EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

June 4, 2026
(House)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 8646 — Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2027

(Rep. Harris, R-MD)

The Administration appreciates the important investments made in our Nation's agriculture and rural communities in H.R. 8646, making appropriations for agriculture, rural development, food and drug administration, and related agencies for the fiscal year (FY) ending September 30, 2027, and for other purposes.

The Administration supports advancement of this legislation, but looks forward to addressing its concerns prior to enactment. In total, this bill would provide $23.6 billion, which is $4.6 billion above the President's FY 2027 Budget request. The Administration welcomes the House's consideration of individual appropriations bills, and looks forward to working with the Congress to enact fiscally responsible legislation that fully funds essential programs that support our Nation's farmers and help ensure food safety. Moreover, the Administration welcomes the opportunity to work with the Congress to, at a minimum, update the statutory definition of final hemp-derived cannabinoid products to allow Americans to benefit from access to appropriate full-spectrum CBD products while preserving the Congress's intent to restrict the sale of products that pose serious health risks.

The Administration would like to share additional views regarding the House Appropriations Committee's (Committee) version of the bill.

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

USDA Topline. The bill provides $22.5 billion for USDA, which is $1.3 billion below FY 2026 enacted but $3.9 billion above the FY 2027 Budget request. While the Administration appreciates the Committee's efforts, there are programs that the FY 2027 Budget request has identified as outside of USDA's primary mission, and the Administration urges the Congress to pass a bill at the levels included in the FY 2027 Budget request.

USDA One Farmer, One File Initiative. The Administration appreciates that the bill includes the requested level of $55 million for the One Farmer, One File Initiative, which would create a single, farmer-friendly, streamlined process to participate in USDA programs and significantly reduce administrative burden for farmers.

Farm Service Agency (FSA). As modern streamlined services make USDA programs more accessible, the FY 2027 Budget request proposed reducing the appropriated funding for FSA Salaries and Expenses (S&E). While the bill contains $153 million above the requested level, the Administration acknowledges the Committee's movement towards efficient program delivery utilizing modern technology.

Natural Resources Conservation Service. The Administration appreciates the Committee's step towards fiscal restraint by proposing a $50 million decrease from the FY 2026 enacted level. However, the Committee's proposed level still overfunds this program and is not aligned with the Administration's efforts to deliver conservation programs to American farmers and ranchers while leveraging all funding sources efficiently. The Administration looks forward to continuing to work with the Congress to minimize overhead and ensure that farmers get at least 70 percent of total conservation funding available for financial assistance.

Rural Development (RD). The Administration appreciates the Committee's funding level of $4.1 billion for RD, which includes priority programs such as the Water and Wastewater program and Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants. However, the Administration urges the Congress to reconsider the $399 million in earmarked community facility grants, as this funding could be redirected to provide the RD S&E funding level needed to deliver all the programs the Committee funded.

Relocation and Reorganization. The Administration is working to efficiently deliver USDA programs and services in rural locations across the Nation. The Administration urges the Congress to eliminate these provisions and remove the provision within FSA appropriations language that prevents closure of county offices. In addition, language within section 702 restricts the Administration's efforts to consolidate shared services within the Executive Branch. This restriction prevents the Executive Branch from providing the most cost-effective delivery of programs and services to the American public.

Restriction on Cost Share. The Administration seeks more funding for specialty crop competitiveness at the State and local levels while maintaining full funding at the Federal level for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. The Administration is disappointed that section 775 of the bill would limit the effectiveness of Federal funding by prohibiting cost share or matching requirements with the States and with the industry.

Food for Peace Title II Grants. While the Administration appreciates the bill's $300 million reduction from the FY 2026 enacted level for the Title II program, the FY 2027 Budget request proposed to fully eliminate this ineffective and wasteful program.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Stocking Standards. The Administration recently issued a final rule ensuring a broader variety of nutritious food is available to SNAP participants at authorized retailers across the Nation. In light of this rulemaking, the Administration urges the Congress to eliminate section 726 of the bill in order to support strong implementation of increased stocking standards to reduce fraud and improve nutrition.

Department of Health and Human Services—Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

FDA Topline. The Administration appreciates the Committee's FDA topline funding level of $3.4 billion, which is $60 million above the FY 2027 Budget request. This funding level would help keep food and medical products safe and support initiatives that Make America Healthy Again (MAHA). This funding level would also ensure that FDA's MAHA initiatives remove harmful chemicals from the food supply, develop innovative alternatives to animal testing, and strengthen FDA's inspection capability domestically and abroad.

Constitutional Concerns

Certain provisions of the bill raise separation of powers concerns, including by conditioning the Executive authority to take certain actions on receiving the approval of the House and Senate Committees and by preventing the President from recommending certain legislation to the Congress. The Administration looks forward to working with the Congress to address these and other concerns.

The Administration looks forward to working with the Congress to provide more input as the bill's legislative process unfolds.

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