

**COMPARISON OF SENATE PASSED FARM BILL, HOUSE PASSED FARM BILL,
AND 1985 Food Security Act (as amended by subsequent legislation/Farm Bills)**
(Summary below does not include all programs amended or added through the House and Senate Farm Bills)



Program	Senate-Passed Bill	House-Passed Bill	1985 Food Security Act as amended/current law
Agricultural Management Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20,000,000 each FY 2008-12 • Includes Idaho as eligible state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000,000 each FY 2008-12 • Adds Hawaii and Virginia as eligible states 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20,000,000 each FY 2003-07
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Conservation Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$165,000,000 for FY 2008-12 • Establishes under EQIP portion of Comprehensive Stewardship Incentives Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10 million for FY2008 • \$15 million for FY2009 • \$30 million for FY2010 • \$40 million for FY2011 • \$55 million for FY2012 • Requires a comprehensive plan for restoring, preserving and protecting the Chesapeake Bay watershed to improve water quality, restore, enhance and preserve habitat and increase economic opportunities for producers in rural communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No similar provision
Comprehensive Conservation Enhancement Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorizes and extends program through FY 2012 • Includes CRP, WRP, HFRP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to current language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established through the 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the 1990 Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act • Includes CRP, WRP, EQIP
Comprehensive Stewardship Incentives Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes for FY 2008-12 a working lands incentives program with two components (remain separate programs) • Program includes Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Conservation Stewardship Program (see descriptions under respective sections) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision
Conservation Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specifies that 10% of funds or acreage for each FY shall be used to assist beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers. • Provides for cooperative agreements to provide technical assistance, comprehensive conservation planning and sustainable agriculture training to socially disadvantaged or beginning farmers or ranchers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision

Program	Senate-Passed Bill	House-Passed Bill	1985 Food Security Act as amended/current law
Conservation Innovation Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Quality section under CSIP includes provision for 50% cost share grants for innovative conservation technologies and technology transfer. • Increased focus on specialty crops • (no funding level specified) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30 million in FY2008 • \$35 million in FY2009 • \$50 million in FY2010 • \$60 million in FY2011 • \$75 million in FY2012 • Includes \$5 million for a Chesapeake Bay pilot program for comprehensive conservation planning to help producers find cost effective strategies to address resource concerns. • Provides \$5 million for outreach to organic and specialty crop producers • Provides a total of \$150 million for air quality from totals above (varying amounts each year) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established through 1985 Food Security Act as amended by 2002 Farm Bill • (no funding level specified)
Conservation of Private Grazing Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes Appropriations \$60,000,000 each FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations \$60,000,000 each FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations \$60,000,000 each FY 2002-07
Conservation Reserve Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains maximum at 39.2 million acres • Adds the Prairie Pothole Region, the Grand Lake St. Mary's Watershed, and the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer as conservation priority areas. • Continues pilot program for wetlands and buffer acreage as eligible under CRP. • Managed harvesting of biomass and grazing provision for seasonal wildlife. • New subprograms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shallow water areas/wetlands, not more than 100,000 acres per state and 1,000,000 acres total ○ Flooded Farmland/Prairie Pothole, continuous signup ○ Wildlife Habitat program – for existing contract with softwood pine stands to improve wildlife habitat (5-year contracts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes 39.2 million acres to be enrolled through 2012. • Includes a new provision allowing retired landowners to modify CRP contracts if land is being transferred to a beginning, socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmer or rancher. This would allow a beginning or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher to return some or all of this land to sustainable grazing or crop production , continues payment for 2 additional years • Continues pilot program for wetlands and buffer acreage as eligible under CRP • Managed haying & grazing to include prescribed grazing to control invasive species and dryland crop production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39.2 million acres • Chesapeake Bay, Great Lakes and Long Island Sound are conservation priority areas • Pilot program for wetlands and buffer acreage in CRP

