechanically harvested on the same acres during the same growing season, producers shall be allowed to purchase separate policies for each intended use, as determined by the Corporation, and any indemnity paid under those policies for each intended use shall not be considered to be for the same loss for the purposes of section 1508(n) of this title.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 508D, as added Pub. L. 115–334, title XI, § 11109(b), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4923.)

**§ 1509. Exemption of indemnities from levy**

Claims for indemnities under this subchapter shall not be liable to attachment, levy, garnishment, or any other legal process before payment to the insured or to deduction on account of the indebtedness of the insured or the estate of the insured to the United States except claims of the United States or the Corporation arising under this subchapter.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 509, 52 Stat. 75; Pub. L. 103–354, title I, § 115(c), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3204; Pub. L. 110–234, title XII, § 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110–246, § 4(a), title XII, § 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

**Editorial Notes****CODIFICATION**

Pub. L. 110–234 and Pub. L. 110–246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110–234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110–246.

**AMENDMENTS**

2008—Pub. L. 110–246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in two places.

1994—Pub. L. 103–354 substituted “or the estate of the insured” for “or his estate”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT**

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110–234 by Pub. L. 110–246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110–234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110–246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 103–354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103–354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

**Executive Documents****TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

**§ 1510. Deposit and investment of funds; Federal Reserve banks as fiscal agents**

All money of the Corporation not otherwise employed may be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States or in any bank approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, subject to withdrawal by the Corporation at any time, or with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury may be invested in obligations of the United States or in obligations guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States. Subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Federal Reserve banks are hereby authorized and directed to act as depositories, custodians, and fiscal agents for the Corporation in the performance of its powers conferred by this subchapter.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 510, 52 Stat. 75; Pub. L. 110–234, title XII, § 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110–246, § 4(a), title XII, § 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

## AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, § 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

**Executive Documents**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

**§ 1511. Tax exemption**

The Corporation, including its franchise, its capital, reserves, and surplus, and its income and property, shall be exempt from all taxation on or after February 16, 1938, imposed by the United States or by any Territory, dependency, or possession thereof, or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority. A contract of insurance of the Corporation, and a contract of insurance reinsured by the Corporation, shall be exempt from taxation imposed by any State, municipality, or local taxing authority.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 511, 52 Stat. 75; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 108, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3197.)

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 inserted at end “A contract of insurance of the Corporation, and a contract of insurance reinsured by the Corporation, shall be exempt from taxation imposed by any State, municipality, or local taxing authority.”

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

**Executive Documents**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by

1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

**§ 1512. Corporation as fiscal agent of Government**

When designated for that purpose by the Secretary of the Treasury, the Corporation shall be a depository of public money, except receipts from customs, under such regulations as may be prescribed by said Secretary; and it may also be employed as a financial agent of the Government; and it shall perform all such reasonable duties, as a depository of public money and financial agent of the Government, as may be required of it.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 512, 52 Stat. 75.)

**Executive Documents**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, § 501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

**§ 1513. Books of account and annual reports of Corporation**

The Corporation shall at all times maintain complete and accurate books of accounts and shall file annually with the Secretary a complete report as to the business of the Corporation.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 513, 52 Stat. 76; Pub. L. 93-604, title VI, § 603, Jan. 2, 1975, 88 Stat. 1963; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 102(b)(4)(C), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3181.)

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 substituted “Secretary” for “Secretary of Agriculture”.

1975—Pub. L. 93-604 struck out provisions that financial transactions of Corporation shall be audited at least once each year by the General Accounting Office for the sole purpose of making a report to Congress, together with such recommendations as the Comptroller General of the United States may deem advisable and the proviso that such report shall not be made until the Corporation shall have had reasonable opportunity to examine the exceptions and criticisms of the Comptroller General or the General Accounting Office, to point out errors therein, explain or answer the same, and to file a statement which shall be submitted by Comptroller General with his report.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on

the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

#### AUDIT OF GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS

Section 9105(f) of Title 31, Money and Finance, provides that an audit under subsection (a) of that section is in place of an audit of the financial transactions of a Government corporation the Comptroller General is required to make in reporting to Congress or the President under another law.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

#### § 1514. Crimes and offenses

(a) to (e) Repealed. June 25, 1948, ch. 645, § 21, 62 Stat. 862, eff. Sept. 1, 1948

(f) Application of laws on interest of Members of Congress in contracts

The provisions of section 6306 of title 41 shall not apply to any crop insurance agreements made under this subchapter.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §514, 52 Stat. 76; June 25, 1948, ch. 645, §§4, 21, 62 Stat. 859, 862; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

In subsec. (f), “section 6306 of title 41” substituted for “section 3741 of the Revised Statutes (U.S.C., title 41, sec. 22)” on authority of Pub. L. 111-350, §6(c), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3854, which Act enacted Title 41, Public Contracts.

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

##### AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (f), Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

1948—Subsecs. (a) to (e). Act June 25, 1948, §21, repealed provisions relating to crimes and offenses. See sections 371, 433, 657, 658, 1006, 1014, and former section 1093 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure.

Subsec. (f). Act June 25, 1948, §4, struck out provisions relating to former sections 202 to 207 of Title 18. See sections 202, 216, 431 to 433 of Title 18.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1948 AMENDMENT

Amendment by act June 25, 1948, effective Sept. 1, 1948, see section 20 of that act.

#### Executive Documents

##### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by 1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

#### § 1515. Program compliance and integrity

##### (a) Purpose

###### (1) In general

The purpose of this section is to improve compliance with, and the integrity of, the Federal crop insurance program.

###### (2) Role of insurance providers

The Corporation shall work actively with approved insurance providers to address program compliance and integrity issues as such issues develop.

##### (b) Notification of compliance problems

###### (1) Notification of errors, omissions, and failures

The Corporation shall notify in writing an approved insurance provider of any error, omission, or failure to follow Corporation regulations or procedures for which the approved insurance provider may be responsible and which may result in a debt owed the Corporation.

###### (2) Time for notification

Notice under paragraph (1) shall be given within 3 years after the end of the insurance period during which the error, omission, or failure is alleged to have occurred, except that this time limitation shall not apply with respect to an error, omission, or procedural violation that is willful or intentional.

###### (3) Effect of failure to timely notify

Except as provided in paragraph (2), the failure to timely provide the notice required under this subsection shall relieve the approved insurance provider from the debt owed the Corporation.

##### (c) Reconciling producer information

###### (1) In general

The Secretary shall develop and implement a coordinated plan for the Corporation and the Farm Service Agency to reconcile all relevant information received by the Corporation or the Farm Service Agency from a producer who obtains crop insurance coverage under this subchapter.

###### (2) Frequency

Beginning with the 2001 crop year, the Secretary shall require that the Corporation and the Farm Service Agency reconcile such producer-derived information on at least an annual basis in order to identify and address any discrepancies.

###### (3) Corrections

###### (A) In general

In addition to the corrections permitted by the Corporation as of the day before Feb-



ruary 7, 2014, the Corporation shall establish procedures that allow an agent or an approved insurance provider, subject to subparagraph (B)—

(i) within a reasonable amount of time following the applicable sales closing date, to correct errors in information that is provided by a producer for the purpose of obtaining coverage under any policy or plan of insurance made available under this subchapter to ensure that the eligibility information is correct and consistent with information reported by the producer for other programs administered by the Secretary;

(ii) within a reasonable amount of time following—

(I) the acreage reporting date, to reconcile errors in the information reported by the producer with correct information determined from any other program administered by the Secretary; or

(II) the date of any subsequent correction of data by the Farm Service Agency made as a result of the verification of information, to make conforming corrections; and

(iii) at any time, to correct electronic transmission errors that were made by an agent or approved insurance provider, or such errors made by the Farm Service Agency or any other agency of the Department of Agriculture in transmitting the information provided by the producer for purposes of other programs of the Department to the extent an agent or approved insurance provider relied upon the erroneous information for crop insurance purposes.

#### **(B) Limitation**

In accordance with the procedures of the Corporation, correction to the information described in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) may only be made if the corrections do not allow the producer—

(i) to avoid ineligibility requirements for insurance or obtain a disproportionate benefit under the crop insurance program or any related program administered by the Secretary;

(ii) to obtain, enhance, or increase an insurance guarantee or indemnity if a cause of loss exists or has occurred before any correction has been made, or avoid premium owed if no loss is likely to occur; or

(iii) to avoid an obligation or requirement under any Federal or State law.

#### **(C) Exception to late filing sanctions**

Any corrections made within a reasonable amount of time, in accordance with established procedures, pursuant to this paragraph shall not be subject to any late filing sanctions authorized in the reinsurance agreement with the Corporation.

#### **(D) Late payment of debt**

In the case of a producer that has inadvertently failed to pay a debt due as specified by regulations of the Corporation and has been determined to be ineligible for crop

insurance pursuant to the terms of the policy as a result of that failure, the Corporation may determine to allow the producer to pay the debt and purchase the crop insurance after the sales closing date, in accordance with procedures and limitations established by the Corporation.

#### **(d) Identification and elimination of fraud, waste, and abuse**

##### **(1) FSA monitoring program**

The Secretary shall develop and implement a coordinated plan for the Farm Service Agency to assist the Corporation in the ongoing monitoring of programs carried out under this subchapter, including—

(A) at the request of the Corporation or, subject to paragraph (2), on its own initiative if the Farm Service Agency has reason to suspect the existence of program fraud, waste, or abuse, conducting fact finding relative to allegations of program fraud, waste, or abuse;

(B) reporting to the Corporation, in writing in a timely manner, the results of any fact finding conducted pursuant to subparagraph (A), any allegation of fraud, waste, or abuse, and any identified program vulnerabilities;

(C) assisting the Corporation and approved insurance providers in auditing a statistically appropriate number of claims made under any policy or plan of insurance under this subchapter; and

(D) using published aggregate data from the National Agricultural Statistics Service or any other data source to—

(i) detect yield disparities or other data anomalies that indicate potential fraud; and

(ii) target the relevant counties, crops, regions, companies, or agents associated with that potential fraud for audits and other enforcement actions.

##### **(2) FSA inquiry**

If, within five calendar days after receiving a report submitted under paragraph (1)(B), the Corporation does not provide a written response that describes the intended actions of the Corporation, the Farm Service Agency may conduct its own inquiry into the alleged program fraud, waste, or abuse on approval from the State director of the Farm Service Agency of the State in which the alleged fraud, waste, or abuse occurred. If as a result of the inquiry, the Farm Service Agency concludes further investigation is warranted, but the Corporation declines to proceed with the investigation, the Farm Service Agency may refer the matter to the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture.

##### **(3) Use of field infrastructure**

The plan required by paragraph (1) shall provide for the use of the field infrastructure of the Farm Service Agency. The Secretary shall ensure that relevant Farm Service Agency personnel are appropriately trained for any responsibilities assigned to the personnel under the plan. At a minimum, the personnel shall receive the same level of training and pass the

same basic competency tests as required of loss adjusters of approved insurance providers.

**(4) Maintenance of provider effort**

**(A) In general**

The activities of the Farm Service Agency under this subsection do not affect the responsibility of approved insurance providers to conduct any audits of claims or other program reviews required by the Corporation.

**(B) Notification of providers**

The Corporation shall notify the appropriate approved insurance provider of a report from the Farm Service Agency regarding alleged program fraud, waste, or abuse, unless the provider is suspected to be included in, or a party to, the alleged fraud, waste, or abuse.

**(C) Response**

An approved insurance provider that receives a notice under subparagraph (B) shall submit a report to the Corporation, within an appropriate time period determined by the Secretary, describing the actions taken by the provider to investigate the allegations of program fraud, waste, or abuse contained in the notice.

**(5) Corporation response to provider reports**

**(A) Prompt response**

If an approved insurance provider reports to the Corporation that the approved insurance provider suspects intentional misrepresentation, fraud, waste, or abuse, the Corporation shall make a determination and provide, within 90 calendar days after receiving the report, a written response that describes the intended actions of the Corporation.

**(B) Cooperative effort**

The approved insurance provider and the Corporation shall take coordinated action in any case where misrepresentation, fraud, waste, or abuse is alleged.

**(C) Failure to timely respond**

If the Corporation fails to respond as required by subparagraph (A), an approved insurance provider may request the Farm Service Agency to assist the provider in an inquiry into the alleged program fraud, waste, or abuse.

**(e) Consultation with State FSA committees**

The Secretary shall establish procedures under which the Corporation shall consult with the State committee of the Farm Service Agency for a State with respect to policies, plans of insurance, and material related to such policies or plans of insurance (including applicable sales closing dates, assigned yields, and transitional yields) offered in that State under this subchapter.

**(f) Detection of disparate performance**

**(1) Covered activities**

The Secretary shall establish procedures under which the Corporation will be able to identify the following:

(A) Any agent engaged in the sale of coverage offered under this subchapter where

the loss claims associated with such sales by the agent are equal to or greater than 150 percent (or an appropriate percentage specified by the Corporation) of the mean for all loss claims associated with such sales by all other agents operating in the same area, as determined by the Corporation.

(B) Any person performing loss adjustment services relative to coverage offered under this subchapter where such loss adjustments performed by the person result in accepted or denied claims equal to or greater than 150 percent (or an appropriate percentage specified by the Corporation) of the mean for accepted or denied claims (as applicable) for all other persons performing loss adjustment services in the same area, as determined by the Corporation.

**(2) Review**

**(A) Review required**

The Corporation shall conduct a review of any agent identified under paragraph (1)(A), and any person identified under paragraph (1)(B), to determine whether the higher loss claims associated with the agent or the higher number of accepted or denied claims (as applicable) associated with the person are the result of fraud, waste, or abuse.

**(B) Remedial action**

The Corporation shall take appropriate remedial action with respect to any occurrence of fraud, waste, or abuse identified in a review conducted under this paragraph.

**(3) Oversight of agents and loss adjusters**

The Corporation shall develop procedures to require an annual review by an approved insurance provider of the performance of each agent and loss adjuster used by the approved insurance provider. The Corporation shall oversee the conduct of annual reviews and may consult with an approved insurance provider regarding any remedial action that is determined to be necessary as a result of the annual review of an agent or loss adjuster.

**(g) Submission of information to Corporation to support compliance efforts**

**(1) Types of information required**

The Secretary shall establish procedures under which approved insurance providers shall submit to the Corporation the following information with respect to each policy or plan of insurance offered under this subchapter:

(A) The name and identification number of the insured.

(B) The agricultural commodity to be insured.

(C) The elected coverage level, including the price election, of the insured.

(D) The actual production history to be used to establish insurable yields.

**(2) Time for submission**

**(A) In general**

The information required to be submitted under subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1) with respect to a policy or plan of insurance shall be submitted so as to ensure

receipt by the Corporation not later than the Saturday of the week containing the calendar day that is 30 days after the applicable sales closing date for the crop to be insured.

**(B) Actual production history**

**(i) In general**

The information required to be submitted under paragraph (1)(D) with respect to an applicable policy or plan of insurance for a covered commodity (as defined in section 9011 of this title) shall be submitted so as to ensure receipt by the Corporation not later than the Saturday of the week containing the calendar day that is 30 days after the applicable production reporting date for the crop to be insured.

**(ii) Correction of errors**

Nothing in clause (i) limits the ability of an approved insurance provider to correct any error in the information submitted under paragraph (1)(D) after receipt of the information by the Corporation in accordance with clause (i).

**(h) Sanctions for program noncompliance and fraud**

**(1) False information**

A producer, agent, loss adjuster, approved insurance provider, or other person that willfully and intentionally provides any false or inaccurate information to the Corporation or to an approved insurance provider with respect to a policy or plan of insurance under this subchapter may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, be subject to one or more of the sanctions described in paragraph (3).

**(2) Compliance**

A person may, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, be subject to one or more of the sanctions described in paragraph (3) if the person is a producer, agent, loss adjuster, approved insurance provider, or other person that willfully and intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of the Corporation.

**(3) Authorized sanctions**

If the Secretary determines that a person covered by this subsection has committed a material violation under paragraph (1) or (2), the following sanctions may be imposed:

**(A) Civil fines**

A civil fine may be imposed for each violation in an amount not to exceed the greater of—

- (i) the amount of the pecuniary gain obtained as a result of the false or inaccurate information provided or the noncompliance with a requirement of this subchapter; or
- (ii) \$10,000.

**(B) Producer disqualification**

In the case of a violation committed by a producer, the producer may be disqualified for a period of up to 5 years from receiving any monetary or nonmonetary benefit provided under each of the following:

(i) This subchapter.

(ii) The Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.), including the noninsured crop disaster assistance program under section 196 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 7333).

(iii) The Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.).

(iv) The Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.).

(v) The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1281 et seq.).

(vi) Title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.).

(vii) The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.).

(viii) Any law that provides assistance to a producer of an agricultural commodity affected by a crop loss or a decline in the prices of agricultural commodities.

**(C) Disqualification of other persons**

In the case of a violation committed by an agent, loss adjuster, approved insurance provider, or other person (other than a producer), the violator may be disqualified for a period of up to 5 years from participating in any program, or receiving any benefit, under this subchapter.

**(4) Assessment of sanction**

The Secretary shall consider the gravity of the violation of the person covered by this subsection in determining—

- (A) whether to impose a sanction under this subsection; and
- (B) the type and amount of the sanction to be imposed.

**(5) Disclosure of sanctions**

Each policy or plan of insurance under this subchapter shall provide notice describing the sanctions prescribed under paragraph (3) for willfully and intentionally—

- (A) providing false or inaccurate information to the Corporation or to an approved insurance provider; or
- (B) failing to comply with a requirement of the Corporation.

**(6) Insurance fund**

Any funds collected under this subsection shall be deposited into the insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title.

**(i) Annual report on program compliance and integrity efforts**

**(1) Report required**

The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate an annual report describing the operation of this section during the preceding year and efforts undertaken by the Secretary and the Corporation to carry out this section.

**(2) Information regarding fraud, waste, and abuse**

The report shall identify specific occurrences of waste, fraud, or abuse and contain an outline of actions that have been or are being taken to eliminate the identified waste, fraud, or abuse.

**(j) Information management****(1) Systems maintenance and upgrades****(A) In general**

The Secretary shall maintain and upgrade the information management systems of the Corporation used in the administration and enforcement of this subchapter.

