

EXHIBIT E

114TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
1st Session } { 114-205

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2016

JULY 14, 2015.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. ADERHOLT, from the Committee on Appropriations,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 3049]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2016.

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OVERVIEW

The Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee has jurisdiction over the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), except for the Forest Service, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), and the Farm Credit Administration (FCA). The Subcommittee's responsibility covers a vast and diverse group of agencies responsible for such things as promoting

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the Committee:

[Dollars in Thousands]

	Committee provision
Animal Health Technical Services	\$35,000
Aquatic Animal Health	2,253
Avian Health	55,340
Cattle Health	90,000
Equine, Cervid, and Small Ruminant Health	19,500
National Veterinary Stockpile	3,973
Swine Health	24,800
Veterinary Biologics	16,417
Veterinary Diagnostics	36,540
Zoonotic Disease Management	9,523
<i>Subtotal, Animal Health</i>	<i>293,346</i>
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)	26,900
Cotton Pests	11,520
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystem Pests	8,826
Pest Detection	27,446
Plant Protection Methods Development	20,686
Specialty Crop Pests	158,000
Tree & Wood Pests	45,519
<i>Subtotal, Plant Health</i>	<i>298,897</i>
Wildlife Damage Management	90,027
Wildlife Services Methods Development	18,856
<i>Subtotal, Wildlife Services</i>	<i>108,883</i>
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement	16,224
Biotechnology Regulatory Services	18,875
<i>Subtotal, Regulatory Services</i>	<i>35,099</i>
Contingency Fund	470
Emergency Preparedness & Response	16,966
<i>Subtotal, Safeguarding and Emergency Preparedness</i>	<i>17,436</i>
Agriculture Import/Export	14,099
Overseas Technical and Trade Operations	22,114
<i>Subtotal, Safe Trade & International Technical Assistance</i>	<i>36,213</i>
Animal Welfare	28,410
Horse Protection	697
<i>Subtotal, Animal Welfare</i>	<i>29,107</i>
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure	4,251
Physical/Operational Security	5,146
GSA Rental and DHS Security Payments	42,567
<i>Subtotal, Agency Management</i>	<i>51,964</i>
Total, Salaries & Expenses	\$870,945

Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection (AQI).—The Committee continues to have concerns about the proposed rules regarding adjustment to fees for AQI services and overtime reimbursement rates. The proposed rule related to AQI services includes the increase of some existing fees and the establishment of several new fees that will affect a wide variety of industries, including pest treatment providers, cargo and passenger vessels, international and domestic shippers, importers, and the ports. The proposed changes are significant, and it is expected that comments received during the initial rulemaking process and comments received from the AQI Webinar in January 2015 will be considered in drafting

the final rule. The agency should exercise due diligence in determining the comprehensive impacts of these new fees on the related industries, especially given the coupling effect of the increased overtime reimbursement rates. The Committee encourages the agency to fully analyze these impacts and engage with additional stakeholders as necessary to determine if any additional time is necessary for those impacted by the fees to provide input as well as those industries requiring additional time to modify their business practices in order to accommodate higher costs.

Animal Welfare.—The bill funds the Animal Welfare program at \$28,410,000 in order to ensure that minimum standards of care and treatment are provided for certain animals bred for commercial sale, used in research, transported commercially, or exhibited to the public. The Committee provides an additional \$400,000 to support a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between APHIS and ARS. The MOU is necessary for ARS to utilize the skills and expertise of APHIS' animal care staff and to help ARS address some of their recent failures to maintain high standards of care for animals used in ARS funded research. At a minimum, the MOU should ensure that ARS is adhering to its own standards and guidelines for research practices as required by the Humane Animal Care and Use policy, a policy that is closely aligned with the Animal Welfare Act; ensure that every ARS location engaging in research and testing on vertebrate animals has a fully functioning IACUC in place; and, ensure that each IACUC produces a semi-annual report with a description of and the reasons for any major deviations from the requirements outlined in ARS policy.

Aquatic Animal Health.—Nearly half of the seafood consumed across the world is the product of aquaculture. In addition, the aquaculture industry is a critical and growing part of the U.S. economy. Unfortunately, the monitoring of aquatic animal health issues is not adequate to meet the needs of a growing industry. For example, the shrimp and catfish aquaculture industries are losing revenue due to the lack of tracking and monitoring of aquatic animal pathogens. These losses could have been prevented if the pathogens had been promptly identified and effective treatments or prevention procedures were developed and available. The Committee encourages the agency to support and protect this important industry. Collaborative efforts among the agency, industry, and other Federal and state partners are essential to improving preparedness, surveillance, and response capabilities, as well as reducing the likelihood of disease spread.

Biotechnology Regulatory Services.—The Committee continues to be concerned about the time it takes the agency to review biotechnology product petitions for regulatory determination. The Committee encourages the agency to continue to find ways to improve the permit review process and to reduce the number of petitions awaiting determination. The Committee provides the requested funding necessary to ensure regulatory decisions can be made in a more timely and predictable manner. The Committee directs APHIS to provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate with quarterly reports on the agency's progress in meeting the targets the agency set for itself in 2011 starting on November 1, 2015.