

**CARET Executive Committee  
Budget & Advocacy Committee Liaison Report  
July 23, 2021**

**CARET/AHS FY22 Unified Ask Appropriations Request**

At the annual Joint AHS/CARET meeting, the budget recommendation from the Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC) for Fiscal Year 2022 was formerly presented. The recommendation was a \$100 million increase across the core priority areas, with an additional emphasis placed on the 1994 land-grants universities' programs. The "unified ask" requests at least an 8% increase in FY22 for core programs within USDA's National Institute of Food & Agriculture (NIFA): 1) Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI); 2) Smith-Lever; 3) Hatch Act; 4) Evans-Allen; 5) 1890 Extension; 6) McIntire-Stennis; 7) Extension Services at 1994 Institutions; 8) Payments to the 1994 Institutions; and 9) Research Grants for 1994 Institutions. As preparation for the Joint meeting, the AHS assembled a webinar called: [Effective Strategies for CARET and the Administrative Head Section](#). The video link is available at the [CARET Resources website](#).

**2021 Cornerstone Calls to Action**

"Call to Actions" from Cornerstone Government Affairs were sent to CARET that include the information for submitting appropriations requests to members of Congress. Resources are available at [land-grant.org](http://land-grant.org) and the [FY 2022 One-Pager](#).

- **March 9 - Congressional Virtual Meeting Follow-Up [Sent:** - Contact your members of your Congressional delegation, provide the BAA's FY 2022 one-pager, and request that they support an increase of \$100 million for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).
- **June 24 - Updated BAC FY 2022 Appropriations Request ([Updated FY 2022 One-Pager – attached](#))** Following the release of the President's Budget, the Policy Board of Directors approved BAC's recommendation to adjust the FY 2022 appropriations request to align with the priorities of this Administration. The new request increased funding for AFRI, Hatch, Evans-Allen, and McIntire-Stennis to mimic the President's Budget. It also increased the funding request for Smith-Lever and 1890 Extension to match the 27% increases for research funding the President's Budget included. CARETs were asked to contact their Senators to request the updated appropriations and deliver the updated FY 2022 one-pager.

Program	FY 2021 Enacted	FY 2022 Unified Ask	FY 2022 PBR	FY 2022 Updated Request
AFRI	\$435,000,000	\$470,000,000	\$700,000,000	<b>\$700,000,000</b>
Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)	\$315,000,000	\$340,000,000	\$315,000,000	<b>\$400,050,000</b>
Hatch Act	\$259,000,000	\$280,000,000	\$329,380,000	<b>\$329,380,000</b>
Evans-Allen	\$73,000,000	\$79,000,000	\$92,837,000	<b>\$92,837,000</b>
1890 Extension	\$62,000,000	\$67,000,000	\$62,000,000	<b>\$78,740,000</b>
McIntire-Stennis	\$36,000,000	\$39,000,000	\$45,783,000	<b>\$45,783,000</b>
1994 Extension Services	\$8,500,000	\$10,000,000	\$8,500,000	<b>\$10,000,000</b>
Payments to 1994 Institutions	\$4,500,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,500,000	<b>\$6,000,000</b>
1994 Research Grants	\$4,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,000,000	<b>\$6,000,000</b>

**CARET 'Call to Action' Coordination**

To improve advocacy impact, Cornerstone reached out to the regional CARET chairs requesting feedback from each region's CARET delegates and offer to help with delivering the FY 2022 appropriations ask and filling out any necessary forms. The feedback will be used to help reinforce our advocacy efforts and improve on our strategy in the future:

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- Were your universities successful in meeting with their Congressional delegation, delivering the one pager, and making the ask?
- Were there specific Members that were particularly interested and supportive of the request? If so, who?
- Were there any offices that sent appropriations request forms to be filled out and returned? If yes, who? If yes, do you need any assistance with filling out the form?
- Were there any problems?
- Is there anything APLU or Cornerstone can do to help with the process?

**Infrastructure Request**

The Agricultural Research Infrastructure Advocacy campaign was developed by the APLU BAA/Experiment Station Section (ESS) to support its infrastructure proposal. To date, ESS has engaged Congress and the administration to provide \$11.5 billion to over five years to update agricultural research facilities via a grant program administered through NIFA.

- The goal of research infrastructure improvement is to remain competitive in our agricultural and forestry research, as 69% of our facilities are at the end of their serviceable life.
- To remain competitive with many countries, the United States must make needed infrastructure investments as others such as China and Brazil become more aggressive in their public support.
- More information and advocacy tools are here: [Support Capital Infrastructure Investments at Colleges and Schools of Agriculture: Resources \(aplu.org\)](#)

A major priority is to secure funding for agricultural research infrastructure at colleges and schools of agriculture in an economic stimulus/recovery legislation. The campaign is supported by over [350 non-academic](#) agricultural stakeholder groups.

- In the spring, the President proposed the \$2T America Jobs Plan (AJP), with \$40B proposed for research infrastructure which mentions research facilities. The BAA's \$11.5B infrastructure proposal fits within this legislation. The AJP with suggested tax increases, which raised significant concerns for Republicans.
- Since the release of the AJP, a bipartisan package has been agreed to that does not include agriculture research infrastructure.
- The Senate Agriculture Committee Chair is encouraging Senate leadership to support agriculture research infrastructure in any infrastructure package moving forward.

**Additional Updates**

- *Food and Ag Climate Alliance Update* – Doug Steele has shared the positive opportunities for APLU to be a partner. Key topics of focus: National on Farm Soil Monitoring Systems partnerships with NRCS; Support Policy & Regulations regarding the Growing Climate Solutions Act; Carbon Bank. APLU's goal is to show the value of the land-grant system we have, to increase capacity funding or additional funding to take on these challenges and help.
- *Farm Bill* – The sections and COPs on the CLP have begun providing input and receiving feedback from their respective memberships to collect all the data and the ideas. This information will go through the CLP process making it into APLU proposal to the House and Senate Committees.
- *Strategic Realignment* – APLU BAA Strategic Realignment Implementation Committee submitted its final recommendation to the APLU BAA Budget and Advocacy Committee for Strategic Realignment Implementation.