**(B) Requirement****(i) In general**

In maintaining and upgrading the systems, the Secretary shall ensure that new hardware and software are compatible with the hardware and software used by other agencies of the Department to maximize data sharing and promote the purposes of this section.

**(ii) Acreage report streamlining initiative project**

As soon as practicable, the Secretary shall develop and implement an acreage report streamlining initiative project to allow producers to report acreage and other information directly to the Department.

**(2) Use of available information technologies**

The Secretary shall use the information technologies known as data mining and data warehousing and other available information technologies to administer and enforce this subchapter.

**(3) Use of private sector**

The Secretary may enter into contracts to use private sector expertise and technological resources in implementing this subsection, which shall be subject to competition on a periodic basis, as determined by the Secretary.

**(k) Continuing education for loss adjusters and agents****(1) In general**

The Corporation shall establish requirements for continuing education for loss adjusters and agents of approved insurance providers.

**(2) Requirements**

The requirements for continuing education described in paragraph (1) shall ensure that loss adjusters and agents of approved insurance providers are familiar with—

(A) the policies and plans of insurance available under this subchapter, including the regulations promulgated to carry out this subchapter;

(B) efforts to promote program integrity through the elimination of waste, fraud, and abuse; and

(C) other aspects of adjusting, delivering, and servicing policies and plans of insurance by adjusters and agents, as determined by the Secretary, including conservation activities and agronomic practices (including organic and sustainable practices) that are common and appropriate to the area in which the insured crop being inspected is produced.

**(l) Funding****(1) Information technology****(A) In general**

For purposes of subsection (j)(1), the Corporation may use, from amounts made available from the insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title, not more than—

(i)(I) for fiscal year 2014, \$14,000,000; and

(II) for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2018, \$9,000,000; or

(ii) if the Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI) project is substantially completed by September 30, 2015, not more than \$14,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2015 through 2018.

**(B) Notification**

The Secretary shall notify the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate of the substantial completion of the Acreage Crop Reporting Streamlining Initiative (ACRSI) project not later than July 1, 2015.

**(2) Data mining**

To carry out subsection (j)(2), the Corporation may use, from amounts made available from the insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title, not more than \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 and each subsequent fiscal year.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 515, as added Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 109, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3197; amended Pub. L. 106-224, title I, § 121(a), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 372; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §§ 12021, 12033(c)(2), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1382, 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title XII, §§ 12021, 12033(c)(2), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2144, 2167; Pub. L. 110-398, § 1(c), Oct. 13, 2008, 122 Stat. 4214; Pub. L. 113-79, title XI, §§ 11019, 11020, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 966, 968; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, §§ 11115-11117, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4925.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Agricultural Market Transition Act, referred to in subsec. (h)(3)(B)(ii), is title I of Pub. L. 104-127, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 896, which is classified principally to chapter 100 (§ 7201 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see References in Text note set out under section 7201 of this title and Tables.

The Agricultural Act of 1949, referred to in subsec. (h)(3)(B)(iii), is act Oct. 31, 1949, ch. 792, 63 Stat. 1051, which is classified principally to chapter 35A (§ 1421 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1421 of this title and Tables.

The Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act, referred to in subsec. (h)(3)(B)(iv), is act June 29, 1948, ch. 704, 62 Stat. 1070, which is classified generally to subchapter II (§ 714 et seq.) of chapter 15 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 714 of Title 15 and Tables.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, referred to in subsec. (h)(3)(B)(v), is act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, 52 Stat. 31, which is classified principally to chapter 35 (§ 1281 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1281 of this title and Tables.

The Food Security Act of 1985, referred to in subsec. (h)(3)(B)(vi), is Pub. L. 99-198, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1354. Title XII of the Act is classified principally to chapter 58 (§3801 et seq.) of Title 16, Conservation. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 1985 Amendment note set out under section 1281 of this title and Tables.

The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, referred to in subsec. (h)(3)(B)(vii), is title III of Pub. L. 87-128, Aug. 8, 1961, 75 Stat. 307, which is classified principally to chapter 50 (§1921 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of the Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1921 of this title and Tables.

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (k)(2)(A), was in the original “this Act”, meaning the Federal Crop Insurance Act, which is subtitle A of title V of act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30.

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 1515, act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §515, 52 Stat. 77, provided for appointment and compensation of an advisory committee, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 96-365, title I, §108, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1317.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (d)(1)(D). Pub. L. 115-334, §11115(1), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (f)(2)(A). Pub. L. 115-334, §11115(2), substituted “under paragraph” for “pursuant to paragraph” in two places.

Subsec. (g)(1)(D). Pub. L. 115-334, §11116(1), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 115-334, §11116(2), designated existing provisions as subpar. (A), inserted heading, substituted “The information required to be submitted under subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1)” for “The information required by paragraph (1)”, and added subpar. (B).

Subsecs. (k), (l). Pub. L. 115-334, §11117, added subsec. (k) and redesignated former subsec. (k) as (l).

2014—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 113-79, §11019, designated first sentence as par. (1) and second sentence as par. (2), inserted headings, and added par. (3).

Subsec. (j)(1). Pub. L. 113-79, §11020(1), added par. (1) and struck out former par. (1). Text read as follows: “The Secretary shall upgrade the information management systems of the Corporation used in the administration and enforcement and this subchapter. In upgrading the systems, the Secretary shall ensure that new hardware and software are compatible with the hardware and software used by other agencies of the Department to maximize data sharing and promote the purpose of this section.”

Subsec. (k)(1). Pub. L. 113-79, §11020(2), added par. (1) and struck out former par. (1). Text read as follows: “To carry out subsection (j)(1), the Corporation may use, from amounts made available from the insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title, not more than \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010, and not more than \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.”

2008—Subsecs. (c) to (h). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (h)(3)(B)(i). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(A), substituted “This subchapter” for “This chapter”.

Subsec. (j)(1), (2). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Subsec. (j)(3). Pub. L. 110-246, §12021(a), inserted before period at end “, which shall be subject to competition on a periodic basis, as determined by the Secretary”.

Subsec. (k). Pub. L. 110-246, §12021(b), added subsec. (k) and struck out former subsec. (k) which related to funding to carry out this section and sections 1502(c), 1506(h), 1508(a)(3)(B), and 1508(f)(3)(A) of this title in fiscal years 2001 through 2005.

Subsec. (k)(1). Pub. L. 110-398 substituted “2010, and not more than \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2011” for “2011”.

2000—Pub. L. 106-224 amended section generally, substituting present provisions for provisions which had authorized establishment of Advisory Committee for Federal Crop Insurance, described primary responsibility, membership of Committee, and administrative provisions, required annual report regarding progress toward implementation and improved crop insurance coverage, soundness of program, and rate of participation, and set forth termination of authority on Sept. 30, 1998.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as an Effective Date of 1994 Amendment note under section 1502 of this title.

## § 1516. Funding

### (a) Authorization of appropriations

#### (1) Discretionary expenses

There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 1999 and each subsequent fiscal year such sums as are necessary to cover the salaries and expenses of the Corporation.

#### (2) Mandatory expenses

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to cover for each of the 1999 and subsequent reinsurance years the following:

(A) The administrative and operating expenses of the Corporation for the sales commissions of agents.

(B) Premium subsidies, including the administrative and operating expenses of an approved insurance provider for the delivery of policies with additional coverage.

(C) Costs associated with the conduct of livestock and wild salmon pilot programs carried out under section 1523 of this title, subject to the limitations in subsection (a)(3)(E)(ii) of that section.

(D) Costs associated with the reimbursement, contracting, and partnerships for research and development under section 1522 of this title.

### (b) Payment of Corporation expenses from insurance fund

#### (1) Expenses generally

For each of the 1999 and subsequent reinsurance years, the Corporation may pay from the insurance fund established under subsection (c) all expenses of the Corporation (other than

expenses covered by subsection (a)(1) and expenses covered by paragraph (2)(A)), including the following:

- (A) Premium subsidies and indemnities.
- (B) Administrative and operating expenses of the Corporation necessary to pay the sales commissions of agents.
- (C) All administrative and operating expense reimbursements due under a reinsurance agreement with an approved insurance provider.
- (D) Costs associated with the conduct of livestock and wild salmon pilot programs carried out under section 1523 of this title, subject to the limitations in subsection (a)(3)(E)(ii) of that section.
- (E) Costs associated with the reimbursement, contracting, and partnerships for research and development under section 1522 of this title.

## **(2) Policy consideration and implementation**

### **(A) In general**

For each of the 1999 and subsequent reinsurance years, the Corporation may use the insurance fund established under subsection (c), but not to exceed \$3,500,000 for each fiscal year, to pay the following:

- (i) Costs associated with the consideration and implementation of policies, plans of insurance, and related materials submitted under section 1508(h) of this title or developed under section 1522 or 1523 of this title.
- (ii) Costs to contract for the review of policies, plans of insurance, and related materials under section 1505(e) of this title and to contract for other assistance in considering policies, plans of insurance, and related materials.

### **(B) Dairy options pilot program**

Amounts necessary to carry out the dairy options pilot program shall not be counted toward the limitation on expenses specified in subparagraph (A).

## **(C) Reviews, compliance, and integrity**

### **(i) In general**

For each of the 2014 and subsequent reinsurance years, the Corporation may use the insurance fund established under subsection (c), but not to exceed \$7,000,000 for each fiscal year, to pay costs—

- (I) to reimburse expenses incurred for the operations and review of policies, plans of insurance, and related materials (including actuarial and related information); and
- (II) to assist the Corporation in maintaining program actuarial soundness and financial integrity.

### **(ii) Secretarial action**

For the purposes described in clause (i), the Secretary may, without further appropriation—

- (I) merge some or all of the funds made available under this subparagraph into the accounts of the Risk Management Agency; and
- (II) obligate those funds.

## **(iii) Maintenance of funding**

Funds made available under this subparagraph shall be in addition to other funds made available for costs incurred by the Corporation or the Risk Management Agency.

## **(c) Insurance fund**

### **(1) In general**

There is established an insurance fund, for the deposit of premium income, amounts made available under subsection (a)(2), and civil fines collected under section 1515(h) of this title, to be available without fiscal year limitation.

### **(2) Commodity Credit Corporation funds**

If at any time the amounts in the insurance fund are insufficient to enable the Corporation to carry out subsection (b), to the extent the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation are available—

(A) the Corporation may request the Secretary to use the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out subsection (b); and

(B) the Secretary may use the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out subsection (b).

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 516, 52 Stat. 77; June 21, 1941, ch. 214, §§ 6, 8, 55 Stat. 255, 256; Aug. 3, 1956, ch. 950, § 10, 70 Stat. 1034; Pub. L. 96-365, title I, §§ 109, 110, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1317, 1318; Pub. L. 97-11, May 22, 1981, 95 Stat. 13; Pub. L. 99-198, title X, § 1021, Dec. 23, 1985, 99 Stat. 1459; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, § 110, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3198; Pub. L. 104-127, title I, § 193(e), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 945; Pub. L. 105-185, title V, § 531, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 580; Pub. L. 106-224, title I, § 147, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 393; Pub. L. 113-79, title XI, § 11021, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 968; Pub. L. 115-123, div. F, § 60101(c)(2), Feb. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 312; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, § 11118, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4926.)

## **Editorial Notes**

### **AMENDMENTS**

2018—Subsecs. (a)(2)(C), (b)(1)(D). Pub. L. 115-123 substituted “subsection (a)(3)(E)(ii) of that section” for “subsections (a)(3)(E)(ii) and (b)(10) of section 1523 of this title”.

Subsec. (b)(2)(C)(i). Pub. L. 115-334 substituted “\$7,000,000” for “\$9,000,000” in introductory provisions.

2014—Subsec. (b)(2)(C). Pub. L. 113-79 added subpar. (C).

2000—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 106-224, § 147(a), in introductory provisions, substituted “years the following:” for “years—”, in subpar. (A), substituted “The” for “the” and a period for “; and” at end, in subpar. (B), substituted “Premium” for “premium”, and added subpars. (C) and (D).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 106-224, § 147(b), in introductory provisions, substituted “including the following:” for “including—”, in subpar. (A), substituted “Premium” for “premium” and a period for the semicolon at end, in subpar. (B), substituted “Administrative” for “administrative” and a period for “; and” at end, in subpar. (C), substituted “All” for “all”, and added subpars. (D) and (E).

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 106-224, § 147(c)(1), substituted “Policy consideration and implementation” for “Research and development expenses” in heading.

Subsec. (b)(2)(A). Pub. L. 106-224, §147(c)(2), substituted “may use” for “may pay from”, struck out “research and development expenses of the Corporation” before “, but not to exceed”, substituted “, to pay the following:” for period at end, and added cls. (i) and (ii).

Subsec. (b)(2)(B). Pub. L. 106-224, §147(c)(3), struck out “research and development” after “the limitation on”.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 106-224, §147(d), substituted “income,” for “income and” and inserted “, and civil fines collected under section 1515(h) of this title” before “, to be available”.

1998—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 105-185, §531(1)(A), added par. (1) and struck out heading and text of former par. (1). Text read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 1995 through 2001 such sums as are necessary to cover—

“(A) the salaries and expenses of the Corporation; and

“(B) the administrative and operating expenses of the Corporation for the sales commissions of agents.”

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 105-185, §531(1)(B)(i), inserted “for each of the 1999 and subsequent reinsurance years” after “are necessary to cover” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 105-185, §531(1)(B)(ii), added subpar. (A) and struck out former subpar. (A) which read as follows: “in the case of each of the 1995 through 1997 reinsurance years, the administrative and operating expenses of the Corporation for the sales commissions of agents, consistent with subsection (b)(1) of this section; and”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 105-185, §531(2), added subsec. (b) and struck out heading and text of former subsec. (b). Text read as follows:

“(1) ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING EXPENSES.—In the case of each of the 1995 through 1997 reinsurance years, the Corporation is authorized to pay from the insurance fund established under subsection (c) of this section, the administrative and operating expenses of an approved insurance provider, including expenses covered by subsection (a)(1)(B) of this section.

“(2) OTHER EXPENSES.—The Corporation is authorized to pay from the insurance fund established under subsection (c) of this section—

“(A) all other expenses of the Corporation (other than expenses covered by subsection (a)(1) of this section), including all premium subsidies and indemnities;

“(B) in the case of each of the 1995 through 1997 reinsurance years, all administrative and expense reimbursements due under a reinsurance agreement with an approved insurance provider; and

“(C) to the extent necessary, expenses incurred by the Corporation to carry out research and development.”

1996—Subsec. (a)(2)(C). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(e)(1), struck out subpar. (C) which read as follows: “payments for noninsured assistance losses under section 1519 of this title.”

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(e)(2)(A), struck out subpar. (A) designation and heading “In general”, substituted “In the case of each” for “Except as provided in subparagraph (B), in the case of each”, and struck out heading and text of subpar. (B). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “In the case of the 1997 reinsurance year, the amount of the payments from the insurance fund established under subsection (c) of this section for the expenses of the Corporation for the sales commissions of agents may not exceed 8.5 percent of the total amount of premiums paid for additional coverage for the 1997 reinsurance year.”

Subsec. (b)(2)(A). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(e)(3), struck out “, noninsured assistance benefits,” after “all premium subsidies”.

Subsec. (b)(2)(B). Pub. L. 104-127, §193(e)(2)(B), struck out “subject to paragraph (1)(B),” before “in the case of each”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 amended section generally, substituting subsecs. (a) to (c) for former subsecs. (a) to (d)

relating to authorization of appropriations to cover operating and administrative costs of Corporation, issuance of regulations, emergency funding, and borrowing authority.

1985—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 99-198 struck out provision that Secretary’s authority to use the funds of Commodity Credit Corporation for purposes of this subsection would expire one year after date on which that authority was first used.

1981—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 97-11 designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-365, §109, substituted appropriations authorization of necessary sums for former limitation of \$12,000,000 for each fiscal year beginning after June 30, 1938; included as costs agents’ and brokers’ commissions, interest on Treasury notes and other obligations, partial premium payments by the Corporation, and the direct cost of loss adjusters for crop inspections and loss adjustments and authorized payment of these costs from premium income and other Corporation funds and restoration of such payments through subsequent year appropriations; prescribed limitation on employment of additional personnel except during emergencies; and deleted provisions for for consideration as being nonadministrative or nonoperating expenses such expenses as related to purchase, transportation, handling, or sale of the agricultural commodity and the direct cost of loss adjusters for crop inspections and loss adjustments and provision for use of premium income for administrative and operating costs within limits prescribed in applicable appropriations.

Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 96-365, §110, added subsecs. (c) and (d).

1956—Subsec. (a). Act Aug. 3, 1956, added to list of costs which may be considered as nonadministrative or nonoperating, the direct cost of loss adjusters for crop inspections and loss adjustment, and authorized use of premium income for administrative and operating costs within limits prescribed by applicable appropriation.

1941—Subsec. (a). Act June 21, 1941, substituted “the agricultural commodity” for “wheat”, and “\$12,000,000” for “\$6,000,000”.

## Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-185 effective July 1, 1998, see section 537 of Pub. L. 105-185, set out as a note under section 1506 of this title.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 96-365, title I, §109, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1317, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective Oct. 1, 1980.

Pub. L. 96-365, title I, §110, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1318, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective Oct. 1, 1980.

### ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Act Dec. 23, 1944, ch. 713, §6, 58 Stat. 920, provided an additional appropriation not to exceed \$3,000,000 to be available for the fiscal year 1945 to carry out the provisions of this chapter for the fiscal years 1943 and 1944.

## Executive Documents

### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Administration of program of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation transferred to Secretary of Agriculture by

1946 Reorg. Plan No. 3, §501, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7877, 60 Stat. 1100. See note set out under section 1503 of this title.

Wartime consolidation of Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, see note set out under section 1503 of this title.