Program	Senate-Passed Bill	House-Passed Bill	1985 Food Security Act as amended/current law
Conservation Security Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits new or renewal of contracts after date of enactment of bill • Provides \$2,317,000,000 for existing contracts • Renames conservation stewardship program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new contracts FY 2008-2012 For contracts entered before Oct. 1, 2007: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,454,000,000 for FY 2007-2012 • \$1,927,000,000 for FY 2007-2017 For contracts entered Oct. 1, 2011 or after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$501,000,000 for FY 2012 • \$4,646,000,000 for FY 2012-2017 • Collapses the three tiered system and replaces the structure with an annual stewardship enhancement payment to compensate producers for new and ongoing implementation and maintenance of conservation practices and activities. • Allows for contract modification of existing contracts for farmers participating under the old CSP program. • \$150,000 contract payment limit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established through 1985 Food Security Act as amended by 2002 Farm Bill • Uncapped program as written in 2002 Farm Bill, but subsequently capped by budget reconciliations under the Agriculture Assistance Act of 2003.
Conservation Stewardship Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producer addressing resources of concern (soil & water) to stewardship threshold and agree to address additional resources on entire operation by the end of the contract • Enrolls 13,273,000 acres each FY • 79,638,000 acres over life of bill • Payment limit \$240,000 during any 6-year period • 5-year contract • Average cost per acre for program (including administration) - \$19 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to existing Conservation Security Program (see above)
Cooperative Conservation Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No similar provision. Senate instead revises Partnerships & Cooperation (see description under that section) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% for FY 2008-12 from allocations of specified programs (CSP, EQIP and WHIP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Partnerships and Cooperation
Discovery Watershed Demonstration Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes demonstration program to reduce nutrient runoff in small watersheds of the Upper Mississippi River Basin • Authorizes appropriations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision
Emergency Landscape Restoration Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations FY 2008-2012 • Technical assistance and cost share for lands affected by catastrophic events (flood, fire, drought, hurricanes & blizzards, etc) • Designed to replace ECP and EWP, NRCS to administer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to current language (ECP and EWP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency funding established currently under the Emergency Conservation Program (FSA) and Emergency Watershed Program (NRCS)

Program	Senate-Passed Bill	House-Passed Bill	1985 Food Security Act as amended/current law
Environmental Quality Incentives Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Quality Incentives Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cost-share and incentive payments ○ \$450,000 payment limitation for any 6-year period ○ Forestry management & conservation planning as eligible practices • Includes provisions for Conservation Innovation Grants, Organic Conversion, Ground and Surface Water Conservation & Chesapeake Bay • Provides priority for USDA loans for conservation practices if application is eligible for EQIP but not selected • Specifies eligibility requirement of at least \$15,000 in gross sales from farming, ranching, or forestry • \$1,270,000,000 each FY 2008-09 • \$1,300,000,000 each FY 2010-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1,250,000,000 FY 2008 • \$1,600,000,000 FY 2009 • \$1,700,000,000 FY 2010 • \$1,800,000,000 FY 2011 • \$2,000,000,000 FY 2012 • Includes promotion of forest management and energy conservation in program goals, while continuing to allocate 60% of funds for livestock production. • Expands the activities for which a producer can receive incentive payments to include technical services that will help fruit and vegetable producers access the program. • Gives priority to address State, regional or local resource concerns in the evaluation process for EQIP applications. • Allows for applications that address similar agriculture operations to be considered together. • Organic certification cost share & organic transition incentive payment provisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established through 1985 Food Security Act as amended by 1996 and 2002 Farm Bills • \$400 million in FY02 • \$700 million in FY03 • \$1 billion in FY04 • \$1.2 billion in FY05 • \$1.27 billion in FY06 • \$1.3 billion in FY07
Farmland Protection Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$97,000,000 each FY 2008-12 • Secretary shall enter into cooperative agreements with eligible entities for the entities to purchase permanent conservation easements or other interests in eligible lands • Limits amount available for easement cost share to 50% of appraised fair market value. • Provides ability to enter into cooperative agreements for purchase of easements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$125,000,000 FY 2008 • \$150,000,000 FY 2009 • \$200,000,000 FY 2010 • \$240,000,000 FY 2011 • \$280,000,000 FY 2012 • Formally renames program to Farm and Ranchland Protection Program • Clarifies eligibility definitions – removes requirement for prime, unique or productive soils, but allows those soils to have priority in the program • Secretary may make grants to certified states based on demonstrated need for farm and ranchland protection • Allows for agreements with eligible entities to purchase easements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act with amendments in the 1996 and 2002 Farm Bills • \$50 million in FY02 • \$100 million in FY03 • \$125 million in FY04 • \$125 million in FY05 • \$100 million in FY06 • \$97 million in FY07
Farm Viability Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations for FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations for FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act as amended the 2002 Farm Bill

