

AGRICULTURE-RELATED LEGISLATION

[Agricultural Value-Added Tax Credit](#)

State Name: Colorado

Citation(s): C.R.S. 39-22-527 -- Agricultural value-added tax credit

Description: Provides tax credit for the value-added agricultural activities and revenue.

[Colorado Agricultural Value-Added Development Board](#)

State Name: Colorado

Citation(s): C.R.S. 35-75-203

Description: The Colorado agricultural value-added development board encourages and promotes agricultural business projects that add value to agricultural products and aid the economies of rural communities.

[Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 570.244

Description: Facilitates economic growth through the development of agribusinesses such as value-added processing plants and associated enterprises using raw products which are produced in the state.

[Agricultural Products Promotion Bill](#)

State Name: Idaho

Citation(s): Idaho Code and 22-112

Description: Adds to existing law to authorize the Department of Agriculture to promulgate rules in compliance with chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, for the purpose of assisting others in the domestic and international promotion and certification of Idaho agricultural products.

[AgriFIRST](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: AgriFIRST, under Illinois Department of Agriculture, allocates grants to foster innovation and profitability for the state's agriculture industry. Farmers and agriculture-related businesses receive AgriFIRST grants to create additional uses for commodities and increase profitability. The Two types of grants are technical assistance grants, which cover up to 75 percent of the cost of developing a value-added project, and competitive assessment grants, which pay for up to 50 percent of the cost of feasibility studies, business and marketing plans, technical advice, and other types of financial assistance necessary for starting or expanding food and fiber business ventures.

[Governor's Rural Affairs Council](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: The governor's Rural Affairs Council was created in 1986 to develop and implement a comprehensive state policy for rural development. Today, it also serves as a liaison among several state boards, commissions, agencies, departments, and institutions to improve planning and delivery of all programs and services for rural Illinois. The Lieutenant Governor is the chairman. Moreover, one of the valuable functions of the Council is promoting and organizing public-private partnerships to improve the quality of life in rural Illinois.

[Illinois Finance Authority](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: The Illinois Finance Authority was created to assist smaller units of local government throughout the state obtain access to capital, reduced interest rates, and lower financing costs for public projects. It can help local government finance public capital improvement projects, refinance existing debt, or raise short-term working cash. Illinois Finance Authority can provide capital for entire projects or matching funds for projects that include water or sewer systems, school construction, fire protection equipment, correctional facilities, park improvements, streets and roads, airports, and library projects.

[Illinois Value-Added Rural Development Center \(IVARDC\)](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: IVARDC builds relationships between production agriculture, agribusiness leaders, economic development professionals, and the scientific community to create new economic development through value-added agribusiness opportunities. IVARDC programs are designed to link agricultural producers with agriculture and economic development agencies at the federal level to spur economic development.

[Value-Added Agriculture](#)

State Name: Iowa

Citation(s): Iowa Code @ 15.333

Description: Relates to tax credits and associated refunds for cooperatives engaged in the production of value-added agricultural products.

[Sugar Beet Grower's Loan](#)

State Name: Michigan

Citation(s):

Description: Relates to agriculture; provides for loans to sugar beet growers' cooperatives for the purpose of purchasing the assets of 1 or more agricultural processors if certain conditions are met.

[Distiller's Permits](#)

State Name: Mississippi

Citation(s):

Description: Revises the privilege license tax required for a manufacturer's permit, class 1 distiller's permit for a person who produces a product with at least 51% of the finished product by volume being obtained from alcoholic fermentation of grapes, fruits, berries, honey or vegetables grown and produced in the state and who produces all of such product by using not more than one still having a maximum capacity of 100 liters.

[Higher Education Applied Projects](#)

State Name: Missouri

Citation(s): § 173.545 R.S.Mo. (2003)

Description: Sets up a special fund in the department of economic development to be directed towards applied academic research. 50% of the fund must annually go to projects that impact rural communities (such as value-added agriculture).

[The Missouri Value-Added Loan Guarantee Program](#)

State Name: Missouri

Citation(s):

Description: Provides loan guarantees for lenders financing projects related to value-added agriculture programs.

[Montana Growth Through Agriculture Act](#)

State Name: Montana

Citation(s): Mont. Code Anno., § 90-9

Description: Establishes a public-private sector partnership that encourages agribusiness, especially through seed capital and export assistance programs.

[Agricultural Opportunities and Value-Added Partnerships Act](#)

State Name: Nebraska

Citation(s): R.R.S. Neb. § 2-5401

Description: Requires the Departments of Agriculture and Economic Development to provide grants of up to \$75,000 annually for value-added agriculture projects.