### § 1517. Separability

The sections of this subchapter and subdivisions of sections are declared to be separable, and in the event any one or more sections or parts of the same of this subchapter be held to be unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of other sections or parts of sections of this subchapter.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §517, 52 Stat. 77; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

##### AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

### § 1518. “Agricultural commodity” defined

“Agricultural commodity”, as used in this subchapter, means wheat, cotton, flax, corn, dry beans, oats, barley, rye, tobacco, rice, peanuts, soybeans, sugar beets, sugar cane, tomatoes, grain sorghum, sunflowers, raisins, oranges, sweet corn, dry peas, freezing and canning peas, forage, apples, grapes, potatoes, timber and forests, nursery crops, citrus, and other fruits and vegetables, nuts, tame hay, native grass, hemp, aquacultural species (including, but not limited to, any species of finfish, mollusk, crustacean, or other aquatic invertebrate, amphibian, reptile, or aquatic plant propagated or reared in a controlled or selected environment), or any other agricultural commodity, excluding stored grain, determined by the Board, or any one or more of such commodities, as the context may indicate.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §518, as added June 21, 1941, ch. 214, §9, 55 Stat. 256; amended Dec. 23, 1944, ch. 713, §4, 58 Stat. 919; Aug. 25, 1949, ch. 512, §9, 63 Stat. 665; Pub. L. 96-365, title I, §111, Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1319; Pub. L. 102-237, title VI, §601(6), Dec. 13, 1991, 105 Stat. 1878; Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §119(f)(3), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3208; Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §132(b), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 386; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII,

§12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, §11119, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4926.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A former section 1518, act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §518, 52 Stat. 77, was transferred to section 1519 of this title at the time of the renumbering of such section 518 of act Feb. 16, 1938, as section 519 by act June 21, 1941, ch. 214, §9, 55 Stat. 256.

##### AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-334 inserted “hemp,” before “aquacultural species”.

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

2000—Pub. L. 106-224 struck out “livestock and” before “stored grain” and “under subsection (a) or (m) of section 1508 of this title” after “by the Board”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 substituted “(m)” for “(k)” after “subsection (a) or”.

1991—Pub. L. 102-237 substituted “subsection (a) or (k)” for “subsection (a) or (i)”.

1980—Pub. L. 96-365 extended definition of “agricultural commodity” to include tomatoes, grain sorghum, sunflowers, raisins, oranges, sweet corn, dry peas, freezing and canning peas, forage, apples, grapes, nursery crops, and aquacultural species as illustrated but not limited, excluded livestock and stored grain, substituted “sugar cane” for “sugarcane”, and inserted reference to subsec. (i) of section 1508 of this title.

1949—Act Aug. 25, 1949, amended section to correct a clerical error in citation of “subsection (a) of section 1508”.

1944—Act Dec. 23, 1944, increased scope of definition of “agricultural commodity” from “wheat or cotton” to include all crops now set out.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 106-224 effective Oct. 1, 2000, see section 171(b)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 106-224, set out as a note under section 1501 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-365 effective Sept. 26, 1980, see section 112 of Pub. L. 96-365, set out as a note under section 1504 of this title.

### § 1519. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-127, title I, § 196(j), Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 950

Section, act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §519, formerly §518, 52 Stat. 77; renumbered §519, June 21, 1941,



ch. 214, §9, 55 Stat. 256; amended Oct. 13, 1994, Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §§111, 112, 108 Stat. 3199, 3202, related to noninsured crop disaster assistance program. See section 7333 of this title.

#### § 1520. Producer eligibility

Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, a producer shall not be denied insurance under this subchapter if—

(1) for purposes of catastrophic risk protection coverage, the producer is a “person” (as defined by the Secretary); and

(2) for purposes of any other plan of insurance, the producer is 18 years of age and has a bona fide insurable interest in a crop as an owner-operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §520, as added Pub. L. 92-357, July 28, 1972, 86 Stat. 501; amended Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §113, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3203; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

##### AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in two places in introductory provisions.

1994—Pub. L. 103-354 substituted “Producer eligibility” for “Persons under twenty-one years of age” in section catchline and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be denied insurance under this chapter solely on the ground that he is under twenty-one years of age if such person is (1) over eighteen years of age, and (2) has a bona fide insurable interest in a crop as an owner-operator, landlord, tenant or sharecropper: *Provided*, That any such person who enters into a Federal Crop Insurance contract shall be subject to the same legal liability and have the same legal rights with respect to such contract as any person over the age of twenty-one years.”

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-354 effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as a note under section 1502 of this title.

#### § 1521. Ineligibility for catastrophic risk and non-insured assistance payments

If the Secretary determines that a person has knowingly adopted a material scheme or device

to obtain catastrophic risk, additional coverage, or noninsured assistance benefits under this subchapter to which the person is not entitled, has evaded this subchapter, or has acted with the purposes of evading this subchapter, the person shall be ineligible to receive all benefits applicable to the crop year for which the scheme or device was adopted.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §521, as added Pub. L. 103-354, title I, §114, Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3203; amended Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §§12002(b)(2), 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1371, 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §§12002(b)(2), 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2133, 2167.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

##### AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-246, §§12002(b)(2), 12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing and struck out at end “The authority provided by this section shall be in addition to, and shall not supplant, the authority provided by section 1506(n) of this title.”

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

##### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 13, 1994, and applicable to provision of crop insurance under Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) beginning with 1995 crop year, with such Act, as in effect on the day before Oct. 13, 1994, to continue to apply with respect to 1994 crop year, see section 120 of Pub. L. 103-354, set out as an Effective Date of 1994 Amendment note under section 1502 of this title.

#### § 1522. Research and development

##### (a) Definition of policy

In this section, the term “policy” means a policy, plan of insurance, provision of a policy or plan of insurance, and related materials.

##### (b) Reimbursement of research, development, and maintenance costs

###### (1) Research and development payment

###### (A) In general

The Corporation shall provide a payment to an applicant for research and development costs in accordance with this subsection.

###### (B) Reimbursement

###### (i) In general

An applicant who submits a policy under section 1508(h) of this title shall be eligible for the reimbursement of reasonable research and development costs if the policy

is approved by the Board for sale to producers.

**(ii) Reasonable costs**

For the purpose of reimbursing research and development and maintenance costs under this section, costs of the applicant shall be considered reasonable costs if the costs are based on—

(I) for any employees or contracted personnel, wage rates equal to not more than 2 times the hourly wage rate plus benefits, as provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the year in which such costs are incurred, calculated using the formula applied to an applicant by the Corporation in reviewing proposed project budgets under this section on October 1, 2016; and

(II) other actual documented costs incurred by the applicant.

**(2) Advance payments**

**(A) In general**

Subject to the other provisions of this paragraph, the Board may approve the request of an applicant for advance payment of a portion of reasonable research and development costs prior to submission and approval of the policy by the Board under section 1508(h) of this title.

**(B) Procedures**

The Board shall establish procedures for approving advance payment of reasonable research and development costs to applicants.

**(C) Concept proposal**

As a condition of eligibility for advance payments, an applicant shall submit a concept proposal for the policy that the applicant plans to submit to the Board under section 1508(h) of this title, consistent with procedures established by the Board for submissions under subparagraph (B), including—

(i) a summary of the qualifications of the applicant, including any prior concept proposals and submissions to the Board under section 1508(h) of this title and, if applicable, any work conducted under this section;

(ii) a projection of total research and development costs that the applicant expects to incur;

(iii) a description of the need for the policy, the marketability of and expected demand for the policy among affected producers, and the potential impact of the policy on producers and the crop insurance delivery system;

(iv) a summary of data sources available to demonstrate that the policy can reasonably be developed and actuarially appropriate rates established; and

(v) an identification of the risks the proposed policy will cover and an explanation of how the identified risks are insurable under this subchapter.

**(D) Review**

**(i) Experts**

If the requirements of subparagraph (B) and (C) are met, the Board may submit a

concept proposal described in subparagraph (C) to not less than 2 independent expert reviewers, whose services are appropriate for the type of concept proposal submitted, to assess the likelihood that the proposed policy being developed will result in a viable and marketable policy, as determined by the Board.

**(ii) Timing**

The time frames described in subparagraphs (C) and (D) of section 1508(h)(4) of this title shall apply to the review of concept proposals under this subparagraph.

**(E) Approval**

**(i) In general**

The Board may approve up to 50 percent of the projected total research and development costs to be paid in advance to an applicant, in accordance with the procedures developed by the Board for the making of the payments, if, after consideration of the reviewer reports described in subparagraph (D) and such other information as the Board determines appropriate, the Board determines that—

(I) the concept, in good faith, will likely result in a viable and marketable policy consistent with section 1508(h) of this title;

(II) at the sole discretion of the Board, the concept, if developed into a policy and approved by the Board, would provide crop insurance coverage—

(aa) in a significantly improved form;

(bb) to a crop or region not traditionally served by the Federal crop insurance program; or

(cc) in a form that addresses a recognized flaw or problem in the program;

(III) the applicant agrees to provide such reports as the Corporation determines are necessary to monitor the development effort;

(IV) the proposed budget and timetable are reasonable, as determined by the Board; and

(V) the concept proposal meets any other requirements that the Board determines appropriate.

**(ii) Waiver**

The Board may waive the 50-percent limitation and, upon request of the submitter after the submitter has begun research and development activities, the Board may approve an additional 25 percent advance payment to the submitter for research and development costs, if, at the sole discretion of the Board, the Board determines that—

(I) the intended policy or plan of insurance developed by the submitter will provide coverage for a region or crop that is underserved by the Federal crop insurance program, including specialty crops; and

(II) the submitter is making satisfactory progress towards developing a via-

ble and marketable policy or plan of insurance consistent with section 1508(h) of this title.

**(F) Submission of policy**

If the Board approves an advanced payment under subparagraph (E), the Board shall establish a date by which the applicant shall present a submission in compliance with section 1508(h) of this title (including the procedures implemented under that section) to the Board for approval.

**(G) Final payment**

**(i) Approved policies**

If a policy is submitted under subparagraph (F) and approved by the Board under section 1508(h) of this title and the procedures established by the Board (including procedures established under subparagraph (B)), the applicant shall be eligible for a payment of reasonable research and development costs in the same manner as policies reimbursed under paragraph (1)(B), less any payments made pursuant to subparagraph (E).

**(ii) Policies not approved**

If a policy is submitted under subparagraph (F) and is not approved by the Board under section 1508(h) of this title, the Corporation shall—

(I) not seek a refund of any payments made in accordance with this paragraph; and

(II) not make any further research and development cost payments associated with the submission of the policy under this paragraph.

**(H) Policy not submitted**

If an applicant receives an advance payment and fails to fulfill the obligation of the applicant to the Board by not submitting a completed submission without just cause and in accordance with the procedures established under subparagraph (B))<sup>1</sup>, including notice and reasonable opportunity to respond, as determined by the Board, the applicant shall return to the Board the amount of the advance plus interest.

**(I) Repeated submissions**

The Board may prohibit advance payments to applicants who have submitted—

(i) a concept proposal or submission that did not result in a marketable product; or

(ii) a concept proposal or submission of poor quality.

**(J) Continued eligibility**

A determination that an applicant is not eligible for advance payments under this paragraph shall not prevent an applicant from reimbursement under paragraph (1)(B).

**(K) Waiver for hemp**

The Board may waive the viability and marketability requirements under this paragraph in the case of research and develop-

ment relating to a policy to insure the production of hemp.

**(3) Marketability**

**(A) In general**

Subject to subparagraph (B), the Corporation shall approve a reimbursement under paragraph (1) only after determining that the policy is marketable based on a reasonable marketing plan, as determined by the Board.

**(B) Waiver for hemp**

The Corporation may waive the marketability requirement under subparagraph (A) in the case of research and development relating to a policy to insure the production of hemp.

**(4) Maintenance payments**

**(A) Requirement**

The Corporation shall reimburse maintenance costs associated with the annual cost of underwriting for a policy described in paragraph (1).

**(B) Duration**

Payments with respect to maintenance costs may be provided for a period of not more than four reinsurance years subsequent to Board approval for payment under this subsection.

**(C) Options for maintenance**

On the expiration of the 4-year period described in subparagraph (B), the applicant responsible for maintenance of the policy may—

(i) maintain the policy and charge a fee to approved insurance providers that elect to sell the policy under this subsection; or

(ii) transfer responsibility for maintenance of the policy to the Corporation.

**(D) Fee**

**(i) Amount**

Subject to approval by the Board, the amount of the fee that is payable by an approved insurance provider that elects to sell the policy shall be an amount that is determined by the applicant maintaining the policy.

**(ii) Approval**

The Board shall approve the amount of a fee determined under clause (i) for maintenance of the policy unless the Board determines that the amount of the fee—

(I) is unreasonable in relation to the maintenance costs associated with the policy; or

(II) unnecessarily inhibits the use of the policy.

**(iii) Review**

After the Board approves the amount of a fee under clause (ii), the fee shall remain in effect and not be reviewed by the Board unless—

(I) the applicant petitions the Board for reconsideration of the fee;

(II) a substantial change is made to the policy, as determined by the Board; or

<sup>1</sup>So in original. The second closing parenthesis probably should not appear.

(III) there is substantial evidence that the fee is inhibiting sales or use of the policy, as determined by the Board.

**(5) Treatment of payment**

Payments made under this subsection for a policy shall be considered as payment in full by the Corporation for the research and development conducted with regard to the policy and any property rights to the policy.

**(6) Reimbursement amount**

The Corporation shall determine the amount of the payment under this subsection for an approved policy based on the complexity of the policy and the size of the area in which the policy or material is expected to be sold.

**(c) Research and development authority**

**(1) Authority**

The Corporation may conduct activities or enter into contracts to carry out research and development to maintain or improve existing policies or develop new policies to—

(A) increase participation in States in which the Corporation determines that—

(i) there is traditionally, and continues to be, a low level of Federal crop insurance participation and availability; and

(ii) the State is underserved by the Federal crop insurance program;

(B) increase participation in areas that are underserved by the Federal crop insurance program; and

(C) increase participation by producers of underserved agricultural commodities, including specialty crops.

**(2) Underserved agricultural commodities and areas**

**(A) Authority**

The Corporation may conduct research and development or enter into contracts under procedures prescribed by the Corporation with qualified persons to carry out research and development for policies that promote the purposes of paragraph (1).

**(B) Consultation**

Before conducting research and development or entering into a contract under subparagraph (A), the Corporation shall consult with groups representing producers of agricultural commodities that would be served by the policies that are the subject of the research and development.

**(3) Qualified persons**

A person with experience in crop insurance or farm or ranch risk management (including a college or university, an approved insurance provider, and a trade or research organization), as determined by the Corporation, shall be eligible to enter into a contract with the Corporation under this subsection.

**(4) Types of contracts**

A contract under this subsection may provide for research and development regarding new or expanded policies, including policies based on adjusted gross income, cost-of-production, quality losses, and an intermediate

base program with a higher coverage and cost than catastrophic risk protection.

**(5) Use of resulting policies**

The Corporation may offer any policy developed under this subsection that is approved by the Board after expert review in accordance with section 1505(e) of this title.

**(6) Research and development priorities**

The Corporation shall establish as one of the highest research and development priorities of the Corporation the development of policies that increase participation by producers of underserved agricultural commodities, including sweet sorghum, biomass sorghum, rice, peanuts, sugarcane, alfalfa, pennycress, dedicated energy crops, and specialty crops.

**(7) Whole farm diversified risk management insurance plan**

**(A) In general**

Unless the Corporation approves a whole farm insurance plan, similar to the plan described in this paragraph, to be available to producers for the 2016 reinsurance year, the Corporation shall conduct activities or enter into contracts to carry out research and development to develop a whole farm risk management insurance plan, with a liability limitation of \$1,500,000, that allows a diversified crop or livestock producer the option to qualify for an indemnity if actual gross farm revenue is below 85 percent of the average gross farm revenue or the expected gross farm revenue that can reasonably be expected of the producer, as determined by the Corporation.

**(B) Eligible producers**

The Corporation shall permit producers (including direct-to-consumer marketers and producers servicing local and regional and farm identity-preserved markets) who produce multiple agricultural commodities, including specialty crops, industrial crops, livestock, and aquaculture products, to participate in the plan developed under subparagraph (A) in lieu of any other plan under this subchapter.

**(C) Diversification**

The Corporation may provide diversification-based additional coverage payment rates, premium discounts, or other enhanced benefits in recognition of the risk management benefits of crop and livestock diversification strategies for producers that—

(i) grow multiple crops; or

(ii) may have income from the production of livestock that uses a crop grown on the farm.

**(D) Market readiness**

The Corporation may include coverage for the value of any packing, packaging, or any other similar on-farm activity the Corporation determines to be the minimum required in order to remove the commodity from the field.

**(E) Review of modifications to improve effectiveness****(i) In general**

Not later than 18 months after December 20, 2018—

(I) the Corporation shall hold stakeholder meetings to solicit producer and agent feedback; and

(II) the Board shall—

(aa) review procedures and paperwork requirements on agents and producers; and

(bb) modify procedures and requirements, as appropriate, to decrease burdens and increase flexibility and effectiveness.

**(ii) Factors**

In carrying out items (aa) and (bb) of subclause (i)(II), the Board shall consider—

(I) removing caps on nursery and livestock production;

(II) allowing a waiver to expand operations, especially for small and beginning farmers;

(III) minimizing paperwork for producers and agents;

(IV) implementing an option for producers with less than \$1,000,000 in gross revenue that requires significantly less paperwork and recordkeeping;

(V) developing and using alternative records such as time-stamped photographs or technology applications to document planting and production history;

(VI) treating the different growth stages of aquaculture species as separate crops to recognize the difference in perils at different phases of growth;

(VII) moderating the impacts of disaster years on historic revenue, such as—

(aa) using an average of the historic and projected revenue;

(bb) counting indemnities as historic revenue for loss years;

(cc) counting payments under section 7333 of this title as historic revenue for loss years; or

(dd) using an assigned yield floor similar to the limitation described in section 1508(g)(6)(A)(i) of this title, as determined by the Secretary;

(VIII) improving agent training and outreach to underserved regions and sectors such as small dairy farms; and

(IX) providing coverage and indemnification of insurable losses—

(aa) after the losses exceed the deductible; and

(bb) up to the maximum amount of total coverage.

**(F) Beginning farmer or rancher defined**

Notwithstanding section 1502(b)(3) of this title, with respect to plans described under this paragraph, the term “beginning farmer or rancher” means a farmer or rancher who has not actively operated and managed a farm or ranch with a bona fide insurable in-

terest in a crop or livestock as an owner-operator, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper for more than 10 crop years.