Program	Senate-Passed Bill	House-Passed Bill	1985 Food Security Act as amended/current law
Grassland Reserve Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$240,000,000 total for FY 2008-2012 • Provides for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 30 year contracts ○ 30 year conservation easements ○ Permanent easements • Provision for inclusion of CRP land if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High ecological value ○ Significant threat of conversion to other uses absent CRP contract. • Maximum CRP enrollment of 10 percent of funding, no duplicate payments • Technical Assistance and restoration agreement provisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,340,000 acres during FY2008-2012 • Extends the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), which offers landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance grasslands on their property. • Allows for third-party ownership, negotiation and enforcement in GRP. • Places an emphasis on long-term benefits for grasslands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the 2002 Farm Bill • \$254 million through FY 2007
Grassroots Sourcewater Protection Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations of \$20,000,000 FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations of \$20,000,000 each FY 2008-12 • One-time infusion of funds, \$10 million, until expended. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the 2002 Farm Bill • \$5,000,000 FY 2002-07
Great Lakes Basin Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations of \$5,000,000 each FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations of \$5,000,000 each FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the 2002 Farm Bill • \$5,000,000 each FY 2002-07
Ground and Surface Water Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under EQIP through 2012 • Expanded program • \$65,000,000 each year FY08-12 • Adds fish and wildlife habitat associated with irrigation systems as allowed • Provides opportunities for partnership agreements • Provides for regional water conservation activities (different than Regional Water Enhancement Projects – below) • Adds \$2,000,000 for the Snake Plain Aquifer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes current Ground and Surface Water Program, replaces it with Regional Water Enhancement Program (see detail below). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the 2002 Farm Bill • \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; • \$45,000,000 for fiscal year 2003; and • \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007; and • \$50,000,000 to carry out water conservation activities in Klamath Basin, California and Oregon
Healthy Forest Reserve Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moves program under Conservation Title of 1985 Food Security Act (this matters for funding of other programs) • Provides for 10-year cost share, 30-year easements and permanent easements • Provision for Tribal participation through 30-year contracts, 10-year agreements, or a combination. • Authorizes appropriations • Removes maximum acreage enrollment limit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to current language • Program extended under Forestry Title, providing \$17,000,000 each FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Established under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003</i>
Highly Erodible Lands (HEL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides for graduated penalties for non-compliance with conservation plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to current language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established under 1985 Food Security Act and amended in the 1990, 1996 and 2002 Farm Bills

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Muck Soils Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes appropriations of \$50,000,000 each FY 2008-12 • Establishes program to conserve and improve the soil, water, and wildlife resources of muck land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision
Organic Conversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides cost-share for conversion to organic production under EQIP • Eligible practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Consistent with organic conversion plan ◦ Protects resources of concern • 3-4 year contracts • \$20,000 per year, max of \$80,000 per contract 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisions for organic certification cost share, and organic transition incentive payments in EQIP • Contains separate Organic Title 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No similar provision
Partnerships and Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects can be designated to enhance assistance to multiple producers to address conservation issues • Includes Regional Water Enhancement Program (see description below) • Funded at no more than 10% of all conservation programs under Subtitle D of the Conservation Title (CRP, WRP, CSP, FRPP, GRP, WHIP, public access) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes current Partnerships and Cooperation language • See Cooperative Conservation Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the 2002 Farm Bill • Funded at no more than 5% of all conservation programs under Subtitle D of the Conservation Title (CRP, WRP, CSP, FRPP, GRP, WHIP)
Pilot Program for 4-year Peanut Crop Rotations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000,000 each FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision
Regional Water Enhancement Projects/Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No similar stand alone provision – Established under Partnerships and Cooperation (there are also regional water provisions in ground & surface water program) • Allows for multi-year agreements with eligible partners (NGOs, state/local government, Tribes, farmer cooperatives, institutes of higher education, producer associations, or water/wastewater agencies of states) • Competitive agreements – up to 5 years • Up to 10% of funding for all conservation programs can be used for partnerships and cooperation (includes Regional Water Enhancement) • Identifies priority areas: Chesapeake Bay, Upper Mississippi, Everglades, Klamath, Sacramento/San Joaquin River, Mobile River basin, Puget Sound, Ogallala Aquifer, Illinois River Watershed, Champlain Basin, Platte River Watershed, Republican River Watershed, Chattahoochee River Watershed, and Rio Grande 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates new program and funds at \$60 million per year from 2008-12. • Allows grants based on partnership proposals between the Secretary and agriculture producers, producer associations, state or unit of local government or Tribe to improve regional water quality or quantity in priority areas, including the Chesapeake Bay, Klamath, Everglades, Sacramento River watershed and Upper Mississippi River Basin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Similar Provision