[Application for Ethanol Production Incentive Payment](#)

State Name: South Dakota

Citation(s): S.D. Codified Laws 10-47B-163

Description: Any ethanol producer who intends to file for an ethanol production incentive payments shall first apply to the secretary on prescribed forms and obtain an ethanol producer license issued by the department.

[The Wyoming Processing Cooperative Law](#)

State Name: Wyoming

Citation(s): Wyo. Stat. And 17-10-201 to 17-10-253

Description: Provides for processing cooperative marketing associations and for requirements for the organization, for agricultural purposes.

[Arizona Grown](#)

State Name: Arizona

Citation(s):

Description: Arizona Grown is a licensed trademark of the Arizona Department of Agriculture and is used to differentiate the high quality food and fiber products raised in the Grand Canyon state. It is used to increase consumption and use of locally grown agricultural products.

[Mandatory Testing for BSE for All Beef-Based Products Sold in California](#)

State Name: California

Citation(s): S.B. 1425

Description: Requires mandatory testing for BSE for all beef-based products sold in California. The bill also stipulates imposing strict record-keeping requirements on meat processors to keep track of every slaughtered animal.

[Meat Safety Bill](#)

State Name: California

Citation(s): S.B. 1585

Description: Creates a three-part process for public notification during a meat recall, requiring meat distributors to notify the state Department of Health Services of all locations that received tainted product.

[Agricultural Lands and Practices Act](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 163.3162

Description: The legislation mandates that a county may not exercise any of its powers to adopt any ordinance, resolution, regulation, rule, or policy to prohibit, restrict, regulate, or otherwise limit an activity of a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461, if such activity is regulated through implemented best management practices, interim measures, or regulations developed by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district and adopted under chapter 120 as part of a statewide or regional program; or if such activity is expressly regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, or the United States Environmental Protection Agency. When an activity of a farm operation takes place within a wellfield protection area as defined in any wellfield protection ordinance adopted by a county, and the implemented best management practice, regulation, or interim measure does not specifically address wellfield protection, a county may regulate that activity pursuant to such ordinance.

[Agriculture Education and Promotion Facility](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 288.1175

Description: The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall certify a facility as an agriculture education and promotion facility if the department determines that certain criteria are met. "Agriculture Education and Promotion Facility" means an exhibition hall, arena, civic center, exposition center, or other capital project or facility which can be used for exhibitions, demonstrations, trade shows, classrooms, civic events, and other purposes that promote agriculture, horticulture, livestock, equestrian, and other resources of the state and educate the residents as to these resources.

[Classification and Assessment of Agricultural Lands](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 193.461

Description: The legislation mandates that the property appraiser shall, on an annual basis, classify for assessment purposes all lands within the county as either agricultural or nonagricultural. Any landowner whose land is denied agricultural classification by the property appraiser may appeal to the value adjustment board. The property appraiser shall notify the landowner in writing of the denial of agricultural classification on or before July 1 of the year for which the application was filed. The notification shall advise the landowner of his or her right to appeal to the value adjustment board and of the filing deadline. The board may also review all lands classified by the property appraiser upon its own motion. The property appraiser shall have available at his or her office a list by ownership of all applications received showing the acreage, the full valuation under s. 193.011, the valuation of the land under the provisions of this section, and whether or not the classification requested was granted.

[Florida Right to Farm Act](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 823.14

Description: The Legislature finds that agricultural activities conducted on farm land in urbanizing areas are potentially subject to lawsuits based on the theory of nuisance and that these suits encourage and even force the premature removal of the farm land from agricultural use. This act protects reasonable agricultural activities conducted on farm land from nuisance suits. No farm operation which has been in operation for 1 year or more since its established date of operation and which was not a nuisance at the time of its established date of operation shall be a public or private nuisance if the farm operation conforms to generally accepted agricultural and management practices.

[Local Government Comprehensive Planning Certification Program](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 163.3246

Description: The legislation creates the Local Government Comprehensive Planning Certification Program to be administered by the Department of Community Affairs. The purpose of the program is to create a certification process for local governments who identify a geographic area for certification within which they commit to directing growth and who, because of a demonstrated record of effectively adopting, implementing, and enforcing its comprehensive plan, the level of technical planning experience exhibited by the local government, and a commitment to implement exemplary planning practices, require less state and regional oversight of the comprehensive plan amendment process. The purpose of the certification area is to designate areas that are contiguous, compact, and appropriate for urban growth and development within a 10-year planning timeframe. Municipalities and counties are encouraged to jointly establish the certification area, and subsequently enter into joint certification agreement with the department.