**(8) Relation to limitations**

A policy developed under this subsection may be prepared without regard to the limitations of this subchapter, including—

(A) the requirement concerning the levels of coverage and rates; and

(B) the requirement that the price level for each insured agricultural commodity must equal the expected market price for the agricultural commodity, as established by the Board.

**(9) Tropical storm or hurricane insurance****(A) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding a policy to insure crops (including tomatoes, peppers, and citrus) against losses due to a tropical storm or hurricane.

**(B) Research and development**

Research and development under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) evaluate the effectiveness of risk management tools for a low frequency and catastrophic loss weather event; and

(ii) result in a policy that provides protection for at least 1 of the following:

(I) Production loss.

(II) Revenue loss.

**(C) Report**

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

(i) the results of the research and development carried out under this paragraph; and

(ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(10) Quality loss****(A) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding the establishment of each of the following alternative methods of adjusting for quality losses:

(i) A method that does not impact the actual production history of a producer.

(ii) A method that provides that, in circumstances in which a producer has suffered a quality loss to the insured crop of the producer that is insufficient to trigger an indemnity payment, the producer may elect to exclude that quality loss from the actual production history of the producer.

(iii) 1 or more methods that combine the methods described in clauses (i) and (ii).

**(B) Requirements**

Notwithstanding subsections (g) and (m) of section 1508 of this title, any method devel-

oped under subparagraph (A) that is used by the Corporation shall be—

- (i) optional for a producer to use; and
- (ii) offered at an actuarially sound premium rate.

**(C) Report**

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

- (i) the results of the research and development carried out under subparagraph (A); and
- (ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(11) Citrus**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding the insurance of citrus fruit commodities and commodity types, including research and development of—

- (i) improvements to 1 or more existing policies, including the whole-farm revenue protection pilot policy;
- (ii) alternative methods of insuring revenue for citrus fruit commodities and commodity types; and
- (iii) the development of new, or expansion of existing, revenue policies for citrus fruit commodities and commodity types.

**(B) Report**

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

- (i) the results of the research and development carried out under subparagraph (A); and
- (ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(12) Hops**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding a policy to insure the production of hops or revenue derived from the production of hops.

**(B) Report**

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

- (i) the results of the research and development carried out under subparagraph (A); and
- (ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(13) Subsurface irrigation practices**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding the creation of a separate practice for subsurface irrigation, including the establishment of a separate transitional yield within a county that is reflective of the average gain in productivity and yield associated with the installation of a subsurface irrigation system.

**(B) Report**

Not later than 18 months after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

- (i) the results of the research and development carried out under subparagraph (A); and
- (ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(14) Grain sorghum**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development—

- (i) regarding improvements to 1 or more policies to insure irrigated grain sorghum;
- (ii) regarding alternative methods for producers with not more than 4 years of production history to insure irrigated grain sorghum; and
- (iii) to assess, by county, the difference in the rate, average yield, and coverage level of grain sorghum policies compared to policies for other feed grains in that county.

**(B) Report**

Not later than 18 months after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

- (i) the results of the research and development carried out under subparagraph (A); and
- (ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(15) Limited irrigation practices**

**(A) Authority**

The Corporation shall—

- (i) consider expanding the availability of the limited irrigation insurance program to neighboring and similarly situated States (such as the States of Colorado and Nebraska), as determined by the Secretary;
- (ii) carry out research, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research, on

the marketability of the existing limited irrigation insurance program; and

(iii) make recommendations on how to improve participation in that program.

**(B) Research**

In carrying out research under subparagraph (A), a qualified person shall—

(i) collaborate with researchers on the subjects of—

(I) reduced irrigation practices or limited irrigation practices; and

(II) expected yield reductions following the application of reduced irrigation;

(ii) collaborate with State and Federal officials responsible for the collection of water and the regulation of water use for the purpose of irrigation;

(iii) provide recommendations to encourage producers to carry out limited irrigation practices or reduced irrigation and water conservation practices; and

(iv) develop web-based applications that will streamline access to coverage for producers electing to conserve water use on irrigated crops.

**(C) Report**

Not later than 18 months after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

(i) the results of the research carried out under subparagraphs (A) and (B);

(ii) any recommendations to encourage producers to carry out limited irrigation practices or reduced irrigation and water conservation practices; and

(iii) the actions taken by the Corporation to carry out the recommendations described in clause (ii).

**(16) Insurable irrigation practices for rice**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, to include new and innovative irrigation practices under the current rice policy or the development of a distinct policy endorsement rated for rice produced using—

(i) alternate wetting and drying practices (also referred to as “intermittent flooding”); and

(ii) furrow irrigation practices.

**(B) Report**

Not later than 18 months after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

(i) the results of the research and development carried out under paragraph (1); and

(ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(17) Greenhouse policy**

**(A) In general**

**(i) Research and development**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding a policy to insure in a controlled environment such as a greenhouse—

(I) the production of floriculture, nursery, and bedding plants;

(II) the establishment of cuttings or tissue culture in a growing medium; or

(III) other similar production, as determined by the Secretary.

**(ii) Availability of policy**

Notwithstanding the last sentence of section 1508(a)(1) of this title, and section 1508(a)(2) of this title, the Corporation shall make a policy described in clause (i) available if the requirements of section 1508(h) of this title are met.

**(B) Research and development described**

Research and development described in subparagraph (A)(i) shall evaluate the effectiveness of policies for the production of plants in a controlled environment, including policies that—

(i) are based on the risk of—

(I) plant diseases introduced from the environment;

(II) contaminated cuttings, seedlings, or tissue culture; or

(III) Federal or State quarantine or destruction orders associated with the contaminated items described in subclause (II);

(ii) consider other causes of loss applicable to a controlled environment, such as a loss of electricity due to weather;

(iii) consider appropriate best practices to minimize the risk of loss;

(iv) consider whether to provide coverage for various types of plants under 1 policy or to provide coverage for 1 species or type of plant per policy;

(v) have streamlined reporting and paperwork requirements that take into account short propagation schedules, variable crop years, and the variety of plants that may be produced in a single facility; and

(vi) provide protection for revenue losses.

**(C) Report**

Not later than 2 years after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes—

(i) the results of the research and development carried out under subparagraphs (A)(i) and (B); and

(ii) any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(18) Local foods****(A) In general****(i) Feasibility study**

The Corporation shall carry out a study to determine the feasibility of, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out a study to determine the feasibility of, a policy to insure production—

(I) of floriculture, fruits, vegetables, poultry, livestock, or the products of floriculture, fruits, vegetables, poultry, or livestock; and

(II) that is targeted toward local consumers and markets.

**(ii) Availability of policy**

Notwithstanding the last sentence of section 1508(a)(1) of this title, and section 1508(a)(2) of this title, the Corporation shall make available a policy described in clause (i) if—

(I) the results of the feasibility study under clause (i) are viable; and

(II) the requirements of section 1508(h) of this title are met.

**(B) Feasibility study described**

The feasibility study described in subparagraph (A)(i) shall evaluate the effectiveness of policies for production targeted toward local consumers and markets, including policies that—

(i) consider small-scale production in various areas, including urban, suburban, and rural areas;

(ii) consider a variety of marketing strategies;

(iii) allow for production in soil and in alternative systems such as vertical systems, greenhouses, rooftops, or hydroponic systems;

(iv) consider the price premium when accounting for production or revenue losses;

(v) consider whether to provide coverage—

(I) for various types of production under 1 policy; and

(II) for 1 species or type of plant per policy; and

(vi) have streamlined reporting and paperwork requirements.

**(C) Report**

Not later than 2 years after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

(i) examines whether a version of existing policies such as the whole-farm revenue protection insurance plan may be tailored to provide improved coverage for producers of local foods;

(ii) describes the results of the feasibility study carried out under subparagraph (A)(i); and

(iii) includes any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(19) High-risk, highly productive batture land policy****(A) In general****(i) Research and development**

The Corporation shall carry out research and development, or offer to enter into 1 or more contracts with 1 or more qualified persons to carry out research and development, regarding a policy to insure producers of corn, cotton, and soybeans—

(I) with operations on highly productive batture land within the Lower Mississippi River Valley;

(II) that have a history of production of not less than 5 years; and

(III) that have been impacted by more frequent flooding over the past 10 years due to sedimentation or federally constructed engineering improvements.

**(ii) Availability of policy**

Notwithstanding the last sentence of section 1508(a)(1) of this title, and section 1508(a)(2) of this title, the Corporation shall make a policy described in clause (i) available if the requirements of section 1508(h) of this title are met.

**(B) Research and development described**

Research and development described in subparagraph (A)(i) shall evaluate the feasibility of less cost-prohibitive policies for batture-land producers in high risk areas, including policies that—

(i) consider premium rate adjustments;

(ii) consider automatic yield exclusion for consecutive-year losses; and

(iii) allow for flexibility of final plant dates and prevent plant regulations.

**(C) Report**

Not later than 2 years after December 20, 2018, the Corporation shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

(i) examines whether a version of existing policies may be tailored to provide improved coverage for batture-land producers;

(ii) describes the results of the research and development carried out under subparagraphs (A) and (B); and

(iii) includes any recommendations with respect to those results.

**(d) Partnerships for risk management development and implementation****(1) Purpose**

The purpose of this subsection is to authorize the Corporation to enter into partnerships with public and private entities for the purpose of either—

(A) increasing the availability of loss mitigation, financial, and other risk management tools for producers, with a priority given to risk management tools for producers of agricultural commodities covered by section 7333 of this title, specialty crops, and underserved agricultural commodities; or



(B) improving analysis tools and technology regarding compliance or identifying and using innovative compliance strategies.

## **(2) Authority**

The Corporation may enter into partnerships with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the Agricultural Research Service, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, and other appropriate public and private entities with demonstrated capabilities in developing and implementing risk management and marketing options for producers of specialty crops and underserved agricultural commodities.

## **(3) Objectives**

The Corporation may enter into a partnership under paragraph (2)—

(A) to enhance the notice and timeliness of notice of weather conditions that could negatively affect crop yields, quality, and final product use in order to allow producers to take preventive actions to increase end product profitability and marketability and to reduce the possibility of crop insurance claims;

(B) to develop a multifaceted approach to pest management and fertilization to decrease inputs, decrease environmental exposure, and increase application efficiency;

(C) to develop or improve techniques for planning, breeding, planting, growing, maintaining, harvesting, storing, shipping, and marketing that will address quality and quantity challenges associated with year-to-year and regional variations;

(D) to clarify labor requirements and assist producers in complying with requirements to better meet the physically intense and time-compressed planting, tending, and harvesting requirements associated with the production of specialty crops and underserved agricultural commodities;

(E) to provide assistance to State foresters or equivalent officials for the prescribed use of burning on private forest land for the prevention, control, and suppression of fire;

(F) to provide producers with training and informational opportunities so that the producers will be better able to use financial management, farm financial benchmarking, crop insurance, marketing contracts, and other existing and emerging risk management tools;

(G) to improve analysis tools and technology regarding compliance or identifying and using innovative compliance strategies; and

(H) to develop other risk management tools to further increase economic and production stability.

## **(e) Funding**

### **(1) Reimbursements**

Of the amounts made available from the insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title, the Corporation may use to provide reimbursements under subsection (b) not more than \$7,500,000 for fiscal year 2008 and each subsequent fiscal year.

## **(2) Contracting**

### **(A) Conducting and contracting for research and development**

Of the amounts made available from the insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title, the Corporation may use to conduct research and development and carry out contracting and partnerships under subsections (c) and (d) not more than—

(i) \$12,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2018; and

(ii) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year thereafter.

### **(B) Underserved States**

Of the amount made available under subparagraph (A) for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall use not more than \$5,000,000 for the fiscal year to conduct research and development and carry out contracting for research and development to carry out the purpose described in subsection (c)(1)(A).

## **(3) Unused funding**

If the Corporation determines that the amount available under this section for a fiscal year is not needed for such purposes, the Corporation may use—

(A) not more than \$5,000,000 for each fiscal year to improve program integrity, including by—

(i) increasing compliance-related training;

(ii) improving analysis tools and technology regarding compliance;

(iii) use of information technology, as determined by the Corporation; and

(iv) identifying and using innovative compliance strategies; and

(B) any excess amounts to carry out other activities authorized under this section.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 522, as added Pub. L. 106–224, title I, § 131, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 379; amended Pub. L. 110–234, title VII, § 7511(c)(1), title XII, §§ 12022–12024, 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1267, 1382–1388, 1405; Pub. L. 110–246, § 4(a) title VII, § 7511(c)(1), title XII, §§ 12022–12024, 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2028, 2144–2150, 2167; Pub. L. 113–79, title XI, §§ 11010(b), 11022, 11023(b), 11024, 11027(b), 11028(b), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 959, 969, 973, 974, 977; Pub. L. 115–334, title XI, §§ 11120(a), 11121–11123, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4926–4935.)

## **Editorial Notes**

### **CODIFICATION**

Pub. L. 110–234 and Pub. L. 110–246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110–234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110–246.

### **AMENDMENTS**

2018—Subsec. (b)(1)(B). Pub. L. 115–334, § 11120(a)(1), amended subpar. (B) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “An applicant who submits a policy under section 1508(h) of this title shall be eligible for the reimbursement of reasonable research and development costs directly related to the policy if the policy is approved by the Board for sale to producers.”

Subsec. (b)(2)(K). Pub. L. 115-334, §11121(1), added subpar. (K).

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 115-334, §11121(2), designated existing provisions as subpar. (A), inserted heading, substituted “Subject to subparagraph (B), the Corporation” for “The Corporation”, and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (b)(4)(C). Pub. L. 115-334, §11120(a)(2)(A), substituted “applicant” for “approved insurance provider” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(4)(D)(i). Pub. L. 115-334, §11120(a)(2)(B)(i), substituted “determined by the applicant” for “determined by the approved insurance provider”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(D)(iii). Pub. L. 115-334, §11120(a)(2)(B)(ii), added cl. (iii).

Subsec. (c)(7) to (24). Pub. L. 115-334, §11122, redesignated par. (19) as (7) and added subpars. (E) and (F), redesignated par. (24) as (8), added pars. (9) to (19), and struck out former pars. (7) to (18) and (20) to (23) which related, respectively, to study of multiyear coverage, contract for revenue coverage plans, contract for cost of production policy, energy crop insurance policy, aquaculture insurance policy, poultry insurance policy, apiary policies, adjusted gross revenue policies for beginning producers, skiprow cropping practices, margin coverage for catfish, biomass and sweet sorghum energy crop insurance policies, study on swine catastrophic disease program, study on poultry catastrophic disease program, poultry business interruption insurance policy, study of food safety insurance, and alfalfa crop insurance policy.

Subsec. (e)(2)(A). Pub. L. 115-334, §11123, substituted “not more than—” and cl. (i) for “not more than \$12,500,000 for fiscal year 2008 and each subsequent fiscal year.” and added cl. (ii).

2014—Subsec. (b)(2)(E). Pub. L. 113-79, §11010(b), added subpar. (E) and struck out former subpar. (E) which related to Board approval of up to 50 percent of the projected total research and development costs to be paid in advance to an applicant.

Subsec. (b)(4)(A). Pub. L. 113-79, §11028(b)(1), substituted “paragraph (1)” for “paragraphs (1)”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(1), struck out “contracting” after “development” in heading.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(2), substituted “may conduct activities or enter into contracts to carry out research and development to maintain or improve existing policies or develop new policies to” for “may enter into contracts to carry out research and development to” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (c)(2)(A). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(3)(A), inserted “conduct research and development or” after “The Corporation may”.

Subsec. (c)(2)(B). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(3)(B), inserted “conducting research and development or” after “Before”.

Subsec. (c)(5). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(4), inserted “after expert review in accordance with section 1505(e) of this title” after “approved by the Board”.

Subsec. (c)(6). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(5), substituted “policies that increase participation by producers of underserved agricultural commodities, including sweet sorghum, biomass sorghum, rice, peanuts, sugarcane, alfalfa, pennycress, dedicated energy crops, and specialty crops” for “a pasture, range, and forage program”.

Subsec. (c)(10) to (16). Pub. L. 113-79, §11023(b), redesignated pars. (11) to (17) as (10) to (16), respectively, and struck out former par. (10) which related to contracts for organic production coverage improvements.

Subsec. (c)(17) to (24). Pub. L. 113-79, §11023(b)(2), redesignated pars. (18) to (25) as (17) to (24), respectively. Former par. (17) redesignated (16).

Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(7), added pars. (17) to (24).

Subsec. (c)(25). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(a)(6), redesignated par. (17) as (25).

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 113-79, §11024(a), added par. (1) and struck out former par. (1). Text read as follows: “The purpose of this subsection is to authorize the Corporation to enter into partnerships with public and private entities for the purpose of increasing the avail-

ability of loss mitigation, financial, and other risk management tools for producers, with a priority given to risk management tools for producers of agricultural commodities covered by section 7333 of this title, specialty crops, and underserved agricultural commodities.”

Subsec. (d)(3)(F). Pub. L. 113-79, §11027(b), inserted “farm financial benchmarking,” after “financial management,”.

Subsec. (d)(3)(G), (H). Pub. L. 113-79, §11024(b), added subpar. (G) and redesignated former subpar. (G) as (H).

Subsec. (e)(1). Pub. L. 113-79, §11028(b)(2), inserted period at end.

Subsec. (e)(2)(A). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(b)(1)(A), in heading, substituted “Conducting and contracting for research and development” for “Authority” and, in text, inserted “conduct research and development and” after “the Corporation may use to”.

Subsec. (e)(2)(B). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(b)(1)(B), inserted “conduct research and development and” after “for the fiscal year to”.

Subsec. (e)(3). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(b)(2), struck out “to provide either reimbursement payments or contract payments” after “available” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 113-79, §11022(b)(3), struck out par. (4) which related to prohibited research and development by the Corporation.

2008—Subsec. (b)(1), (2). Pub. L. 110-246, §12022(a), added pars. (1) and (2) and struck out former pars. (1) and (2) which related to reimbursement for research and development costs directly related to a policy that was submitted to and approved by the Board under section 1508(h) of this title for reinsurance and, if applicable, offered for sale to producers, and reimbursement for research and development costs approved prior to June 20, 2000.

