

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: CS/SB 706

SPONSOR: Agriculture and Consumer Services Committee, Senator Mitchell and others

SUBJECT: Florida Commission on Federal and State Agricultural Relations

DATE: February 17, 1999 REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Akhavein</u>	<u>Poole</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>Favorable/CS</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

## I. Summary:

This bill creates the Florida Commission on Federal and State Agricultural Relations (commission) within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. It provides for the commission's membership and directs the members to coordinate efforts to maximize federal funding for Florida agricultural purposes. The bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture to submit an annual report on the actions of the commission.

## II. Present Situation:

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) currently employs a Federal/State Relations Director to monitor opportunities for federal grant support for agriculture and economic development in the state and to prepare grant requests as directed to gain access to federal funding. In fiscal year 1997-98, the department received \$11,397,650.36 in federal moneys to fund numerous programs, studies, and disaster relief.

The table below provides a list of the federal funds that the department received for fiscal year 1997-1998.

DACs Division	Federal Agency	Summary of Agreement	Federal Assistance Dollars
Administration	USDA	Assist with damages from El Nino weather event.	11,906.00
<b>Division Total</b>			<b>\$11,906.00</b>

Marketing	USDA DOACS	Assist with admin. expenses for the National School Lunch, Milk, Breakfast, Child & Adult Food Programs.	256,052.97 82,618.05
Marketing	USDA	Emergency Food Assistance Program	2,276,866.26

<b>DACS Division</b>	<b>Federal Agency</b>	<b>Summary of Agreement</b>	<b>Federal Assistance Dollars</b>
Marketing	USDA	Women, Infant & Children Program	37,023.33
Marketing	USDA	Economic Research Service - Study	14,648.59
Marketing	USDA	Provide food, water, & ice to those in need from damages incurred from the El Nino weather event.	16,118.00
Marketing	USDA	Economic Development Administration	4,709.50
Marketing	USDA	Model Oyster Education & Promotion Campaign	8,281.16
Marketing	USDA	AmeriCorps Farm Share	108,553.23

**Division Total            \$2,804,871.09**

Animal Industry	USDA/APHIS/VS	To conduct cooperative brucellosis program testing and related support services of the detection and eradication of the disease	1,198,881.76
Animal Industry	USDA/APHIS/VS	Subgrant from FEMA for damages as a result of the El Nino weather event	3,784.00

**Division Total            \$1,202,665.76**

Forestry	US Dept. of Interior	Florida Statewide Endangered & Threatened Plant Conservation Program	130,473.04
Forestry	US Forest Service	Cooperative Forestry Assistance	1,609,247.04
Forestry	US Forest Service	Forest Stewardship Program	490,954.62
Forestry	US Forest Service	Forestry Incentive Program	86,771.94
Forestry	US Small Business Admin.	Tree Planting Program	68,012.43
Forestry	US Dept. of Commerce	Public Safety: wild land fire behavior & computer-assisted dispatching	80,929.09
Forestry	USDA	To assist with damages as a result of the El Nino weather event	97,545.00
Forestry	US Forest Service	Assistance with Hurricane Andrew disaster	658,730.85

**Division Total            \$3,222,664.01**

Food Safety	USDA	Pesticide Data Program	929,079.39
Food Safety	US/PHS/FDA	Food Sanitation Inspections	38,641.77

DACS Division	Federal Agency	Summary of Agreement	Federal Assistance Dollars
Food Safety	USDA	Agriculture Market Services - Poultry Division	1,193,756.87
Food Safety	USDA	Meat and Poultry Inspection	1,065,643.16
<b>Division Total</b>			<b>\$3,227,121.19</b>

Plant Industry	USDA/ APHIS/PPQ	Imported fire ant	93,509.07
Plant Industry	USDA/ APHIS/PPQ	Brown Citrus Aphid survey	30,535.84
Plant Industry	USDA/ APHIS/PPQ	Caribbean Fruit Fly control	11,876.65
<b>Division Total</b>			<b>\$135,921.56</b>

Ag. Env. Serv.	EPA	Performance Partnership Agreement Grant for Pesticide Program	754,279.27
Ag. Env. Serv.	EPA	Study of the effects of pesticide on surface waters.	18,448.24
Ag. Env. Serv.	EPA	Establish a federal data regulatory program for pesticide record keeping.	19,773.24
<b>Division Total</b>			<b>\$792,500.75</b>

**Total Federal Funds \$11,397,650.36**

**III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

**Section 1.** Creates the Florida Commission on Federal and State Agricultural Relations (commission) within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Provides that the commission be composed of the following sixteen members:

- Two members of the Florida Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;
- Three members of the Florida House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- Eight residents of the state who are engaged in the agriculture business. The President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Governor, and the Commissioner of Agriculture shall each appoint two of the residents;
- Two members of the United States Congress requested to serve by the Commissioner of Agriculture; and
- The state executive director of the Farm Services Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture requested to serve by the Commissioner of Agriculture.
- The Commissioner of Agriculture shall serve as chair of the commission.

Provides that the members representing agricultural business interests be appointed to 4-year terms. Provides for members to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses and to receive no further compensation. Limits the funds provided for such expenses to a maximum of \$10,000 per year for the commission. Directs the members to coordinate efforts to maximize federal funding for Florida agricultural purposes. Requires the Commissioner of Agriculture to report annually to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the actions of the commission.

**Section 2.** Provides that this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The public would benefit from the programs and services that the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services could provide with increased federal funding.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill authorizes a maximum of \$10,000 per year to provide commission members with per diem and travel expenses.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.

---

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

---