[Mapping and Monitoring of Agricultural Lands](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 604.006

Description: The intent of this legislation is to make available current and continuously updated information on the state's agricultural land base to all governmental bodies in the state, so that it may be established whether a net decline in the amount of available agricultural land is occurring. The Department of Community Affairs is tasked with developing a program for mapping and monitoring the agricultural lands in the state. The department has the power to adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, and it may contract with other agencies for the provision of necessary mapping and information services.

[Nonresidential Farm Buildings](#)

State Name: Florida

Citation(s): Fla. Stat. 604.50

Description: The Legislation exempts any nonresidential farm building from the Florida Building Code and any county or municipal building code.

[Conservation 2000 – Conservation Practices Program](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: Conservation Practice Program provides cost-sharing assistance and financial incentives to eligible landowners for two major purposes; one is the construction of conservation practices that conserve soil and protect water quality by reducing sheet, rill, ephemeral, or gully erosion on cropland. Another purpose is the implementation of nutrient management conservation practices that protect water quality in high-priority, eligible watersheds of the state.

[Conservation 2000 - Sustainable Agriculture Grant Program](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: The sustainable agriculture is playing an increasingly important role in maintaining agricultural productivity and protecting natural resources. The term "sustainable agriculture" refers to any environment protection management system that controls soil erosion, keeps pollutants out of surface and groundwater, and employs only those pest control systems that are not harmful to natural systems, farmers, their neighbors, or consumers.

[Equine Research and Promotion Act](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s): Public Act No. 93-135

Description: Authorizes a horse feed check off program and establishes guidelines for the formation of the Illinois Equine Research and Promotion Board.

[Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Illinois University](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: The Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs is designed to improve the quality of life in rural areas by developing public-private partnerships with local agencies on community development projects in rural areas.

[Illinois Products Logo Program](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s):

Description: Having noted the recent trend of growing consumer demand for products grown and marketed in their own state, Illinois Department of Agriculture established the Logo Program to help identify Illinois food and agrobusiness products. Participation in the program is free -- participants are encouraged to help promote the idea of Illinois Products by using the logo on their packaging or promotional items.

[Illinois Renewable Fuels Development Program](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s): PUBLIC ACT 93-15

Description: The Department must develop and administer the Illinois Renewable Fuels Development Program to assist in the construction, modification, alteration, or retrofitting of renewable fuel plants in Illinois. The recipient of a grant under this Section must: (1) be constructing, modifying, altering, or retrofitting a plant in the State of Illinois; (2) be constructing, modifying, altering, or retrofitting a plant that has annual production capacity of no less than 30,000,000 gallons of renewable fuel per year; and (3) enter into a project labor agreement as prescribed by Section 25 of this Act.

[Vehicles Powered by Agricultural Commodity-Based Fuel](#)

State Name: Illinois

Citation(s): 30 ILCS 500/45-60

Description: Vehicles powered by agricultural commodity-based fuel. In awarding contracts requiring the procurement of vehicles, preference may be given to an otherwise qualified bidder or offeror who will fulfill the contract through the use of vehicles powered by ethanol produced from Illinois corn or biodiesel fuels produced from Illinois soybeans.

[Biodiesel Production Tax Credit](#)

State Name: Indiana

Citation(s): Burns Ind. Code Ann. @ 6-3.1-27-8

Description: a) A taxpayer that produces biodiesel at a facility located in Indiana is entitled to a credit against the taxpayer's state tax liability equal to the product of: (1) one dollar (\$ 1); multiplied by (2) the number of gallons of biodiesel: (A) produced at the Indiana facility during the taxable year; and (B) used to produce blended biodiesel. (b) The credit provided by this section shall be reduced by any credit or subsidy that the taxpayer is entitled to receive from the federal government for the production of biodiesel by the taxpayer. (c) The total amount of credits allowed under this section may not exceed one million dollars (\$ 1,000,000) for all taxpayers and all taxable years.

[Blended Biodiesel Tax Credit](#)

State Name: Indiana

Citation(s): Burns Ind. Code Ann. @ 6-3.1-27-9

Description: (a) A taxpayer that produces blended biodiesel at a facility located in Indiana is entitled to a credit against the taxpayer's state tax liability equal to the product of: (1) two cents (\$ 0.02); multiplied by (2) the number of gallons of blended biodiesel: (A) produced at the Indiana facility; and (B) blended with biodiesel produced at a facility located in Indiana. (b) The credit provided by this section shall be reduced by any credit or subsidy that the taxpayer is entitled to receive from the federal government for the production of blended biodiesel by the taxpayer. (c) The total amount of credits allowed under this section may not exceed one million dollars (\$ 1,000,000) for all taxpayers and all taxable years.