Subsec. (b)(2)(C)(v). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 110-246, §12022(b)(1), struck out “or (2)” after “paragraph (1)”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(A). Pub. L. 110-246, §12022(b)(2), struck out “and (2)” after “paragraphs (1)”.

Subsec. (c)(10) to (16). Pub. L. 110-246, §12023(2), added pars. (10) to (16). Former par. (10) redesignated (17).

Subsec. (c)(17). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in introductory provisions.

Pub. L. 110-246, §12023(1), redesignated par. (10) as (17).

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 110-246, §7511(c)(1), substituted “the National Institute of Food and Agriculture” for “the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service”.

Subsec. (e)(1). Pub. L. 110-246, §12024(1), substituted “\$7,500,000 for fiscal year 2008 and each subsequent fiscal year” for “\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 and 2002 and not more than \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2003 and each subsequent fiscal year.”

Subsec. (e)(2)(A). Pub. L. 110-246, §12024(2), substituted “\$12,500,000 for fiscal year 2008” for “\$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2003 and not more than \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2004”.

Subsec. (e)(3). Pub. L. 110-246, §12024(3), substituted “the Corporation may use—” for “the Corporation may use the excess amount to carry out another function authorized under this section.” and added subpars. (A) and (B).

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in two places.

## Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, §11120(b), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4927, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section [amending this section] shall apply to reimbursement requests made on or after October 1, 2016.

“(2) RESUBMISSION OF DENIED REQUEST.—An applicant that was denied all or a portion of a reimbursement request under paragraph (1) of section 522(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(b)) during the period between October 1, 2016, and the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2018] shall be given an opportunity to resubmit such request.”

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

Pub. L. 110-234, title VII, § 7511(c), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1267, and Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title VII, § 7511(c), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2028, provided that the amendments made by section 7511(c) are effective Oct. 1, 2009.

[Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical provisions. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of this title.]

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2000, see section 171(b)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 106-224, set out as an Effective Date of 2000 Amendment note under section 1501 of this title.

#### REIMBURSEMENT REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 107-20, title II, § 2103, July 24, 2001, 115 Stat. 165, provided that:

“(a) Not later than August 1, 2001, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation shall promulgate final regulations to carry out section 522(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 522(b) [1522(b)]), without regard to—

“(1) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code;

“(2) the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804), relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking; and

“(3) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’).

“(b) In carrying out this section, the Corporation shall use the authority provided under section 808 of title 5, United States Code.

“(c) The final regulations promulgated under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of publication of the final regulations.”

### § 1523. Pilot programs

#### (a) General provisions

##### (1) Authority

Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Corporation may, at the sole discretion of the Corporation, conduct a pilot program submitted to and approved by the Board under section 1508(h) of this title, or that is developed under subsection (b) or section 1522 of this title, to evaluate whether a proposal or new risk management tool tested by the pilot program is suitable for the marketplace and addresses the needs of producers of agricultural commodities.

##### (2) Private coverage

Under this section, the Corporation shall not conduct any pilot program that provides insurance protection against a risk if insurance protection against the risk is generally available from private companies.

##### (3) Covered activities

The pilot programs described in paragraph (1) may include pilot programs providing insurance protection against losses involving—

(A) reduced forage on rangeland caused by drought or insect infestation;

(B) livestock poisoning and disease;

(C) destruction of bees due to the use of pesticides;

(D) unique special risks related to fruits, nuts, vegetables, and specialty crops in general, aquacultural species, and forest industry needs (including appreciation);

(E) after October 1, 2001, wild salmon, except that—

(i) any pilot program with regard to wild salmon may be carried out without regard to the limitations of this subchapter; and

(ii) the Corporation shall conduct all wild salmon programs under this subchapter so that, to the maximum extent practicable, all costs associated with conducting the programs are not expected to exceed \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2002 and each subsequent fiscal year.

#### (4) Scope of pilot programs

The Corporation may—

(A) approve a pilot program under this section to be conducted on a regional, State, or national basis after considering the interests of affected producers and the interests of, and risks to, the Corporation;

(B) operate the pilot program, including any modifications of the pilot program, for a period of up to 4 years;

(C) extend the time period for the pilot program for additional periods, as determined appropriate by the Corporation; and

(D) provide pilot programs that would allow producers—

(i) to receive a reduced premium for using whole farm units or single crop units of insurance; and

(ii) to cross State and county boundaries to form insurable units.

#### (b) Livestock pilot programs

##### (1) Definition of livestock

In this subsection, the term “livestock” includes, but is not limited to, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, and poultry.

##### (2) Programs required

Subject to paragraph (7), the Corporation shall conduct two or more pilot programs to evaluate the effectiveness of risk management tools for livestock producers, including the use of futures and options contracts and policies and plans of insurance that protect the interests of livestock producers and that provide—

(A) livestock producers with reasonable protection from the financial risks of price or income fluctuations inherent in the production and marketing of livestock; or

(B) protection for production losses.

##### (3) Purpose of programs

To the maximum extent practicable, the Corporation shall evaluate the greatest number and variety of pilot programs described in paragraph (2) to determine which of the offered risk management tools are best suited to protect livestock producers from the financial risks associated with the production and marketing of livestock.

**(4) Timing**

The Corporation shall begin conducting livestock pilot programs under this subsection during fiscal year 2001.

**(5) Relation to other limitations**

Any policy or plan of insurance offered under this subsection may be prepared without regard to the limitations of this subchapter.

**(6) Assistance**

As part of a pilot program under this subsection, the Corporation may provide reinsurance for policies or plans of insurance and subsidize the purchase of futures and options contracts or policies and plans of insurance offered under the pilot program.

**(7) Private insurance**

No action may be undertaken with respect to a risk under this subsection if the Corporation determines that insurance protection for livestock producers against the risk is generally available from private companies.

**(8) Location**

The Corporation shall conduct the livestock pilot programs under this subsection in a number of counties that is determined by the Corporation to be adequate to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the feasibility, effectiveness, and demand among producers for the risk management tools evaluated in the pilot programs.

**(9) Eligible producers**

Any producer of a type of livestock covered by a pilot program under this subsection that owns or operates a farm or ranch in a county selected as a location for that pilot program shall be eligible to participate in that pilot program.

**(c) Revenue insurance pilot program****(1) In general**

Subject to section 1522(e)(4) of this title,<sup>1</sup> the Secretary shall carry out a pilot program in a limited number of counties, as determined by the Secretary, for crop years 1997 through 2001, under which a producer of wheat, feed grains, soybeans, or such other commodity as the Secretary considers appropriate may elect to receive insurance against loss of revenue, as determined by the Secretary.

**(2) Administration**

Revenue insurance under this subsection shall—

- (A) be offered through reinsurance arrangements with private insurance companies;
- (B) offer at least a minimum level of coverage that is an alternative to catastrophic crop insurance;
- (C) be actuarially sound; and
- (D) require the payment of premiums and administrative fees by an insured producer.

**(d) Premium rate reduction pilot program****(1) Purpose**

The purpose of the pilot program established under this subsection is to determine whether

approved insurance providers will compete to market policies or plans of insurance with reduced rates of premium, in a manner that maintains the financial soundness of approved insurance providers and is consistent with the integrity of the Federal crop insurance program.

**(2) Establishment****(A) In general**

Beginning with the 2002 crop year, the Corporation shall establish a pilot program under which approved insurance providers may propose for approval by the Board policies or plans of insurance with reduced rates of premium—

- (i) for one or more agricultural commodities; and
- (ii) within a limited geographic area, as proposed by the approved insurance provider and approved by the Board.

**(B) Determination by Board**

The Board shall approve a policy or plan of insurance proposed under this subsection that involves a premium reduction if the Board determines that—

- (i) the interests of producers are adequately protected within the pilot area;
- (ii) rates of premium are actuarially appropriate, as determined by the Board;
- (iii) the size of the proposed pilot area is adequate;
- (iv) the proposed policy or plan of insurance would not unfairly discriminate among producers within the proposed pilot area;
- (v) if the proposed policy or plan of insurance were available in a geographic area larger than the proposed pilot area, the proposed policy or plan of insurance would—

- (I) not have a significant adverse impact on the crop insurance delivery system;
- (II) not result in a reduction of program integrity;
- (III) be actuarially appropriate; and
- (IV) not place an additional financial burden on the Federal Government; and
- (vi) the proposed policy or plan of insurance meets other requirements of this subchapter determined appropriate by the Board.

**(C) Time limitations and procedures**

The time limitations and procedures of the Board established under section 1508(h) of this title shall apply to a proposal submitted under this subsection.

**(e) Adjusted gross revenue insurance pilot program****(1) In general**

The Corporation shall carry out, through at least the 2004 reinsurance year, the adjusted gross revenue insurance pilot program in effect for the 2002 reinsurance year.

**(2) Additional counties****(A) In general**

In addition to counties otherwise included in the pilot program, the Corporation shall

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

include in the pilot program for the 2003 reinsurance year at least 8 counties in the State of California and at least 8 counties in the State of Pennsylvania.

**(B) Selection criteria**

In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Corporation shall work with the respective State Departments of Agriculture to establish criteria to determine which counties to include in the pilot program.

**(f) Camelina pilot program**

**(1) In general**

The Corporation shall establish a pilot program under which producers or processors of camelina may propose for approval by the Board policies or plans of insurance for camelina, in accordance with section 1508(h) of this title.

**(2) Determination by Board**

The Board shall approve a policy or plan of insurance proposed under paragraph (1) if, as determined by the Board, the policy or plan of insurance—

- (A) protects the interests of producers;
- (B) is actuarially sound; and
- (C) meets the requirements of this subsection.

**(3) Timeframe**

The Corporation shall commence the camelina insurance pilot program as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this subsection.

**(g) Sesame insurance pilot program**

**(1) In general**

In addition to any other authority of the Corporation, the Corporation shall establish and carry out a pilot program under which a producer of nondehiscent sesame under contract may elect to obtain multiperil crop insurance, as determined by the Corporation.

**(2) Terms and conditions**

The multiperil crop insurance offered under the sesame insurance pilot program shall—

- (A) be offered through reinsurance arrangements with private insurance companies;
- (B) be actuarially sound; and
- (C) require the payment of premiums and administrative fees by a producer obtaining the insurance.

**(3) Location**

The sesame insurance pilot program shall be carried out only in the State of Texas.

**(4) Duration**

The Corporation shall commence the sesame insurance pilot program as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this subsection.

**(h) Grass seed insurance pilot program**

**(1) In general**

In addition to any other authority of the Corporation, the Corporation shall establish and carry out a grass seed pilot program under which a producer of Kentucky bluegrass or pe-

rennial rye grass under contract may elect to obtain multiperil crop insurance, as determined by the Corporation.

**(2) Terms and conditions**

The multiperil crop insurance offered under the grass seed insurance pilot program shall—

- (A) be offered through reinsurance arrangements with private insurance companies;
- (B) be actuarially sound; and
- (C) require the payment of premiums and administrative fees by a producer obtaining the insurance.

**(3) Location**

The grass seed insurance pilot program shall be carried out only in each of the States of Minnesota and North Dakota.

**(4) Duration**

The Corporation shall commence the grass seed insurance pilot program as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this subsection.

**(i) Underserved crops and regions pilot programs**

**(1) Definition of livestock commodity**

In this subsection, the term “livestock commodity” includes cattle, sheep, swine, goats, and poultry, including pasture, rangeland, and forage as a source of feed for that livestock.

**(2) Authorization**

Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2), the Corporation may conduct 2 or more pilot programs to provide producers of underserved specialty crops and livestock commodities with index-based weather insurance, subject to the requirements of this section.

**(3) Review and approval of submissions**

**(A) In general**

The Board shall approve 2 or more proposed policies or plans of insurance from approved insurance providers if the Board determines that the policies or plans provide coverage as specified in paragraph (2), and meet the conditions described in this paragraph.

**(B) Requirements**

To be eligible for approval under this subsection, the approved insurance provider shall have—

- (i) adequate experience underwriting and administering policies or plans of insurance that are comparable to the proposed policy or plan of insurance;
- (ii) sufficient assets or reinsurance to satisfy the underwriting obligations of the approved insurance provider, and possess a sufficient insurance credit rating from an appropriate credit rating bureau, in accordance with Board procedures; and
- (iii) applicable authority and approval from each State in which the approved insurance provider intends to sell the insurance product.

**(C) Review requirements**

In reviewing applications under this subsection, the Board shall conduct the review

in a manner consistent with the standards, rules, and procedures for policies or plans of insurance submitted under section 1508(h) of this title and the actuarial soundness requirements applied to other policies and plans of insurance made available under this subchapter.

**(D) Prioritization**

The Board shall prioritize applications that provide a new kind of coverage for specialty crops and livestock commodities that previously had no available crop insurance, or has demonstrated a low level of participation under existing coverage.

**(4) Payment of premium support**

**(A) In general**

The Corporation shall pay a portion of the premium for producers that purchase a policy or plan of insurance approved pursuant to this subsection.

**(B) Amount**

The premium subsidy shall provide a similar dollar amount of premium subsidy per acre that the Corporation pays for comparable policies or plans of insurance reinsured under this subchapter, except that in no case shall the premium subsidy exceed 60 percent of total premium, as determined by the Corporation.

**(C) Calculation**

The premium subsidy, as determined by the Corporation, shall be calculated as—

- (i) a percentage of premium;
- (ii) a percentage of expected loss determined pursuant to a reasonable actuarial methodology; or
- (iii) a fixed dollar amount per acre.

**(D) Payment**

Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), the premium subsidy under this subsection shall be paid by the Corporation in the same manner and under the same terms and conditions as premium subsidy for other policies and plans of insurance.

**(E) Operating and administrative expense payments**

**(i) In general**

Subject to clause (ii), operating and administrative expense payments may be made for policies and plans of insurance approved under this subsection in an amount that is commensurate with similar policies and plans of insurance reinsured under this subchapter, on the condition that the operating and administrative expenses are not included in premiums.

**(ii) Limitation**

Subject to subparagraph (F)(i), Federal reinsurance, research and development costs, other reimbursements, or maintenance fees shall not be provided or collected for policies and plans of insurance approved under this subsection.

**(F) Approved insurance providers**

Any policy or plan of insurance approved under this subsection may be sold only by

the approved insurance provider that submits the application and by any additional approved insurance provider that—

- (i) agrees to pay maintenance fees or other payments to the approved insurance provider that submitted the application in an amount agreed to by the applicant and the additional approved insurance provider, on the condition that the fees or payments shall be reasonable and appropriate to ensure that the policies or plans of insurance may be made available by additional approved insurance providers; and
- (ii) meets the eligibility criteria of paragraph (3)(B), as determined by the Board.

**(G) Relationship to other provisions**

The requirements of this paragraph shall apply notwithstanding paragraph (6).

**(5) Oversight**

The Corporation shall develop and publish procedures to administer policies or plans of insurance approved under this subsection that—

- (A) require each approved insurance provider to report sales, acreage and claim data, and any other data that the Corporation determines to be appropriate, to allow the Corporation to evaluate sales and performance of the product; and
- (B) contain such other requirements as the Corporation determines necessary to ensure that the products—
  - (i) do not have a significant adverse impact on the crop insurance delivery system;
  - (ii) are in the best interests of producers; and
  - (iii) do not result in a reduction of program integrity.

**(6) Confidentiality**

**(A) In general**

All reports required under paragraph (5) and all other proprietary information and data generated or derived from applicants under this subsection shall be considered to be confidential commercial or financial information for the purposes of section 552(b)(4) of title 5.

**(B) Standard**

If information concerning a proposal could be withheld by the Secretary under the standard for privileged or confidential information pertaining to trade secrets and commercial or financial information under section 552(b)(4) of title 5, the information shall not be released to the public.

**(7) Ineligible purposes**

In no case shall a policy or plan of insurance made available under this subsection provide coverage substantially similar to privately available hail insurance.

**(8) Funding**

**(A) Limitation on expenditures**

Notwithstanding any other provision in this subsection, of the funds of the Corporation, the Corporation shall use to carry out

this section not more than \$12,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2018, to remain available until expended.

**(B) Relation to other programs**

The amount of funds made available under this section shall be in addition to amounts made available under other provisions of this subchapter, including amounts made available under subsection (b).

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, §523, as added Pub. L. 106-224, title I, §132(a), June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 383; amended Pub. L. 107-171, title X, §10004, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 487; Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §§12025(a), 12033(c)(2)(B), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1389, 1405; Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §§12025(a), 12033(c)(2)(B), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2151, 2167; Pub. L. 113-79, title XI, §§11025, 11026, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 974; Pub. L. 115-123, div. F, §60101(c)(1), Feb. 9, 2018, 132 Stat. 312; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, §11124, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4935.)

**Editorial Notes**

**REFERENCES IN TEXT**

Section 1522(e)(4) of this title, referred to in subsec. (c)(1), was repealed by Pub. L. 113-79, title XI, §11022(b)(3), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 973.

The date of enactment of this subsection, referred to in subsecs. (f)(3), (g)(4), and (h)(4), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-246, which was approved June 18, 2008.

**CODIFICATION**

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

**AMENDMENTS**

2018—Subsec. (b)(10). Pub. L. 115-123 struck out par. (10) which related to limitation on expenditures.

Subsec. (i)(3)(A). Pub. L. 115-334 inserted period at end.

2014—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 113-79, §11025(1), inserted “, at the sole discretion of the Corporation,” after “the Corporation may”.

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 113-79, §11025(2), struck out par. (5) which related to evaluation of the pilot program.

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 113-79, §11026, added subsec. (i).

2008—Subsecs. (a), (b), (d). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 110-246, §12033(c)(2)(B), substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter”.

Pub. L. 110-246, §12025(a), added subsec. (f).

Subsecs. (g), (h). Pub. L. 110-246, §12025(a), added subsecs. (g) and (h).

2002—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 107-171 added subsec. (e).

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT**

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section effective Oct. 1, 2000, see section 171(b)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 106-224, set out as an Effective Date of 2000 Amendment note under section 1501 of this title.

**§ 1524. Education and risk management assistance**

**(a) Education assistance**

**(1) In general**

Subject to the amounts made available under paragraph (4), the Secretary, acting through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, shall carry out the program established under paragraph (2).

