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How House and Senate stimulus ag spending compares

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Although both the House and Senate versions of the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009” contain hundreds of programs and tax breaks that could impact agriculture and Rural America, slightly under \$30 billion will be administered by USDA. The Congressional Research Service (CRS) completed an analysis of the different versions that were moving through Congress and developed the following chart to show the differences between H.R.1 and the Senate Amendment 570, which represents the compromise approved by the Senate on Tuesday.

Budget authority is shown millions of dollars, 10-year CBO scores	H.R. 1	S. Amdt. 570 to H.R. 1
Agricultural Program		
NUTRITION ASSISTANCE		
SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)	\$19,991	\$16,557
Emergency food assistance	150	150
WIC management information systems	100	120
Seniors nutrition programs	200	100
After-school feeding program	726	
WIC benefits contingency fund		380
School lunch program equipment assistance		100
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations		5
Subtotal, Nutrition Assistance	21,167	17,412
RURAL DEVELOPMENT		
Rural broadband infrastructure development	2,825	3,325
Rural water and waste disposal program	1,500	1,375
Rural housing service	500	200
Rural community facilities program	200	127

Rural business program	100	150
Distance learning and telemedicine program		100
Biorefinery program		200
Salaries and expenses		80
Rural Energy for America program		50
Subtotal, Rural Development	5,125	5,607
USDA FACILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE		
FSA information technology/administration	245	54
USDA for facilities infrastructure		200
ARS facilities deferred maintenance	209	
USDA headquarters repair and improvements	44	
Subtotal, USDA Facilities Infrastructure	498	254
CONSERVATION		
NRCS watershed and flood prevention	175	275
NRCS floodplain easements	175	
NRCS watershed rehabilitation program	50	65
Subtotal, USDA Conservation	400	340
FARMER ASSISTANCE		
Agricultural crop disaster assistance		674
Aquaculture feed cost assistance		50
FSA farm loan program (including emergency loans)		71
Subtotal, Farmer Assistance		794
OTHER		
CSREES competitive research grants		50
Farm bill administration		34
USDA Office of Inspector General	23	23
Subtotal, Other	23	107
Total, Agriculture, Nutrition, and Rural Provisions	27,213	24,514