[Credit for Dealers that Sell Biodiesel Through the Metered Pump](#)

State Name: Indiana

Citation(s): Burns Ind. Code Ann. @ 6-3.1-27-10

Description: (a) A taxpayer that: (1) is a dealer; and (2) operates a service station in Indiana at which blended biodiesel is sold and dispensed through a metered pump in a taxable year; is entitled to a credit against the taxpayer's state tax liability. (b) The amount of the credit allowed under this section is the product of: (1) one cent (\$ 0.01); multiplied by (2) the total number of gallons of blended biodiesel sold and dispensed through all the metered pumps located at a service station described in subsection (a)(2). (c) The credit allowed under this section must be computed separately for each service station operated by the taxpayer that meets the requirements of subsection (a)(2). (d) The total amount of credits allowed under this section may not exceed one million dollars (\$ 1,000,000) for all taxpayers and all taxable years.

[Biodiesel Fuel Revolving Fund](#)

State Name: Iowa

Citation(s): Iowa Code @ 307.20

Description: 1. A biodiesel fuel revolving fund is created in the state treasury. The biodiesel fuel revolving fund shall be administered by the department and shall consist of moneys received from the sale of EPA credits banked by the department on April 19, 2001, moneys appropriated by the general assembly, and any other moneys obtained or accepted by the department for deposit in the fund. Moneys in the fund are appropriated to and shall be used by the department for the purchase of biodiesel fuel for use in department vehicles. The department shall submit an annual report not later than January 31 to the members of the general assembly and the legislative fiscal bureau, of the expenditures made from the fund during the preceding fiscal year. Section 8.33 does not apply to any moneys in the fund and, notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, earnings or interest on moneys deposited in the fund shall be credited to the fund. 2. A department motor vehicle operating on biodiesel fuel shall be affixed with a brightly visible sticker that notifies the traveling public that the motor vehicle uses biodiesel fuel.

[Criminal Trespass Law](#)

State Name: Louisiana

Citation(s): La. R.S. 14:63.9

Description: No person shall intentionally enter upon immovable property owned by another and in use as agricultural land for the production of row crops without the written permission of the owner or the lessee of the property

[False Statements Related to Forest Products](#)

State Name: Louisiana

Citation(s): L.A. R.S. 14:212(A)

Description: Prohibits making false statements with regard to ownership interests in the land on which forest products are harvested

[Farmers' Institutes](#)

State Name: Louisiana

Citation(s): La. R.S. 3:303

Description: The commissioner shall make rules and regulations for organizing and conducting the institutes, and may call on the president of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College to furnish one or more lecturers from the faculty or student body, whose traveling expenses shall be paid going to or returning from the institute work. The commissioner may also employ lecturers, male or female, at nominal salaries and traveling expenses while so employed, to perform duties in connection with institute work. The course of instruction at institutes shall be so arranged as to present to those in attendance the results of the most recent investigations in practical and scientific agriculture.

[Master Farmer Program](#)

State Name: Louisiana

Citation(s): L.A. R.S. 3:304

Description: Provides for certification and the promulgation of rules and regulations. Provides for requirements for certification and maintaining certification and other related matters

[Theft of Livestock Law](#)

State Name: Louisiana

Citation(s): La. R.S. 14:67.1

Description: The theft of livestock is the misappropriation or taking of livestock belonging to another, either without the consent of the other to the misappropriation or taking, or by fraudulent conduct, practices, or representations.

[Agricultural Awareness Program](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): 7 M.R.S. § 241 (2003)

Description: The Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources is authorized to produce audio-visual materials, facilitate public service programming, prepare written materials, organize a speakers' bureau and otherwise educate the public. The commissioner, in carrying out these duties, shall address the following needs: maintaining a lasting and sustainable agriculture; protecting our critical rural infrastructures; guaranteeing continued and effective production and marketing of fresh fruits, vegetables and livestock; preserving prime farmland; conserving our soils and water; and generally ensuring the quality of life in rural Maine. Other aspects of the awareness program are described in the statute.

[Agricultural Internship and Training](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): 7 M.R.S. § 222 (2003)

Description: The Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources is authorized to conduct studies and otherwise gather, maintain and disseminate information concerning farmland transfers, availability of farm labor, existence of farm internship and training programs, persons desiring to participate in that training, farmers retiring or otherwise ceasing farming operations, persons desiring to enter farming or associated employment and all other information deemed necessary to carry out this chapter. Other duties are described in the statute.