**(2) Partnerships for risk management education**

**(A) Authority**

The Secretary, acting through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, shall establish a program under which competitive grants are made to qualified public and private entities (including land grant colleges, cooperative extension services, and colleges or universities), as determined by the Secretary, for the purpose of educating agricultural producers and providing technical assistance to agricultural producers on a full range of farm viability and risk management activities, including futures, options, agricultural trade options, crop insurance, business planning, enterprise analysis, transfer and succession planning, management coaching, market assessment, cash flow analysis, cash forward contracting, debt reduction, production diversification, farm resources risk reduction, farm financial benchmarking, conservation activities, and other risk management strategies.

**(B) Basis for grants**

A grant under this paragraph shall be awarded on the basis of merit and shall be subject to peer or merit review.

**(C) Obligation period**

Funds for a grant under this paragraph shall be available to the Secretary for obligation for a 2-year period.

**(D) Administrative costs**

The Secretary may use not more than 4 percent of the funds made available for grants under this paragraph for administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out this paragraph.

**(3) Requirements**

In carrying out the program established under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall place special emphasis on farm viability and risk management strategies (including farm financial benchmarking, business planning and technical assistance, market assessment, transfer and succession planning, and crop insurance participation), education, and outreach specifically targeted at—

(A) beginning farmers or ranchers;

(B) legal immigrant farmers or ranchers that are attempting to become established producers in the United States;

(C) socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers;

(D) farmers or ranchers that—

(i) are preparing to retire;

(ii) are using transition strategies to help new farmers or ranchers get started;<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by “and”.

(iii) are converting production and marketing systems to pursue new markets; and<sup>2</sup>

(E) producers that are underserved by the Federal crop insurance program established under this subchapter, as determined by the Corporation; and

(F) veteran farmers or ranchers.

#### (4) Funding

From the insurance fund established under section 1516(c) of this title, there is transferred for the partnerships for risk management education program established under paragraph (2), \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each subsequent fiscal year, of which not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used to carry out paragraph (3)(E).

### (b) Agricultural management assistance

#### (1) Authority

The Secretary shall provide financial assistance to producers in the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

#### (2) Uses

A producer may use financial assistance provided under this subsection to—

(A) construct or improve—  
(i) watershed management structures; or  
(ii) irrigation structures;

(B) plant trees to form windbreaks or to improve water quality;

(C) mitigate financial risk through production or marketing diversification or resource conservation practices, including—

(i) soil erosion control;  
(ii) integrated pest management;  
(iii) organic farming; or

(iv) to develop and implement a plan to create marketing opportunities for the producer, including through value-added processing;

(D) enter into futures, hedging, or options contracts in a manner designed to help reduce production, price, or revenue risk;

(E) enter into agricultural trade options as a hedging transaction to reduce production, price, or revenue risk; or

(F) conduct any other activity relating to an activity described in subparagraphs (A) through (E), as determined by the Secretary.

#### (3) Payment limitation

The total amount of payments made to a person (as defined in section 1308(5)<sup>3</sup> of this title) (before the amendment made by section 1603(a)<sup>3</sup> of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008) under this subsection for any year may not exceed \$50,000.

### (4) Commodity Credit Corporation

#### (A) In general

The Secretary shall carry out this subsection through the Commodity Credit Corporation.

### (B) Funding

#### (i) In general

Except as provided in clause (ii), the Commodity Credit Corporation shall make available to carry out this subsection not less than \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year.

#### (ii) Exception for certain fiscal years

For each of fiscal years 2008 through 2014, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall make available to carry out this subsection \$15,000,000.

### (C) Certain uses

Of the amounts made available to carry out this subsection for a fiscal year, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall use not less than—

(i) 50 percent to carry out subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (2) through the Natural Resources Conservation Service;

(ii) 10 percent to provide organic certification cost share assistance through the Agricultural Marketing Service; and

(iii) 40 percent to conduct activities to carry out subparagraph (F) of paragraph (2) through the Risk Management Agency.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 524, as added Pub. L. 106-224, title I, § 133, June 20, 2000, 114 Stat. 387; amended Pub. L. 107-171, title II, § 2501, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 263; Pub. L. 108-199, div. A, title VII, § 769, Jan. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 40; Pub. L. 110-234, title I, § 1603(g)(3), title II, § 2801, title VII, § 7511(c)(2), title XII, § 12026, May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1011, 1085, 1267, 1390; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title I, § 1603(g)(3), title II, § 2801, title VII, § 7511(c)(2), title XII, § 12026, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1739, 1813, 2028, 2152; Pub. L. 112-55, div. A, title VII, § 716(a), Nov. 18, 2011, 125 Stat. 582; Pub. L. 113-79, title I, § 1609(b)(1), title XI, § 11027(c), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 709, 977; Pub. L. 115-334, title XI, § 11125(a), title XII, § 12306(b)(3), Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 4935, 4969.)

### Editorial Notes

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1308(5) of this title, which required the Secretary to issue regulations defining “person”, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), was redesignated section 1308(e) and amended by section 1603(b)(1) of Pub. L. 107-171. Section 1603(a) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Pub. L. 110-246, subsequently amended the definition of “covered commodity” in section 1308(a)(1). Section 1603(b) of Pub. L. 110-246 amended section 1308 by, among other things, striking out subsec. (e) and adding subsec. (a)(4) which defined “person”. The amendments by section 1603 of Pub. L. 110-246 to section 1308 were effective May 22, 2008.

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 115-334, § 11125(a)(1), substituted “paragraph (4), the Secretary” for “paragraph (5)—”, struck out subpar. (A) and “(B) the Secretary” before “, acting through”, and substituted “paragraph (2)” for “paragraph (3)”. Prior to amendment, subpar.

<sup>2</sup> So in original. The word “and” probably should not appear.

<sup>3</sup> See References in Text note below.



(A) read as follows: “the Corporation shall carry out the program established under paragraph (2); and”.

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 115–334, §11125(a)(2), (3), redesignated par. (3) as (2) and struck out former par. (2). Prior to amendment, text of par. (2) read as follows: “The Corporation shall establish a program under which crop insurance education and information is provided to producers in States in which (as determined by the Secretary)—

“(A) there is traditionally, and continues to be, a low level of Federal crop insurance participation and availability; and

“(B) producers are underserved by the Federal crop insurance program.”

Subsec. (a)(2)(A). Pub. L. 115–334, §11125(a)(4), substituted “and providing technical assistance to agricultural producers on a full range of farm viability and” for “about the full range of” and inserted “business planning, enterprise analysis, transfer and succession planning, management coaching, market assessment, cash flow analysis,” after “insurance,” and “conservation activities,” after “benchmarking.”

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 115–334, §11125(a)(3), (5)(A), redesignated par. (4) as (3) and, in introductory provisions, substituted “program established under paragraph (2)” for “programs established under paragraphs (2) and (3)” and inserted “farm viability and” after “emphasis on” and “, business planning and technical assistance, market assessment, transfer and succession planning, and crop insurance participation” after “benchmarking”. Former par. (3) redesignated (2).

Subsec. (a)(3)(D)(iii), (E). Pub. L. 115–334, §11125(a)(5)(B), (C), added subpars. (D)(iii) and (E) and struck out former subpar. (E) which read as follows: “new or established farmers or ranchers that are converting production and marketing systems to pursue new markets.”

Subsec. (a)(3)(F). Pub. L. 115–334, §12306(b)(3)(A)–(C), added subpar. (F).

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 115–334, §11125(a)(6), substituted “transferred for the partnerships” for “transferred—”, subpar. (A), and “(B) for the partnerships”, substituted “paragraph (2), \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2019” for “paragraph (3), \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2001”, and inserted “, of which not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used to carry out paragraph (3)(E)” before period at end. Prior to amendment, subpar. (A) read as follows: “for the education and information program established under paragraph (2), \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 and each subsequent fiscal year; and”.

2014—Subsec. (a)(3)(A). Pub. L. 113–79, §11027(c)(1), inserted “farm financial benchmarking,” after “risk reduction.”

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 113–79, §11027(c)(2), inserted “(including farm financial benchmarking)” after “management strategies” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 113–79, §1609(b)(1), amended language inserted by Pub. L. 110–246, §1603(g)(3). See 2008 Amendment note below.

2011—Subsec. (b)(4)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 112–55 substituted “certain fiscal years” for “fiscal years 2008 through 2012” in heading and “2014” for “2012” in text.

2008—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 110–246, §12026(1), substituted “paragraph (5)” for “paragraph (4)” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(1)(B), (3)(A). Pub. L. 110–246, §7511(c)(2), substituted “the National Institute of Food and Agriculture” for “the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service”.

Subsec. (a)(4), (5). Pub. L. 110–246, §12026(2), (3), added par. (4) and redesignated former par. (4) as (5).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 110–246, §2801(a), inserted “Hawaii,” after “Delaware.”

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 110–246, §1603(g)(3), as amended by Pub. L. 113–79, §1609(b)(1), inserted “(before the amendment made by section 1603(a) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008)” after “section 1308(5) of this title”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(B)(i). Pub. L. 110–246, §2801(b)(1), substituted “Except as provided in clause (ii)” for “Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii)”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(B)(ii), (iii). Pub. L. 110–246, §2801(b)(2), added cl. (ii) and struck out former cls. (ii) and (iii) which related to exception for fiscal years 2003 through 2007 and minimum amounts to carry out certain uses.

Subsec. (b)(4)(C). Pub. L. 110–246, §2801(c), added subpar. (C).

2004—Subsec. (b)(4)(B)(i). Pub. L. 108–199, §769(1), substituted “clauses (ii) and (iii)” for “clause (ii)”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 108–199, §769(2), added cl. (iii).

2002—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107–171 added subsec. (b) and struck out heading and text of former subsec. (b). Text read as follows:

“(1) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary shall provide cost share assistance to producers, in a manner determined by the Secretary, in not less than 10, nor more than 15, States in which participation in the Federal crop insurance program is historically low, as determined by the Secretary.

“(2) **USES.**—A producer may use cost share assistance provided under this subsection to—

“(A) construct or improve—

“(i) watershed management structures; or

“(ii) irrigation structures;

“(B) plant trees to form windbreaks or to improve water quality;

“(C) mitigate financial risk through production diversification or resource conservation practices, including—

“(i) soil erosion control;

“(ii) integrated pest management; or

“(iii) transition to organic farming;

“(D) enter into futures, hedging, or options contracts in a manner designed to help reduce production, price, or revenue risk;

“(E) enter into agricultural trade options as a hedging transaction to reduce production, price, or revenue risk; or

“(F) conduct any other activity related to the activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (E), as determined by the Secretary.

“(2) **PAYMENT LIMITATION.**—The total amount of payments made to a person (as defined in section 1308(5) of this title) under this subsection for any year may not exceed \$50,000.

“(3) **COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall carry out this subsection through the Commodity Credit Corporation.

“(B) **FUNDING.**—The Commodity Credit Corporation shall make available to carry out this subsection \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 and each subsequent fiscal year.”

## Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2014 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 113–79 effective as if included in Pub. L. 110–246, see section 1609(b)(2) of Pub. L. 113–79, set out as a note under section 1471g of this title.

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110–234 by Pub. L. 110–246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110–234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110–246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of this title.

Amendment by section 7511(c)(2) of Pub. L. 110–246 effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 7511(c) of Pub. L. 110–246, set out as a note under section 1522 of this title.

### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2000, see section 171(b)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 106–224, set out as an Effective Date of 2000 Amendment note under section 1501 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER II—SUPPLEMENTAL  
AGRICULTURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

**§ 1531. Supplemental agricultural disaster assistance**

**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Actual production history yield**

The term “actual production history yield” means the weighted average of the actual production history for each insurable commodity or noninsurable commodity, as calculated under subchapter I or the noninsured crop disaster assistance program, respectively.

**(2) Actual production on the farm**

The term “actual production on the farm” means the sum of the value of all crops produced on the farm, as determined under subsection (b)(6)(B).

**(3) Adjusted actual production history yield**

The term “adjusted actual production history yield” means—

(A) in the case of an eligible producer on a farm that has at least 4 years of actual production history yields for an insurable commodity that are established other than pursuant to section 1508(g)(4)(B) of this title, the actual production history for the eligible producer without regard to any yields established under that section;

(B) in the case of an eligible producer on a farm that has less than 4 years of actual production history yields for an insurable commodity, of which 1 or more were established pursuant to section 1508(g)(4)(B) of this title, the actual production history for the eligible producer as calculated without including the lowest of the yields established pursuant to section 1508(g)(4)(B) of this title; and

(C) in all other cases, the actual production history of the eligible producer on a farm.

**(4) Adjusted noninsured crop disaster assistance program yield**

The term “adjusted noninsured crop disaster assistance program yield” means—

(A) in the case of an eligible producer on a farm that has at least 4 years of production history under the noninsured crop disaster assistance program that are not replacement yields, the noninsured crop disaster assistance program yield without regard to any replacement yields;

(B) in the case of an eligible producer on a farm that has less than 4 years of production history under the noninsured crop disaster assistance program that are not replacement yields, the noninsured crop disaster assistance program yield as calculated without including the lowest of the replacement yields; and

(C) in all other cases, the production history of the eligible producer on the farm under the noninsured crop disaster assistance program.

**(5) Counter-cyclical program payment yield**

The term “counter-cyclical program payment yield” means the weighted average payment yield established under—

(A) section 7912 or 7952 of this title;

(B) section 1102 or 1301(6) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8712, 8751(6)); or

(C) a successor section.

**(6) Crop of economic significance**

The term “crop of economic significance” shall have the uniform meaning given the term by the Secretary for purposes of subsections (b)(1)(B) and (g)(6).

**(7) Disaster county**

**(A) In general**

The term “disaster county” means a county included in the geographic area covered by a qualifying natural disaster declaration.

**(B) Inclusion**

The term “disaster county” includes—

(i) a county contiguous to a county described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) any farm in which, during a calendar year the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm.

**(8) Eligible producer on a farm**

**(A) In general**

The term “eligible producer on a farm” means an individual or entity described in subparagraph (B) that, as determined by the Secretary, assumes the production and market risks associated with the agricultural production of crops or livestock.

**(B) Description**

An individual or entity referred to in subparagraph (A) is—

(i) a citizen of the United States;

(ii) a resident alien;

(iii) a partnership of citizens of the United States; or

(iv) a corporation, limited liability corporation, or other farm organizational structure organized under State law.

**(9) Farm**

**(A) In general**

The term “farm” means, in relation to an eligible producer on a farm, the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest for sale or on-farm livestock feeding (including native grassland intended for haying) by the eligible producer.

**(B) Aquaculture**

In the case of aquaculture, the term “farm” means, in relation to an eligible producer on a farm, all fish being produced in all counties that are intended to be harvested for sale by the eligible producer.

**(C) Honey**

In the case of honey, the term “farm” means, in relation to an eligible producer on a farm, all bees and beehives in all counties that are intended to be harvested for a honey crop for sale by the eligible producer.

**(10) Farm-raised fish**

The term “farm-raised fish” means any aquatic species that is propagated and reared in a controlled environment.

**(11) Insurable commodity**

The term “insurable commodity” means an agricultural commodity (excluding livestock) for which the producer on a farm is eligible to obtain a policy or plan of insurance under subchapter I.

**(12) Livestock**

The term “livestock” includes—

- (A) cattle (including dairy cattle);
- (B) bison;
- (C) poultry;
- (D) sheep;
- (E) swine;
- (F) horses; and
- (G) other livestock, as determined by the Secretary.

**(13) Noninsurable commodity**

The term “noninsurable commodity” means a crop for which the eligible producers on a farm are eligible to obtain assistance under the noninsured crop assistance program.

**(14) Noninsured crop assistance program**

The term “noninsured crop assistance program” means the program carried out under section 7333 of this title.

**(15) Normal production on the farm**

The term “normal production on the farm” means the sum of the expected revenue for all crops on the farm, as determined under subsection (b)(6)(A).

**(16) Qualifying natural disaster declaration**

The term “qualifying natural disaster declaration” means a natural disaster declared by the Secretary for production losses under section 1961(a) of this title.

**(17) Secretary**

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture.

**(18) Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher**

The term “socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher” has the meaning given the term in section 2279(e)<sup>1</sup> of this title.

**(19) State**

The term “State” means—

- (A) a State;
- (B) the District of Columbia;
- (C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and
- (D) any other territory or possession of the United States.

**(20) Trust Fund**

The term “Trust Fund” means the Agricultural Disaster Relief Trust Fund established under section 2497a of title 19.

**(21) United States**

The term “United States” when used in a geographical sense, means all of the States.

**(b) Supplemental revenue assistance payments****(1) Payments****(A) In general**

The Secretary shall use such sums as are necessary from the Trust Fund to make crop

disaster assistance payments to eligible producers on farms in disaster counties that have incurred crop production losses or crop quality losses, or both, during the crop year.

**(B) Crop loss**

To be eligible for crop loss assistance under this subsection, the actual production on the farm for at least 1 crop of economic significance shall be reduced by at least 10 percent due to disaster, adverse weather, or disaster-related conditions.

**(2) Amount****(A) In general**

Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall provide crop disaster assistance payments under this section to an eligible producer on a farm in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between—

- (i) the disaster assistance program guarantee, as described in paragraph (3); and
- (ii) the total farm revenue for a farm, as described in paragraph (4).

**(B) Limitation**

The disaster assistance program guarantee for a crop used to calculate the payments for a farm under subparagraph (A)(i) may not be greater than 90 percent of the sum of the expected revenue, as described in paragraph (5) for each of the crops on a farm, as determined by the Secretary.

**(C) Exclusion of subsequently planted crops**

In calculating the disaster assistance program guarantee under paragraph (3) and the total farm revenue under paragraph (4), the Secretary shall not consider the value of any crop that—

- (i) is produced on land that is not eligible for a policy or plan of insurance under subchapter I or assistance under the noninsured crop assistance program; or
- (ii) is subsequently planted on the same land during the same crop year as the crop for which disaster assistance is provided under this subsection, except in areas in which double-cropping is a normal practice, as determined by the Secretary.