	Watershed.		
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Program	Senate-Passed Bill	House-Passed Bill	1985 Food Security Act as amended/current law
Small Watershed Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes such sums as are necessary to carry out this section FY 2008-2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50 million per year FY2009-2012 in mandatory funding • Authorizes additional appropriations until expended at \$85 million per year FY2007-2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Program established under Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act as amended</i> • Funding provided in the 2002 Farm Bill • Mandatory funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$45,000,000 FY 2003 ○ \$50,000,000 FY 2004 ○ \$55,000,000 FY 2005 ○ \$60,000,000 FY 2006 ○ \$65,000,000 FY 2007 ○ \$0 for fiscal year 2008 • Authorizing Appropriations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$45 million for FY03 ○ \$55 million for FY04 ○ \$65 million for FY05 ○ \$75 million for FY06 ○ \$85 million for FY07
Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20,000,000 each FY 2008-12 • State & tribal grants to encourage owners of private farmland, rangeland & forest land to voluntarily make land available for access by the public for wildlife-dependent recreation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides grants to states and Tribes to encourage farmers to make land available for access by the public for wildlife recreation (hunting & fishing) • Authorizes appropriations \$20 million per year Fiscal Year 2008-2012 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No similar provision
Wetland Reserve Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250,000 acres in each fiscal year through 2012. • Establishes Wetlands Reserve Enhancement • Includes following provisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ permanent easements ○ 30-year easements ○ Restoration cost share agreements • Provision for Tribal participation through 30-year contracts • Revises methods for determining compensation, lower of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fair market value based on Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practices or area-wide market analysis ○ Geographic cap ○ Landowner offer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total enrollment not to exceed 3,605,000 acres • Annual enrollment goal of 250,000 acres • With new acreage maximums, language adds 1.33 million acres to the program, • Provides option for up to 10,000 acres of floodplain easements each year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under Food Security Act of 1985 as amended by the 1990 Farm Bill, with additional amendments in 1996 and 2002. • Total enrollment not to exceed 2,275,000 acres • Annual enrollment up to 250,000 acres

Program	Senate-Passed Bill	House-Passed Bill	1985 Food Security Act as amended/current law
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$85,000,000 each FY 2008-12 • Adds incentive payments • Increases WHIP funding available for increased cost share on 15-year agreements from 15 to 25% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$85 million each FY 2008-12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program established under 1985 Food Security Act as amended by 2002 Farm Bill • \$15 million FY02 • \$30 million FY03 • \$60 million FY04 • \$85 million FY05 • \$85 million FY06 • \$85 million FY07

Additional Provisions:

Agriculture Conservation Experienced Services Program

Senate – authorizes program with use of EQIP and CTA funds

Delivery of technical assistance

Senate – provides additional provisions and requirements for technical service providers, adds specialty crops emphasis

House – called ‘improved provision of technical assistance under conservation programs’, clarifies third-party contracts or payments to third parties can be used for TA, sets payment amounts at no less than prevailing market rates (with exceptions), emphasizes assistance for specialty crop producers

Regional Equity

House and Senate increases to \$15,000,000 per state. Under 1985 Food Security Act as amended by the 2002 Farm Bill, \$12,000,000 per state

Payment Limitations

Senate – CSP \$240,000 over the life of the contract, the rest of the program limits remain the same. \$1,000,000-750,000 AGI for commodity programs; \$2,500,000 AGI for conservation programs

House – creates at \$60,000 per year limit from a single conservation program, Direct attribution; \$125,000 per year from more than one program (WRP, GRP and FRPP exempt); Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Cap: \$1 million

2002 Farm Bill provisions were program specific with an AGI of \$2.5 million:

AMA - \$50,000 per year

CRP \$50,000 per year

CSP \$20,000 tier 1; \$35,000 tier 2; \$45,000 tier 3 (all per year)

WRP \$50,000 per year (30 year and perpetual easements exempt)

EQIP \$450,000 up to 6 years

No current cap for Farmland protection (50% of easement), GRP or WHIP