[An Act Regarding Penalties Assessed by the Bureau of Forestry](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): Public Law 2003, Chapter 694.

Description: Enacts a civil penalty for a violation of rules adopted to substantially eliminate liquidation harvesting. A person who violates the rule is subject to fines that may be increased for a second violation within a 5-year period. Alternatively, maximum fines may be increased to reflect the economic benefit realized from the violation.

[An Act to Encourage the Future of Maine's Dairy Industry](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): Public Law 2003, Chapter 648

Description: Chapter 648 establishes two programs to stabilize the prices paid to dairy farmers for their milk. Under the tiered program a target price is established for each of three levels of production to reflect short-run break-even points within each tier. Payments are distributed for each month in which the base price was less than the target price. The second payment program, the Maine Milk Income Loss Contract, provides for payments to Maine dairy farmers whose annual production exceeds the cap under the federal Milk Income Loss Contract. These farmers are eligible to receive a payment for production over the federal cap until annual production reaches 5,000,000 pounds.

[Maine Farms for the Future Program](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): 7 M.R.S. § 317 (2003)

Description: The Maine Farms for the Future Program provides a selected farm with assistance in developing a detailed business plan that involves changes in the farm's operation to increase the vitality of the farm and investment money to help implement the plan. The department organizes a review panel to evaluate and approve applications for participation in the program and for investment support.

[Rural Rehabilitation Operating Fund](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): 7 M.R.S. § 2 (2003)

Description: Provides operating expenses for the Maine Department of Agriculture's Rural Rehabilitation Trust Fund. The fund uses interest income from a previous Federal grant to provide need-based college scholarships to students in agriculture-related fields.

[Special Programs](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): 7 M.R.S. § 307

Description: The Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources is authorized to contract directly with the University of Maine System for market research, testing new technologies and for research on pressing, short-term technical problems related to the production, marketing, storage and processing of agricultural commodities.

[The Agricultural Development Fund](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): 7 M.R.S. § 306-A

Description: The Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources is authorized to provide grants to individuals, firms or organizations to conduct market research or to undertake market promotion activities for the purpose of expanding existing markets and developing new markets for state agricultural products; and to test and demonstrate new technologies related to the production, storage and processing of state agricultural commodities.

[The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources](#)

State Name: Maine

Citation(s): 7 M.R.S. § 1 (2003)

Description: The Legislature finds there has been a dramatic increase of interest in rural living and small and part-time farming; that a high proportion of the population in rural areas is poor, elderly and underemployed; agriculture is significant to the State's economy and that a prospering, stable rural community contributes to the rural quality of life, the preservation of productive farm, farmlands and open space. Based on these findings, the Legislature establishes the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for the improvement of agriculture and the advancement of the interests of husbandry.

[Maryland Agricultural and Resource Based Industry Development Corporation](#)

State Name: Maryland

Citation(s): Chapter 467

Description: Establishing the Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation for specified purposes; authorizing the Corporation to acquire and dispose of property, to finance specified projects, to issue, redeem, and secure bonds and debt, including revenue bonds and refunding bonds; etc. Designed to operate as a public corporation, MARBIDCO will have several responsibilities: 1) develop agricultural industries and markets; 2) support appropriate commercialization of agricultural processes and technology; and 3) alleviate the shortage of nontraditional capital and credit available at affordable interest rates for investment in agriculture and resource based businesses.

[Tax Credits for Using Renewable Energy](#)

State Name: Massachusetts

Citation(s): Mass. Ann. Laws Ch. 62 @ 6

Description: Any owner or tenant of residential property located in the commonwealth who is not a dependent of another taxpayer and who occupies said property as his principal residence, shall be allowed a credit equal to fifteen per cent of the net expenditure for a renewable energy source property or one thousand dollars, whichever is lesser; provided, however, that in the case of a newly constructed residence the credit shall be available to the original owner/occupant. Any taxpayer entitled to this credit for any taxable year, the amount of which exceeds his total tax due for the then current taxable year, may carry over the excess amount, as reduced from year to year, and apply it to his tax liability for any one or more of the next succeeding three taxable years; provided, however, that in no taxable year may the amount of the credit allowed exceed the total tax due of the taxpayer for the relevant taxable year. Joint owners of a residential property shall share any credit available to the property under this subsection in the same proportion as their ownership interest. As used in this section the following words shall have the following meanings: (I) "Renewable energy source property", property, including materials and component parts thereof, separately purchased and assembled by such residential property owner; (A) which, when installed in connection with a dwelling, transmits or uses: (1) solar energy or any other form of renewable energy which the commissioner specified by regulations, for the purpose of heating or cooling such dwelling or providing hot water for use within such dwelling, or produces electricity for such purposes, or (2) wind energy for nonbusiness residential purposes.