**(3) Supplemental revenue assistance program guarantee****(A) In general**

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the supplemental assistance program guarantee shall be the sum obtained by adding—

- (i) for each insurable commodity on the farm, 115 percent of the product obtained by multiplying—

(I) a payment rate for the commodity that is equal to the price election for the commodity elected by the eligible producer;

(II) the payment acres for the commodity that is equal to the number of acres planted, or prevented from being planted, to the commodity;

(III) the payment yield for the commodity that is equal to the percentage of the crop insurance yield elected by the producer of the higher of—

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

- (aa) the adjusted actual production history yield; or
- (bb) the counter-cyclical program payment yield for each crop; and
- (ii) for each noninsurable commodity on a farm, 120 percent of the product obtained by multiplying—
  - (I) a payment rate for the commodity that is equal to 100 percent of the non-insured crop assistance program established price for the commodity;
  - (II) the payment acres for the commodity that is equal to the number of acres planted, or prevented from being planted, to the commodity; and
  - (III) the payment yield for the commodity that is equal to 50 percent of the higher of—
    - (aa) the adjusted noninsured crop assistance program yield; or
    - (bb) the counter-cyclical program payment yield for each crop.

**(B) Adjustment insurance guarantee**

Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), in the case of an insurable commodity for which a plan of insurance provides for an adjustment in the guarantee, such as in the case of prevented planting, the adjusted insurance guarantee shall be the basis for determining the disaster assistance program guarantee for the insurable commodity.

**(C) Adjusted assistance level**

Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), in the case of a noninsurable commodity for which the noninsured crop assistance program provides for an adjustment in the level of assistance, such as in the case of unharvested crops, the adjusted assistance level shall be the basis for determining the disaster assistance program guarantee for the noninsurable commodity.

**(D) Equitable treatment for non-yield based policies**

The Secretary shall establish equitable treatment for non-yield based policies and plans of insurance, such as the Adjusted Gross Revenue Lite insurance program.

**(4) Farm revenue**

**(A) In general**

For purposes of this subsection, the total farm revenue for a farm,<sup>2</sup> shall equal the sum obtained by adding—

- (i) the estimated actual value for each crop produced on a farm by using the product obtained by multiplying—
  - (I) the actual production by crop on a farm for purposes of determining losses under subchapter I or the noninsured crop assistance program; and
  - (II) subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), to the extent practicable, the national average market price received for the marketing year, as determined by the Secretary;
- (ii) 15 percent of amount of any direct payments made to the producer under sec-

tions 1103 and 1303<sup>1</sup> of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 [7 U.S.C. 8713, 8753] or successor sections;

(iii) the total amount of any counter-cyclical payments made to the producer under sections 1104 and 1304<sup>1</sup> of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 [7 U.S.C. 8714, 8754] or successor sections or of any average crop revenue election payments made to the producer under section 1105<sup>1</sup> of that Act [7 U.S.C. 8715];

(iv) the total amount of any loan deficiency payments, marketing loan gains, and marketing certificate gains made to the producer under subtitles B and C<sup>1</sup> of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 [7 U.S.C. 8731 et seq., 8751 et seq.] or successor subtitles;

(v) the amount of payments for prevented planting on a farm;

(vi) the amount of crop insurance indemnities received by an eligible producer on a farm for each crop on a farm;

(vii) the amount of payments an eligible producer on a farm received under the non-insured crop assistance program for each crop on a farm; and

(viii) the value of any other natural disaster assistance payments provided by the Federal Government to an eligible producer on a farm for each crop on a farm for the same loss for which the eligible producer is seeking assistance.

**(B) Adjustment**

The Secretary shall adjust the average market price received by the eligible producer on a farm—

(i) to reflect the average quality discounts applied to the local or regional market price of a crop or mechanically harvested forage due to a reduction in the intrinsic characteristics of the production resulting from adverse weather, as determined annually by the State office of the Farm Service Agency;

(ii) to account for a crop the value of which is reduced due to excess moisture resulting from a disaster-related condition; and

(iii) as the Secretary determines appropriate, to reflect regional variations in a manner consistent with the operation of the crop insurance program under subchapter I and the noninsured crop assistance program.

**(C) Maximum amount for certain crops**

With respect to a crop for which an eligible producer on a farm receives assistance under the noninsured crop assistance program, the national average market price received during the marketing year shall be an amount not more than 100 percent of the price of the crop established under the non-insured crop assistance program.

**(5) Expected revenue**

The expected revenue for each crop on a farm shall equal—

(A) for each insurable commodity, the product obtained by multiplying—

<sup>2</sup> So in original. The comma probably should not appear.

(i) the greater of—

(I) the adjusted actual production history yield of the eligible producer on a farm; and

(II) the counter-cyclical program payment yield;

(ii) the acreage planted or prevented from being planted for each crop; and

(iii) 100 percent of the price election for the commodity used to calculate an indemnity for an applicable policy of insurance if an indemnity is triggered; and

(B) for each noninsurable crop, the product obtained by multiplying—

(i) 100 percent of the adjusted noninsured crop assistance program yield;

(ii) the acreage planted or prevented from being planted for each crop; and

(iii) 100 percent of the noninsured crop assistance program price for each of the crops on a farm.

#### **(6) Production on the farm**

##### **(A) Normal production on the farm**

The normal production on the farm shall equal the sum of the expected revenue for each crop on a farm as determined under paragraph (5).

##### **(B) Actual production on the farm**

The actual production on the farm shall equal the sum obtained by adding—

(i) for each insurable commodity on the farm, the product obtained by multiplying—

(I) 100 percent of the price election for the commodity used to calculate an indemnity for an applicable policy of insurance if an indemnity is triggered; and

(II) the quantity of the commodity produced on the farm, adjusted for quality losses; and

(ii) for each noninsurable commodity on a farm, the product obtained by multiplying—

(I) 100 percent of the noninsured crop assistance program established price for the commodity; and

(II) the quantity of the commodity produced on the farm, adjusted for quality losses.

#### **(c) Livestock indemnity payments**

##### **(1) Payments**

The Secretary shall make livestock indemnity payments to eligible producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of the normal mortality due to adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary, during the calendar year, including losses due to hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat, and extreme cold.

##### **(2) Payment rates**

Indemnity payments to an eligible producer on a farm under paragraph (1) shall be made at a rate of 75 percent of the market value of the applicable livestock on the day before the date of death of the livestock, as determined by the Secretary.

#### **(3) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$80,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

#### **(d) Livestock forage disaster program**

##### **(1) Definitions**

In this subsection:

##### **(A) Covered livestock**

###### **(i) In general**

Except as provided in clause (ii), the term “covered livestock” means livestock of an eligible livestock producer that, during the 60 days prior to the beginning date of a qualifying drought or fire condition, as determined by the Secretary, the eligible livestock producer—

(I) owned;

(II) leased;

(III) purchased;

(IV) entered into a contract to purchase;

(V) is a contract grower; or

(VI) sold or otherwise disposed of due to qualifying drought conditions during—

(aa) the current production year; or

(bb) subject to paragraph (3)(B)(ii), 1 or both of the 2 production years immediately preceding the current production year.

###### **(ii) Exclusion**

The term “covered livestock” does not include livestock that were or would have been in a feedlot, on the beginning date of the qualifying drought or fire condition, as a part of the normal business operation of the eligible livestock producer, as determined by the Secretary.

##### **(B) Drought monitor**

The term “drought monitor” means a system for classifying drought severity according to a range of abnormally dry to exceptional drought, as defined by the Secretary.

##### **(C) Eligible livestock producer**

###### **(i) In general**

The term “eligible livestock producer” means an eligible producer on a farm that—

(I) is an owner, cash or share lessee, or contract grower of covered livestock that provides the pastureland or grazing land, including cash-leased pastureland or grazing land, for the livestock;

(II) provides the pastureland or grazing land for covered livestock, including cash-leased pastureland or grazing land that is physically located in a county affected by drought;

(III) certifies grazing loss; and

(IV) meets all other eligibility requirements established under this subsection.

###### **(ii) Exclusion**

The term “eligible livestock producer” does not include an owner, cash or share lessee, or contract grower of livestock that rents or leases pastureland or grazing land

owned by another person on a rate-of-gain basis.

**(D) Normal carrying capacity**

The term “normal carrying capacity”, with respect to each type of grazing land or pastureland in a county, means the normal carrying capacity, as determined under paragraph (3)(D)(i), that would be expected from the grazing land or pastureland for livestock during the normal grazing period, in the absence of a drought or fire that diminishes the production of the grazing land or pastureland.

**(E) Normal grazing period**

The term “normal grazing period”, with respect to a county, means the normal grazing period during the calendar year for the county, as determined under paragraph (3)(D)(i).

**(2) Program**

The Secretary shall provide compensation for losses to eligible livestock producers due to grazing losses for covered livestock due to—

(A) a drought condition, as described in paragraph (3); or

(B) fire, as described in paragraph (4).

**(3) Assistance for losses due to drought conditions**

**(A) Eligible losses**

An eligible livestock producer may receive assistance under this subsection only for grazing losses for covered livestock that occur on land that—

(i) is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover; or

(ii) is planted to a crop planted specifically for the purpose of providing grazing for covered livestock.

**(B) Monthly payment rate**

**(i) In general**

Except as provided in clause (ii), the payment rate for assistance under this paragraph for 1 month shall, in the case of drought, be equal to 60 percent of the lesser of—

(I) the monthly feed cost for all covered livestock owned or leased by the eligible livestock producer, as determined under subparagraph (C); or

(II) the monthly feed cost calculated by using the normal carrying capacity of the eligible grazing land of the eligible livestock producer.

**(ii) Partial compensation**

In the case of an eligible livestock producer that sold or otherwise disposed of covered livestock due to drought conditions in 1 or both of the 2 production years immediately preceding the current production year, as determined by the Secretary, the payment rate shall be 80 percent of the payment rate otherwise calculated in accordance with clause (i).

**(C) Monthly feed cost**

**(i) In general**

The monthly feed cost shall equal the product obtained by multiplying—

(I) 30 days;

(II) a payment quantity that is equal to the feed grain equivalent, as determined under clause (ii); and

(III) a payment rate that is equal to the corn price per pound, as determined under clause (iii).

**(ii) Feed grain equivalent**

For purposes of clause (i)(I), the feed grain equivalent shall equal—

(I) in the case of an adult beef cow, 15.7 pounds of corn per day; or

(II) in the case of any other type of weight of livestock, an amount determined by the Secretary that represents the average number of pounds of corn per day necessary to feed the livestock.

**(iii) Corn price per pound**

For purposes of clause (i)(II), the corn price per pound shall equal the quotient obtained by dividing—

(I) the higher of—

(aa) the national average corn price per bushel for the 12-month period immediately preceding March 1 of the year for which the disaster assistance is calculated; or

(bb) the national average corn price per bushel for the 24-month period immediately preceding that March 1; by

(II) 56.

**(D) Normal grazing period and drought monitor intensity**

**(i) FSA county committee determinations**

**(I) In general**

The Secretary shall determine the normal carrying capacity and normal grazing period for each type of grazing land or pastureland in the county served by the applicable committee.

**(II) Changes**

No change to the normal carrying capacity or normal grazing period established for a county under subclause (I) shall be made unless the change is requested by the appropriate State and county Farm Service Agency committees.

**(ii) Drought intensity**

**(I) D2**

An eligible livestock producer that owns or leases grazing land or pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having a D2 (severe drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least 8 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period for the county, as determined by the Secretary, shall be eligible to receive assistance under this paragraph in an amount equal to 1 monthly payment using the monthly payment rate determined under subparagraph (B).

**(II) D3**

An eligible livestock producer that owns or leases grazing land or

pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having at least a D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period for the county, as determined by the Secretary, shall be eligible to receive assistance under this paragraph—

(aa) in an amount equal to 2 monthly payments using the monthly payment rate determined under subparagraph (B); or

(bb) if the county is rated as having a D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period for the county, or is rated as having a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity in any area of the county at any time during the normal grazing period, in an amount equal to 3 monthly payments using the monthly payment rate determined under subparagraph (B).

**(4) Assistance for losses due to fire on public managed land**

**(A) In general**

An eligible livestock producer may receive assistance under this paragraph only if—

(i) the grazing losses occur on rangeland that is managed by a Federal agency; and

(ii) the eligible livestock producer is prohibited by the Federal agency from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland due to a fire.

**(B) Payment rate**

The payment rate for assistance under this paragraph shall be equal to 50 percent of the monthly feed cost for the total number of livestock covered by the Federal lease of the eligible livestock producer, as determined under paragraph (3)(C).

**(C) Payment duration**

**(i) In general**

Subject to clause (ii), an eligible livestock producer shall be eligible to receive assistance under this paragraph for the period—

(I) beginning on the date on which the Federal agency excludes the eligible livestock producer from using the managed rangeland for grazing; and

(II) ending on the last day of the Federal lease of the eligible livestock producer.

**(ii) Limitation**

An eligible livestock producer may only receive assistance under this paragraph for losses that occur on not more than 180 days per year.

**(5) Minimum risk management purchase requirements**

**(A) In general**

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, a livestock producer shall only be eligible for assistance under this subsection if the livestock producer—

(i) obtained a policy or plan of insurance under subchapter I for the grazing land incurring the losses for which assistance is being requested; or

(ii) filed the required paperwork, and paid the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline, for the noninsured crop assistance program for the grazing land incurring the losses for which assistance is being requested.

**(B) Waiver for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmer or rancher**

In the case of an eligible livestock producer that is a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher or limited resource or beginning farmer or rancher, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may—

(i) waive subparagraph (A); and

(ii) provide disaster assistance under this subsection at a level that the Secretary determines to be equitable and appropriate.

**(C) Waiver for 2008 calendar year**

In the case of an eligible livestock producer that suffered losses on grazing land during the 2008 calendar year but does not meet the requirements of subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall waive subparagraph (A) if the eligible livestock producer pays a fee in an amount equal to the applicable noninsured crop assistance program fee or catastrophic risk protection plan fee required under subparagraph (A) to the Secretary not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subchapter.

**(D) Equitable relief**

**(i) In general**

The Secretary may provide equitable relief to an eligible livestock producer that is otherwise ineligible or unintentionally fails to meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) for the grazing land incurring the loss on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the Secretary.

**(ii) 2008 calendar year**

In the case of an eligible livestock producer that suffered losses on grazing land during the 2008 calendar year, the Secretary shall take special consideration to provide equitable relief in cases in which the eligible livestock producer failed to meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) due to the enactment of this subchapter after the closing date of sales periods for crop insurance under subchapter I and the noninsured crop assistance program.

**(6) No duplicative payments**

**(A) In general**

An eligible livestock producer may elect to receive assistance for grazing or pasture feed losses due to drought conditions under paragraph (3) or fire under paragraph (4), but not both for the same loss, as determined by the Secretary.

**(B) Relationship to supplemental revenue assistance**

An eligible livestock producer that receives assistance under this subsection may

not also receive assistance for losses to crops on the same land with the same intended use under subsection (b).

**(7) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$400,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

**(e) Emergency assistance for livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall provide emergency relief to eligible producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish to aid in the reduction of losses due to disease, adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary, that are not covered under subsection (b), (c), or (d).

**(2) Use of funds**

Funds made available under this subsection shall be used to reduce losses caused by feed or water shortages, disease, or other factors as determined by the Secretary.

**(3) Availability of funds**

Any funds made available under this subsection shall remain available until expended.

**(4) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

**(f) Tree assistance program**

**(1) Definitions**

In this subsection:

**(A) Eligible orchardist**

The term “eligible orchardist” means a person that produces annual crops from trees for commercial purposes.

**(B) Natural disaster**

The term “natural disaster” means plant disease, insect infestation, drought, fire, freeze, flood, earthquake, lightning, or other occurrence, as determined by the Secretary.

**(C) Nursery tree grower**

The term “nursery tree grower” means a person who produces nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut, or Christmas trees for commercial sale, as determined by the Secretary.

**(D) Tree**

The term “tree” includes a tree, bush, and vine.

**(2) Eligibility**

**(A) Loss**

Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall provide assistance—

(i) under paragraph (3) to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers that planted trees for commercial purposes but lost the trees as a result of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary; and

(ii) under paragraph (3)(B) to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers that have a production history for commercial purposes on planted or existing trees but

lost the trees as a result of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary.

**(B) Limitation**

An eligible orchardist or nursery tree grower shall qualify for assistance under subparagraph (A) only if the tree mortality of the eligible orchardist or nursery tree grower, as a result of damaging weather or related condition, exceeds 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality).

**(3) Assistance**

Subject to paragraph (4), the assistance provided by the Secretary to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers for losses described in paragraph (2) shall consist of—

(A)(i) reimbursement of 70 percent of the cost of replanting trees lost due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality); or

(ii) at the option of the Secretary, sufficient seedlings to reestablish a stand; and

(B) reimbursement of 50 percent of the cost of pruning, removal, and other costs incurred by an eligible orchardist or nursery tree grower to salvage existing trees or, in the case of tree mortality, to prepare the land to replant trees as a result of damage or tree mortality due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, in excess of 15 percent damage or mortality (adjusted for normal tree damage and mortality).

**(4) Limitations on assistance**

**(A) Definitions of legal entity and person**

In this paragraph, the terms “legal entity” and “person” have the meaning given those terms in section 1001(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308(a)<sup>3</sup> (as amended by section 1603 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008)).

**(B) Amount**

The total amount of payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (excluding a joint venture or general partnership) under this subsection may not exceed \$100,000 for any crop year, or an equivalent value in tree seedlings.

**(C) Acres**

The total quantity of acres planted to trees or tree seedlings for which a person or legal entity shall be entitled to receive payments under this subsection may not exceed 500 acres.

**(5) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

**(g) Risk management purchase requirement**

**(1) In general**

Except as otherwise provided in this section, the eligible producers on a farm shall not be eligible for assistance under this section (other than subsections (c) and (d)) if the eligible producers on the farm—

<sup>3</sup>So in original. Probably should be followed by a second closing parenthesis.



(A) in the case of each insurable commodity of the eligible producers on the farm, excluding grazing land, did not obtain a policy or plan of insurance under subchapter I (excluding a crop insurance pilot program under that subchapter); or

(B) in the case of each noninsurable commodity of the eligible producers on the farm, did not file the required paperwork, and pay the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline, for the noninsured crop assistance program.

