

SFY 2011-2012 Subcommittee on Environment, Agriculture, Housing

To: Senate Majority Leader Dean G. Skelos, Co-Chair
Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Co-Chair
Joint General Conference Committee

From: Senator George D. Maziarz, Co-Chair
Member of Assembly Vito Lopez, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Environment, Agriculture, Housing

Subject: Detailed Report of the Subcommittee on Environment, Agriculture, Housing

Date: 3/23/11

On March 23, 2011, the Environment, Agriculture, Housing Subcommittee completed its work. We are pleased to present this report which provides detail on all the budget changes agreed to by the Subcommittee, including the specific allotment of the Subcommittee's allocation of \$15 million.

The Subcommittee reached agreement on spending levels and Article VII proposals for the agencies under the jurisdiction of this subcommittee as follows:

Department of Agriculture and Markets
Department of Environmental Conservation
Environmental Facilities Corporation
Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
Greenway Heritage Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley
Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council
Division of Housing and Community Renewal
State of New York Mortgage Agency

The Subcommittee apportioned the \$15 million General Fund allocation as follows:

- \$4,238,794 for the Neighborhood Preservation Program (\$150,000 of which shall be allocated to the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition)
- \$1,769,206 for the Rural Preservation Program (\$150,000 of which shall be allocated to the Rural Preservation Coalition)
- \$2,400,000 for Navigation Law reimbursement to counties
- \$2,000,000 for a two-year moratorium on marine recreational fishing fees
- \$1,221,000 for the Farm Viability Institute
- \$713,000 for the Wine and Grape Foundation
- \$500,000 for Cornell Integrated Pest Management
- \$411,000 for Pro Dairy (State Operations)
- \$384,000 for Farm Net (Farm Family Assistance)
- \$340,000 for Local Fairs Promotion
- \$300,000 for Northern NY Agriculture Development
- \$206,000 for the NY State Apple Growers Association
- \$200,000 for Community Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- \$200,000 for Conditional Shellfish Harvesting program
- \$192,000 for Future Farmers of America (FFA)
- \$150,000 for the Center for Dairy Excellence

- \$128,000 for the Geneva Experimental Station Seed Lab
- \$100,000 for the Tractor Rollover Program
- \$100,000 for Cornell Rabies
- \$100,000 for Long Island Rabies
- \$100,000 for the Maple Producers
- \$100,000 for Historic Homes
- \$80,000 for Agriculture in the Classroom
- \$66,000 for the Association of Agriculture Educators
- \$62,000 Golden Nematode program at Cornell


Some of the programs listed above will be funded from the \$1,061,000 appropriation, which would have funded the Competitive Agricultural Development and Promotion Grant Program.

The Subcommittee resolved the following Article VII issues:

- Accept the Executive's Share NY Food Initiative
- Amend the Executive's Competitive Agricultural Development and Promotion Grant Program and the related lump-sum appropriation in favor of discrete funding for programs receiving Aid to Localities appropriations;
- Amend the Executive's proposal to make pesticide product fees and registration permanent by extending for three years until July 1, 2014;
- Extend the New York State Diesel Emissions Reduction Act compliance deadline for two years until December 31, 2012;
- Repeal the State Marine Saltwater Fishing License and fee for two years; establish a two-year free registry; and refund lifetime marine license fees;
- Reject the Executive's proposal to merge the Neighborhood and Rural Preservation Programs;
- Authorize the existing allocation balances in the Catskill Flood Remediation Home Buyout Program to be used for flood remediation activities within Ulster County;
- Reject the Executive's proposal to discontinue payments to counties from the I Love NY Waterways Account.

The Subcommittee agreed to the following capital allocations:

- reprogrammed \$6.4 million for the Public Housing Modernization Program as follows:
 - increased the Access to Homes Program by \$1 million;
 - increased the Main Street Program by \$2.2 million; and,
 - increased the Low Income Housing Trust Fund by \$3.2 million;
- funded the Environmental Protection Fund at \$134 million


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