[Minnesota Center for Rural Policy and Development](#)

State Name: Minnesota

Citation(s):

Description: The Center for Rural Policy and Development, based in St. Peter, Minn., is a non-partisan, not-for-profit policy research organization dedicated to benefiting Minnesota by providing its policy makers with an unbiased evaluation of issues from a rural perspective. To fulfill this mission, we work with academic and non-academic researchers from throughout the state to design and conduct our research projects. The Center's board members come from all over the state, representing a variety of interests. Fifteen are appointed by the Governor and represent different aspects of rural Minnesota, while five are at large positions, nominated and voted on by the board members themselves (one position is currently open). The board works closely with staff to help guide the direction of the Center, to set research priorities and to help make the Center a presence in the rural policy community.

[Land, Water, and Timber Resources Program](#)

State Name: Mississippi

Citation(s):

Description: This program is available to producers in Mississippi for the purpose of utilizing Mississippi products, commodities, and resources to create jobs and implement innovative, value-added approaches to agriculture in Mississippi. The program is a financing program designed to stimulate growth of the agriculture industry in Mississippi through the development, marketing, manufacture, production, and distribution of agricultural products.

[Mississippi Rural Impact Act](#)

State Name: Mississippi

Citation(s): Miss. Code Ann. And 57-85-1; 57-85-3; 57-85-5

Description: An Act to create the Mississippi Rural Impact Act. Promotes business and economic development in rural areas through job producing programs and by providing financial assistance to communities and businesses.

[Missouri Value-Added Grant Program](#)

State Name: Missouri

Citation(s):

Description: Missouri Department of Agriculture program that provides grants of up to \$250,000 for value-added agriculture projects in rural areas.

[Cooperative Marketing Act](#)

State Name: Montana

Citation(s): Mont. Code Anno., § 35-17

Description: Allows agricultural producers to set up agricultural marketing cooperatives.

[Biopower Steering Committee](#)

State Name: Nebraska

Citation(s): R.R.S. Neb. § 66-1701

Description: Sets up a committee to study both scientific and economic impacts of using biomass / agricultural crops to generate electricity. Also creates The Biopower Development Cash Fund to finance biopower studies.

[Counties and Livestock - Amendments](#)

State Name: Nebraska

Citation(s): R.R.S. Neb. And 23-114.01

Description: Provides criteria to recognize livestock friendly counties and change requirements for livestock waste control facilities related to zoning. Amends section 3 and repeals section 4.

[Revenue and Taxation](#)

State Name: Nebraska

Citation(s): R.R.S. Neb. And 77-112; 77-1361; 77-1371

Description: Changes valuation of farm sites.

[The Beginning Farmer Tax Credit Act](#)

State Name: Nebraska

Citation(s): R.R.S. Neb. § 77-5201

Description: Tax relief / tax credits designed to encourage new farmers, retain existing farmers, promote the creation of farm jobs, and attract agriculture-related investment to Nebraska.

[Natural Resource Revenue Recovery Task Force](#)

State Name: New Mexico

Citation(s): N.M. Stat. Ann. And 19-1A-1 to 19-1A-3

Description: Creates an advisory task force within the state land office. They will study price issues affecting agricultural producers, the impact of federal laws on agricultural industries, and develop policy intended to counteract the negative effect of federal law.

[The Natural Resource Revenue Recovery Task Force](#)

State Name: New Mexico

Citation(s): N.M. Stat. Ann. And 19-1A-1

Description: Chapter 19, Article 1A, Section 19- defines the rules and regulations associated with the Natural Resource Revenue Recovery Task Force.

[Assistance to Newly Established Farms and Farmers](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): A 6455-A (Chapter 479 of the Laws of 2003).

Description: Purpose of the law is to allow newly established farms and farmers to receive an agricultural assessment if they meet the required gross sales value during their first year of operation. The act amends the agriculture and markets law, in relation to including certain lands used in the single operation for the production of crops or livestock in the definition of agricultural land.

[Farmers' Markets](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): NY CLS Agr & M § 260

Description: Directs the department of agriculture to provide grant funding and technical assistance to help develop farmers' markets.

[Improving Herd Health](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): A 8358 (Chapter 361 of the Laws of 2003).