**(2) Minimum**

To be considered to have obtained insurance under paragraph (1)(A), an eligible producer on a farm shall have obtained a policy or plan of insurance with not less than 50 percent yield coverage at 55 percent of the insurable price for each crop planted or intended to be planted for harvest on a whole farm.

**(3) Waiver for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, or beginning farmer or rancher**

With respect to eligible producers that are socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers or limited resource or beginning farmers or ranchers, as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may—

(A) waive paragraph (1); and

(B) provide disaster assistance under this section at a level that the Secretary determines to be equitable and appropriate.

**(4) Waivers for certain crop years**

**(A) 2008 crop year**

In the case of an eligible producer that suffered losses in an insurable commodity or noninsurable commodity during the 2008 crop year but does not meet the requirements of paragraph (1), the Secretary shall waive paragraph (1) if the eligible producer pays a fee in an amount equal to the applicable noninsured crop assistance program fee or catastrophic risk protection plan fee required under paragraph (1) to the Secretary not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subchapter.

**(B) 2009 crop year**

In the case of an insurable commodity or noninsurable commodity for the 2009 crop year that does not meet the requirements of paragraph (1) and the relevant crop insurance program sales closing date or noninsured crop assistance program fee payment date was prior to August 14, 2008, the Secretary shall waive paragraph (1) if the eligible producer of the insurable commodity or noninsurable commodity pays a fee in an amount equal to the applicable noninsured crop assistance program fee or catastrophic risk protection plan fee required under paragraph (1) to the Secretary not later than 90 days after October 13, 2008.

**(5) Equitable relief**

**(A) In general**

The Secretary may provide equitable relief to eligible producers on a farm that are otherwise ineligible or unintentionally fail to meet the requirements of paragraph (1) for 1

or more crops on a farm on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the Secretary.

**(B) 2008 crop year**

In the case of eligible producers on a farm that suffered losses in an insurable commodity or noninsurable commodity during the 2008 crop year, the Secretary shall take special consideration to provide equitable relief in cases in which the eligible producers failed to meet the requirements of paragraph (1) due to the enactment of this subchapter after the closing date of sales periods for crop insurance under subchapter I and the noninsured crop assistance program.

**(6) De minimis exception**

**(A) In general**

For purposes of assistance under subsection (b), at the option of an eligible producer on a farm, the Secretary shall waive paragraph (1)—

(i) in the case of a portion of the total acreage of a farm of the eligible producer that is not of economic significance on the farm, as established by the Secretary; or

(ii) in the case of a crop for which the administrative fee required for the purchase of noninsured crop disaster assistance coverage exceeds 10 percent of the value of that coverage.

**(B) Treatment of acreage**

The Secretary shall not consider the value of any crop exempted under subparagraph (A) in calculating the supplemental revenue assistance program guarantee under subsection (b)(3) and the total farm revenue under subsection (b)(4).

**(7) 2008 transition assistance**

**(A) In general**

Eligible producers on a farm described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4) that failed to timely pay the appropriate fee described in that subparagraph shall be eligible for assistance under this section in accordance with subparagraph (B) if the eligible producers on the farm—

(i) pay the appropriate fee described in paragraph (4)(A) not later than 90 days after February 17, 2009; and

(ii)(I) in the case of each insurable commodity of the eligible producers on the farm, excluding grazing land, agree to obtain a policy or plan of insurance under subchapter I (excluding a crop insurance pilot program under that subchapter) for the next insurance year for which crop insurance is available to the eligible producers on the farm at a level of coverage equal to 70 percent or more of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of the expected market price, or an equivalent coverage; and

(II) in the case of each noninsurable commodity of the eligible producers on the farm, agree to file the required paperwork, and pay the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline, for the noninsured crop assistance program for the next year for which a policy is available.

**(B) Amount of assistance**

Eligible producers on a farm that meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) shall be eligible to receive assistance under this section as if the eligible producers on the farm—

(i) in the case of each insurable commodity of the eligible producers on the farm, had obtained a policy or plan of insurance for the 2008 crop year at a level of coverage not to exceed 70 percent or more of the recorded or appraised average yield indemnified at 100 percent of the expected market price, or an equivalent coverage; and

(ii) in the case of each noninsurable commodity of the eligible producers on the farm, had filed the required paperwork, and paid the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline, for the noninsured crop assistance program for the 2008 crop year, except that in determining the level of coverage, the Secretary shall use 70 percent of the applicable yield.

**(C) Equitable relief**

Except as provided in subparagraph (D), eligible producers on a farm that met the requirements of paragraph (1) before the deadline described in paragraph (4)(A) and are eligible to receive, a disaster assistance payment under this section for a production loss during the 2008 crop year shall be eligible to receive an amount equal to the greater of—

(i) the amount that would have been calculated under subparagraph (B) if the eligible producers on the farm had paid the appropriate fee under that subparagraph; or

(ii) the amount that would have been calculated under subparagraph (A) of subsection (b)(3) if—

(I) in clause (i) of that subparagraph, “120 percent” is substituted for “115 percent”; and

(II) in clause (ii) of that subparagraph, “125” is substituted for “120 percent”.

**(D) Limitation**

For amounts made available under this paragraph, the Secretary may make such adjustments as are necessary to ensure that no producer receives a payment under this paragraph for an amount in excess of the assistance received by a similarly situated producer that had purchased the same or higher level of crop insurance prior to February 17, 2009.

**(E) Authority of the Secretary**

The Secretary may provide such additional assistance as the Secretary considers appropriate to provide equitable treatment for eligible producers on a farm that suffered production losses in the 2008 crop year that result in multiyear production losses, as determined by the Secretary.

**(F) Lack of access**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary may provide assistance (including multiyear assistance)

under this section to eligible producers on a farm that—

(i) suffered a production loss or multiyear production losses due to a natural cause during the 2008 crop year; and

(ii) as determined by the Secretary—

(I)(aa) except as provided in item (bb), lack access to a policy or plan of insurance under subchapter I; or

(bb) do not qualify for a written agreement because 1 or more farming practices, which the Secretary has determined are good farming practices, of the eligible producers on the farm differ significantly from the farming practices used by producers of the same crop in other regions of the United States; and

(II) are not eligible for the noninsured crop disaster assistance program established by section 7333 of this title.

**(h) Payment limitations****(1) Definitions of legal entity and person**

In this subsection, the terms “legal entity” and “person” have the meaning given those terms in section 1001(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308(a)<sup>3</sup> (as amended by section 1603 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008).

**(2) Amount**

The total amount of disaster assistance payments received, directly or indirectly, by a person or legal entity (excluding a joint venture or general partnership) under this section (excluding payments received under subsection (f)) may not exceed \$100,000 for any crop year.

**(3) AGI limitation**

Section 1001D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308–3a) or any successor provision shall apply with respect to assistance provided under this section.

**(4) Direct attribution**

Subsections (e) and (f) of section 1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308) or any successor provisions relating to direct attribution shall apply with respect to assistance provided under this section.

**(5) Transition rule**

Sections 1001, 1001A, 1001B, and 1001D of the Food Security Act of 1985 [7 U.S.C. 1308, 1308–1, 1308–2, and 1308–3a] as in effect on September 30, 2007, shall continue to apply with respect to 2008 crops.

**(i) Period of effectiveness**

This section shall be effective only for losses that are incurred as the result of a disaster, adverse weather, or other environmental condition that occurs on or before September 30, 2011, or, in the case of subsections (c) through (f), September 30, 2013<sup>4</sup> as determined by the Secretary.

**(j) No duplicative payments**

In implementing any other program which makes disaster assistance payments (except for indemnities made under subchapter I and sec-

<sup>4</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by a comma.

tion 7333 of this title), the Secretary shall prevent duplicative payments with respect to the same loss for which a person receives a payment under subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), or (f).

### (k) Application

#### (1) In general

Subject to paragraph (2) and notwithstanding any provision of subchapter I, subchapter I shall not apply to this subchapter.

#### (2) Cross references

Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a specific reference in this subchapter to a provision of subchapter I.

(Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, title V, § 531, as added Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, § 12033(a), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1392, and Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title XII, § 12033(a), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2154; amended Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a), Oct. 13, 2008, 122 Stat. 4214; Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title I, § 102(a), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 111-80, title VII, § 745(a), Oct. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 2129; Pub. L. 112-240, title VII, § 702(a), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2368; Pub. L. 113-79, title XI, § 11028(c), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 978.)

### Editorial Notes

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 2279(e) of this title, referred to in subsec. (a)(18), was redesignated section 2279(a) of this title by section 12301(b)(3) of Pub. L. 115-334.

Sections 1103 and 1303 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, referred to in subsec. (b)(4)(A)(ii), were repealed by Pub. L. 113-79, title I, § 1101, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658.

Sections 1104 and 1304 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, referred to in subsec. (b)(4)(A)(iii), were repealed by Pub. L. 113-79, title I, § 1102(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658.

Section 1105 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, referred to in subsec. (b)(4)(A)(iii), was repealed by Pub. L. 113-79, title I, § 1103(a), Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 658.

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, referred to in subsec. (b)(4)(A)(iv), is Pub. L. 110-246, June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1651. Subtitles B and C of the Act probably mean subtitles B and C of title I of the Act, which are classified generally to subchapters II (§ 8731 et seq.) and III (§ 8751 et seq.) of chapter 113 of this title. Section 1603 of the Act amended section 1308 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 8701 of this title and Tables.

The date of enactment of this subchapter, referred to in subsecs. (d)(5)(C), (D)(ii) and (g)(4)(A), (5)(B), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-246, which was approved June 18, 2008.

#### CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

Section 2(a) of Pub. L. 110-398, which directed amendment of section 531 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, was executed to this section, which is section 531 of subtitle B of title V of act Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, to reflect the probable intent of Congress. The Federal Crop Insurance Act is subtitle A of title V of act of Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30.

#### AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (d)(3)(A). Pub. L. 113-79 struck out cl. (i) designation and heading, redesignated subcls. (I) and

(II) as cls. (i) and (ii), respectively, and struck out former cl. (ii). Text read as follows: “An eligible livestock producer may not receive assistance under this subsection for grazing losses that occur on land used for haying or grazing under the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.).”

2013—Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(1), struck out “under” first time appearing after “established” in introductory provisions, redesignated cls. (i) to (iii) as subpars. (A) to (C), respectively, and realigned margins.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(2)(A), struck out “use such sums as are necessary from the Trust Fund to” after “Secretary shall”.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(2)(B), added par. (3).

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(3)(A), struck out “use such sums as are necessary from the Trust Fund to” after “Secretary shall” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (d)(7). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(3)(B), added par. (7).

Subsec. (e)(1). Pub. L. 112-240, § 701(a)(4)(A), struck out “use up to \$50,000,000 per year from the Trust Fund to” after “Secretary shall”.

Subsec. (e)(4). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(4)(B), added par. (4).

Subsec. (f)(2)(A). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(5)(A), struck out “use such sums as are necessary from the Trust Fund to” after “Secretary shall” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (f)(5). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(5)(B), added par. (5).

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 112-240, § 702(a)(6), inserted “or, in the case of subsections (c) through (f), September 30, 2013” after “2011,”.

2009—Subsec. (g)(7). Pub. L. 111-5, which directed amendment of section 531(g) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act by adding par. (7), was executed to this section, which is section 531 of subtitle B of title V of act of Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, to reflect the probable intent of Congress. The Federal Crop Insurance Act is subtitle A of title V of act of Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30.

Subsec. (g)(7)(F). Pub. L. 111-80, § 745(a)(1), which directed amendment of section 531(g)(7)(F) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act by inserting “(including multiyear assistance)” after “assistance”, was executed to introductory provisions of subsec. (g)(7)(F) of this section, which is section 531 of subtitle B of title V of act of Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, to reflect the probable intent of Congress. The Federal Crop Insurance Act is subtitle A of title V of act of Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30.

Subsec. (g)(7)(F)(i). Pub. L. 111-80, § 745(a)(2), which directed amendment of cl. (i) of section 531(g)(7)(F) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act by inserting “or multiyear production losses” after “a production loss”, was executed to subsec. (g)(7)(F)(i) of this section, which is section 531 of subtitle B of title V of act of Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30, to reflect the probable intent of Congress. The Federal Crop Insurance Act is subtitle A of title V of act of Feb. 16, 1938, ch. 30.

2008—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a)(1)(F), added par. (2). Former par. (2) redesignated (3).

Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a)(1)(E), redesignated par. (2) as (3). Former par. (3) redesignated (4).

Subsec. (a)(3)(B). Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a)(1)(A), inserted “has” after “on a farm that”.

Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a)(1)(E), redesignated par. (3) as (4). Former par. (4) redesignated (5).

Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a)(1)(B), substituted “under—” for “section 7912 of this title, section 1102 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, or a successor section.” and added cls. (i) to (iii).

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a)(1)(E), redesignated par. (4) as (5). Former par. (5) redesignated (7).

Subsec. (a)(5)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 110-398, § 2(a)(1)(C), substituted “the actual production on the farm is less than 50 percent of the normal production on the farm.” for “, the total loss of production of the farm relating to

weather is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm, as determined by the Secretary.”

Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(1)(G), added par. (6). Former par. (6) redesignated (8).

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(1)(E), redesignated par. (5) as (7). Former par. (7) redesignated (9).

Subsec. (a)(7)(A). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(1)(D)(i), inserted “for sale or on-farm livestock feeding (including native grassland intended for haying)” after “harvest”.

Subsec. (a)(7)(C). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(1)(D)(ii), inserted “for sale” after “crop”.

Subsec. (a)(8) to (14). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(1)(E), redesignated pars. (6) to (12) as (8) to (14), respectively. Former pars. (13) and (14) redesignated (16) and (17), respectively.

Subsec. (a)(15). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(1)(H), added par. (15). Former par. (15) redesignated (18).

Subsec. (a)(16) to (21). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(1)(E), redesignated pars. (13) to (18) as (16) to (21), respectively.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(A), substituted “Payments” for “In general” in par. heading, designated existing provisions as subpar. (A) and inserted subpar. heading, and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (b)(2)(C). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(B), added subpar. (C).

Subsec. (b)(3)(A)(ii)(III). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(C)(i), inserted “50 percent of” before “the higher of” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(3)(A)(ii)(III)(aa). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(C)(ii), struck out “guarantee” after “yield”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(A)(i). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(D)(i), added subcl. (I), redesignated subcl. (III) as (II), and struck out former subcls. (I) and (II) which read as follows:

“(I) the actual crop acreage harvested by an eligible producer on a farm;

“(II) the estimated actual yield of the crop production; and”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(B)(iii). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(D)(ii), (iii), added cl. (iii).

Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(E)(i), struck out “the sum obtained by adding” after “equal” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(5)(A). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(E)(ii)(I), substituted “for each insurable commodity, the product” for “the product” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(5)(A)(i). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(E)(ii)(II), substituted “greater” for “greatest”.

Subsec. (b)(5)(A)(iii). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(E)(ii)(III), substituted “of the price election for the commodity used to calculate an indemnity for an applicable policy of insurance if an indemnity is triggered; and” for “of the insurance price guarantee; and”.

Subsec. (b)(5)(B). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(E)(iii)(I), substituted “for each noninsurable crop, the product” for “the product” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(5)(B)(ii), (iii). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(E)(iii)(II)–(IV), added cl. (ii) and redesignated former cl. (ii) as (iii).

Subsec. (b)(6). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(2)(F), added par. (6).

Subsec. (d)(5)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(3), substituted “subsection” for “section”.

Subsec. (f)(2)(A). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(4), substituted “the Secretary shall use such sums as are necessary from the Trust Fund to provide” for “the Secretary shall provide”.

Subsec. (g)(1). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(6)(A)(i), substituted “(other than subsections (c) and (d))” for “(other than subsection (c))” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (g)(1)(A). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(6)(A)(ii), inserted “, excluding grazing land” after “producers on the farm”.

Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(6)(B), substituted “each crop planted” for “each crop grazed, planted,”.

Subsec. (g)(4). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(6)(C), (D), substituted “Waivers for certain crop years” for “Waiver for 2008 crop year” in par. heading, designated existing

provisions as subpar. (A) and inserted subpar. heading, and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (g)(6). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(5), added par. (6).

Subsec. (h)(5). Pub. L. 110-398, §2(a)(7), added par. (5).

## Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2013 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 112-240, title VII, §702(b), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 2369, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on October 1, 2012.”

### EFFECTIVE DATE

Enactment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of this title.

### RULEMAKING PROCEDURES

Pub. L. 110-329, div. B, title I, §10102, Sept. 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 3588, provided that: “Section 1601(c)(2) of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246) [7 U.S.C. 8781(c)(2)] shall apply in implementing section 12033 of such Act [enacting this subchapter and amending sections 1501 to 1503, 1505 to 1510, 1514, 1515, 1517, 1518, and 1520 to 1523 of this title].”

### TRANSITION

Pub. L. 110-234, title XII, §12033(b), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1405, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title XII, §12033(b), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2167, provided that: “For purposes of the 2008 crop year, the Secretary [of Agriculture] shall carry out subsections (f)(4) and (h) of section 531 of the Federal Crop Insurance Act [7 U.S.C. 1531(f)(4), (h)] (as added by subsection (a)) in accordance with the terms and conditions of sections 1001 through 1001D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 1308 et seq.), as in effect on September 30, 2007.”

[Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical provisions. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as a note under section 8701 of this title.]

## CHAPTER 37—SEEDS

Sec.	
1551.	Short title.
	<b>SUBCHAPTER I—DEFINITIONS</b>
1561.	Definition of terms.
1562.	False representations as certified seed; required provisions.
	<b>SUBCHAPTER II—INTERSTATE COMMERCE</b>
1571.	Prohibitions relating to interstate commerce in certain seeds.
1572.	Records.
1573.	Exemptions.
1574.	Disclaimers, limited warranties and non-warranties.
1575.	False advertising.
	<b>SUBCHAPTER III—FOREIGN COMMERCE</b>
1581.	Prohibitions relating to importations.
1582.	Procedure relating to importations; disposal of refuse; exceptions.
1583, 1584.	Repealed.
1585.	Certain seeds not adapted for general agricultural use.
1586.	Certain acts prohibited.
	<b>SUBCHAPTER IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS</b>
1591.	Delegation of duties.
1592.	Rules and regulations.
1593.	Standards, tests, tolerances.
1593a.	Seed variety information and survey.
1594.	Prohibition against alterations.