

Senate Appropriations Committee – July 10, 2025

Topic: Markup of FY2026 Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Legislative Branch Appropriations Acts 10 July 2025

Highlights:

- The full Senate Appropriations Committee approved the [Agriculture-FDA bill](#) in 27-0 vote (-\$35b compared to FY2025)
 - [Read the full committee report.](#)
 - The legislation contains a host of Tribal-specific funding, including for the Office of Tribal Relations, FDPIR and other programs.
- The full committee approved Legislative Branch bill in 26-1 vote (+265m compared to FY2025)
 - Government Accountability Office (GAO): \$811.9 million for (equal to the FY2025).
 - Congressional Budget Office (CBO): The bill provides \$71.4 million (+ \$1.4 million FY2025)
 - Congressional Research Service (CRS): The bill provides \$136 million for CRS (equal to FY2025).
 - [Read the full committee report.](#)

Summary:

The Senate Appropriations Committee advanced the FY2026 Agriculture and Rural Development funding bill, totaling approximately \$27.1 billion (equal to FY2025) with increased funding for rural broadband, nutrition programs and agricultural research. The bill includes language supporting Tribal access to USDA programs and infrastructure investments in Tribal communities, including, but not limited to:

- \$5.1 million for the USDA Office of Tribal Relations
 - \$1 million of this \$5.1 million must be dedicated to a “Tribal Public Health Resource Center at a land grant university with existing indigenous public health expertise to expand current partnerships and collaborative efforts with indigenous groups to improve the delivery of public health services and functions in American Indian communities focusing on indigenous food sovereignty.”
 - The [committee report](#) also notes that “the Committee supports elevating the Office of Tribal Relations to an Assistant Secretary level and encourages the Secretary to evaluate the resources needed.”
- \$998,000 for nutrition education in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR);
- \$3 million [FDPIR self-determination demonstration projects](#);
- \$425 million for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) – which shares warehousing networks with FDPIR. Eight Tribes currently operate CSFP);
- \$2 million for summer feeding pilot programs conducted by Tribes, Tribal educational agencies, Tribal consortia, Tribal organizations, Bureau of Indian Education schools, and similar;
- \$5 million for a Rural Community Development Initiative that will “develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes

to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas.”;

- \$8 million in rural community facilities grants to Tribal colleges;
- \$800,000 for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for Tribal communities under the Rural Utilities Service;
- \$2 million for the Bison Production and Marketing Grant Program, prioritizing grants to “national non-profits and federally chartered Tribal organizations that have expertise in bison production or marketing,”; and
- \$700,000 for the Office of Tribal Relations to cover costs associated with Tribal bison meat slaughtering, processing and voluntary meat inspection fees.

The committee also approved the legislative funding bill for FY2026, specifically allocating funding exceeding or equal to FY2025 for the CBO, GAO and CRS, whose evaluations and research measure impacts in Tribal-serving programs and issues. The committee allocated an additional \$265 million compared last fiscal year for overall legislative branch funding.