Description: Relates to the New York State Domestic Animal Health Assurance Program, widening the scope of the previous program to include domestic animals other than cattle. The aim of this program is to improve herd health and to further promote a safe and wholesome food supply.

[Long Island Wine Region](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): 2004 N.Y. LAWS 156; 2004 N.Y. S.N. 924

Description: The legislation declares that the North Fork Wine Trail and Hamptons Wine Trail together will be known as the Long Island Wine Region. The law is to promote the growing Long Island wine and related agri-tourism industry by combining the separate trails into one region that includes more than 30 wineries. The main tangible outcome will be signs at Exit 71 of the Long Island Expressway calling motorists' attention to the Long Island Wine Region. Additional signs pointing to wine trails northward and southward will stand nearby. The Long Island Wine Region sign and usage may be added to maps and promotional materials dealing with eastern Suffolk County, which acquired wine region status in public awareness.

[Milk Producers Security Fund](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): A 8362 (Chapter 506 of the Laws of 2003).

Description: Conforms provisions of the Agriculture and Markets Law relating to the operation of the milk producers security fund to provisions of the federal Northeast Milk Marketing Order which regulates the marketing of most milk products in New York State.

[New York State Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): NY CLS Pub Health § 3900

Description: Creates an agricultural health center with a focus on research, education, and policy work.

[Promoting Fruit and Wine Production](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): A. 6454 (Chapter 522 of the Laws of 2003)

Description: An act to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to promoting small businesses that grow or produce fruit and promoting micro-wineries and to amend the alcoholic beverage control law, in relation to providing for the licensure of micro-wineries and regulating the conduct thereof.

[Promoting Fruit Industry](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): A 6462 (Chapter 290 of the Laws of 2003)

Description: Provides for the Department of Agriculture and Markets to enhance fruit growing and to use the Hudson Valley Agricultural Center to promote the production of economically profitable fruits, vegetables, and other agricultural products. Also permits the cultivation of black currants (previously banned) in certain designated areas of the state to promote New York's agricultural industry.

[The Inclusion of Viable Agricultural Land within a Certified Agricultural District](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): A 3550 - B (Chapter 523 of the Laws of 2003)

Description: Relates to inclusion of viable agricultural land within a certified agricultural district; provides for a legislative body of any county containing a certified agricultural district to designate an annual thirty-day period within which a land owner may submit for inclusion; requires the county legislative body to hold a public hearing; provides for notice to be published in a newspaper; repeals certain provisions of section 303 of the agriculture and markets law.

[Wind Power Generation Incentives](#)

State Name: New York

Citation(s): A 6456 (Chapter 565 of the Laws of 2003).

Description: Includes certain activities involving the use of wind for power generation in agricultural districts as qualifying for agricultural assessments. Prior to the law, only oil and gas exploration, development, or extraction activity was included.

[Agricultural Development Act](#)

State Name: North Dakota

Citation(s): N.D. Cent. Code, § 4-36

Description: Allows the North Dakota industrial commission to make loans to lending institutions. These funds must, in turn, be loaned to agricultural enterprises.

[Agriculture in the Classroom](#)

State Name: North Dakota

Citation(s): N.D. Cent. Code, § 4-37

Description: Establishes a council to develop agricultural curriculum for North Dakota's Public schools.

[Anhydrous Ammonia](#)

State Name: North Dakota

Citation(s): N.D. Cent. Code and 19-20.2-11 N.D. Cent. Code and 32-03-56

Description: Requires insurance commissioner to start pilot project involving security of anhydrous ammonia nurse tanks. Extends immunity to the owner of anhydrous ammonia for any occurrence resulting from theft.

[Equine Facilities](#)

State Name: Oregon

Citation(s): ORS and 455.315; 672.129

Description: Adds and defines an equine facility

[Farm Worker Housing Information](#)

State Name: Oregon

Citation(s): ORS 456.585

Description: A number of programs designed to ensure that farm workers have good access to quality housing and information on housing.

[Guest Ranch](#)

State Name: Oregon

Citation(s): ORS and 215.990

Description: A guest ranch can be established in conjunction with an existing and continuing livestock operation.

[Oregon Office of Rural Policy](#)

State Name: Oregon

Citation(s):

Description: The Office of Rural Policy is located in the Governor's Office in partnership with the Department of Administrative Services. The office coordinates the formulation of rural policy for the state and serves as a clearing house for the collection and dissemination of information about issues that are of special interest to rural Oregon. The office also serves as a liaison between elected officials in rural Oregon, the executive branch and the state legislature.

[Rural Enterprise Zone Property Tax Exemptions](#)

State Name: Oregon

Citation(s): ORS and 285B.781

Description: Qualifications for rural enterprise zone property tax exemptions no longer require county unemployment to be one percent higher than county or 50 percent higher than state in previous year.

[First Industries Program](#)

State Name: Pennsylvania

Citation(s): 4323

Description: Part of an economic stimulus package, the program aims to create jobs, spur business investment, and revitalize Pennsylvania cities and towns. This program gives agriculture and tourism, the two sectors of the state's economy that rank as top employers, access to state loans for the first time to finance commercial development projects.

[South Dakota Rural Enterprise, Inc](#)

State Name: South Dakota

Citation(s):

Description: One of the primary goals of SDREI is to be a source of capital to the community development finance industry in South Dakota. The Capital Investment Fund has approved over \$3.8 million dollars in loans to community development organizations throughout the state that are financing local development projects.

[Texas Rural Communities, Inc](#)

State Name: Texas

Citation(s):

Description: Texas Rural Communities, Inc. is a nonprofit organization serving rural Texas communities, individuals, groups and support organizations through rural economic development, educational loan and grant programs.

[Texas Rural Partners, Inc](#)

State Name: Texas

Citation(s):

Description: Improving rural community-based assessment is a key priority for the Texas Rural Development Council and is the central focus of its Rural Resource Teams. Resource Teams, organized in partnership with the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils, Councils of Government, USDA-Rural Development, Community Builders with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and County Extension Agents, are designed specifically for rural Texas communities and bring professionals with expertise in various areas of community development together to provide on-site assessments of individual communities.

[The Center for Rural Studies](#)

State Name: Vermont

Citation(s):

Description: The Center for Rural Studies (CRS) is a nonprofit, fee-for-service research organization which addresses social, economic, and resource-based problems of rural people and communities. Based in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Vermont.

[The Center for Rural Virginia](#)

State Name: Virginia

Citation(s): VA Code Ann. 2.2-2720 - 2.2-2724

Description: The Center for Rural Virginia is an independent local entity without political subdivision status, for the purpose of sustaining economic growth in the rural areas of the Commonwealth.

["From the Hearths of Washington" Campaign to Promote Washington State Agriculture](#)

State Name: Washington

Citation(s): SHB 2366 (Chapter 26, 2004 Laws).

Description: The bill authorizes the Washington State Department of Agriculture to create a nonprofit corporation to carry forward the work of the "From the Heart of Washington" campaign, which is currently had been funded through a federal grant. The campaign has produced numerous television, radio and print articles, and advertisements promoting Washington agriculture have generated hundreds of press articles statewide. WSDA has also worked with local retailers to include more labeled Washington products in stores and with restaurant to feature more local products on menus.

[Modification of Tax Incentive Provisions for Rural Counties](#)

State Name: Washington

Citation(s): SSB 6240 (Chapter 25, Laws of 2004)

Description: The law extends the sales tax exemption on construction of manufacturing and research facilities in rural areas.

[The Farm Flex Bill](#)

State Name: Washington

Citation(s): S.B. 6237

Description: An act relating to providing nonagricultural commercial and retail uses that support and sustain agricultural operations on designated agricultural lands of long-term significance.

[Washington State Rural Development Council](#)

State Name: Washington

Citation(s):

Description: The Washington State Rural Development Council was one of eight pilot states formed in 1990 to help rural community leaders, government policy makers, agency program administrators, rural development practitioners, and, rank-and-file citizens deal with a problem they have struggled with for most of the 20th century: the lack of coordination in identifying rural community needs, planning solutions to meet those needs and implementing those solutions.

[Milwaukee's Milk-for-Cheese Pilot Program Wins Extension](#)

State Name: Wisconsin

Citation(s):

Description: Wisconsin's Agriculture Secretary granted a one-year extension of the waiver needed for a successful pilot project that converts surplus government-provided dry milk into mozzarella cheese. Run by the Milwaukee Hunger Task Force, the project distributes the cheese to 28 Milwaukee-area food pantries that serve an average of 20,000 individuals each month. According to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, in the coming year the program is expected to produce 240,000 pounds of mozzarella from 516,000 pounds of surplus dried milk.

[The State Loan and Investment Board - Amendments](#)

State Name: Wyoming

Citation(s): Wyo. Stat. And 11-34-302(b); 41-2-118(a)

Description: Provides for deferment of principal payments on small water development project loans under certain conditions.

Reproduction permitted with credit to Association
Copyright © 2005, The Council of State Governments