To Enact President Obama's Recommendations for Program Terminations

1. Adolescent Family Life Program (HHS) **Savings: $17 Million**

This section would eliminate funding for the Adolescent Family Life Program which provides demonstration grants related for teen pregnancy prevention and services to pregnant and parenting adolescents. The President's budget proposes the elimination of these grants because of the creation of the Pregnancy Assistance Fund, a mandatory grant program created by the Patient, Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)—the health reform bill. Additionally, funds are made available to teen pregnancy prevention through the Prevention and Public Health Fund—which is receiving $1 billion in mandatory appropriations from PPACA this year.

2. Agricultural, Forestry, and Fishing Program (HHS) **Savings: $23 Million**

This section would eliminate funding for the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Program within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The President's budget proposes the elimination of this program because these activities are not central to the CDC's mission and are duplicative of other programs at the Department of Labor and Department of Agriculture. The President's budget also notes that program evaluations have shown that CDC's work in this area has lacked a cohesive vision, consistent leadership, and long-term strategy planning, and that "there was little evidence that the research activities, outputs, and intermediate outcomes contributed to the stated end outcomes…."

3. B.J. Stupak Olympic Scholarship (ED) **Savings: $1 Million**

This section eliminates the B.J. Stupak Olympic Scholarship program because it is not means-tested, available performance data does not make a compelling case for its continued funding, and because it overlaps with other federal student financial aid programs more generally available. The program provides up to $15,000 to athletes pursuing postsecondary education and training at the U.S. Olympic Education Center.

4. Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (HUD) **Savings: $18 Million**

BEDI is a grant program designed to assist cities with the redevelopment of abandoned, idled, and under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion and redevelopment is burdened by environmental contamination. These funds are targeted for redevelopment of brownfield sites for the purposes of economic development and job creation. This program is duplicative of other efforts that are significantly better funded. In particular, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) are used for identical projects (FY10 appropriation of several billion dollars), to address this need. Several other economic development programs include, the Economic Development Administration ($293 million), USDA's Rural Development

Administration grants, and the National Community Development Initiative.[1] The President recommended eliminating this program because of this duplication issue and to reduce the administrative workload associated with managing a small and duplicative program.

5. Bureau of Labor Statistics - International Labor Comparison Program (DOL)

Savings: $2 Million

This section eliminates the Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) International Labor Comparison Program which provides international comparisons of employment, compensation, productivity, and price data. As noted in the Presidential FY 2012 budget justification for elimination, "The data series is used to produce articles, technical papers, or special reports *that are not widely used* (emphasis added)."[1]

6. Byrd Honors Scholarship (ED) Savings: $42 Million

This section eliminates the Byrd Honors Scholarship program because it lacks reliable performance data, is not means tested, is duplicative of other federal student aid more generally available, and funds elite students who would likely go to college without such funding. The program provides scholarship assistance to high-performing high school students entering an undergraduate course of study.

7. C-17 Transport Aircraft Production (DOD) Savings: $2.5 Billion

This section would eliminate purchases of additional Air Force C-17 cargo airplanes. This proposal has been offered in President Obama's list of Terminations, Reductions, and Savings for the last three years. Fortunately, no funds were added for production of C-17s in FY2011 through the continuing resolution. The C-17 line is still active however since Boeing is able to sell these cargo planes to international buyers. The Pentagon has repeatedly said that it does not need additional C-17 cargo planes and has performed several studies to verify this. The Institutes for Defense Analysis also examined this issue at the prompting of Congress and they found that adding 15 more C-17s would provide a greater increase in life-cycle costs (an additional $10 billion) but provide only a marginal benefit in additional mobility. Also, the Air Force is able to modernize the C-5 cargo plane fleet to achieve greater cargo mobility at less cost. The Department of Defense also has statutory access to the civilian air fleet in case of a national emergency. The Department of Defense is also researching multiple high-speed vessels for cargo transport for the Army and Navy.

8. Career Pathways Innovation Fund (DOL) Savings: $125 Million

[1] A partnership among HUD, private foundations, and financial institutions, using intermediaries to increase the capacity and ability of community-based organizations to undertake community development activities.

[1] OMB, FY 2012 Terminations, Reductions and Savings, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf.

This section eliminates funding for the $125 million Career Pathways Innovation Fund because it duplicates other federal efforts. This program provides competitive grants to community college partnerships to develop career pathway programs for jobs in growing and emerging industries. The Fund duplicates the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grant Program, funded at $500 million annually in 2011 through 2014, which funds grants to community colleges and other institutions of higher education to improve and expand career training programs.

9. Center for Excellence for Veterans Student Success (ED) Savings: $6 Million

This section eliminates the Center for Excellence for Veterans Student Success because it duplicates services available under programs such as Veterans Upward Bound. This program encourages model programs to support veteran student success in postsecondary education.

10. Children and Families Services' Job Demonstration Program (HHS)

Savings: $3 Million

This section eliminates the Children and Families' Job Demonstration program, which provides grants for business and microenterprise opportunities. The program has never been evaluated, nor does it have performance measures. This program is also duplicative of other federal job training and employment programs.

11. Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Payment Program (HHS)

Savings: $318 Million

This section would eliminate funding from Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) payment program. This move eliminates a taxpayer-funded subsidy to free-standing children's hospitals that Congress funded in 2010. However, the Federal Government will still continue to fund graduate medical education in children's hospitals through other sources, including Medicaid GME. Reducing spending on lower-priority items helps prioritize higher priority items at a time of high budget deficits and a fragile economy.

12. Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation Savings: $1 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation. The Foundation has nearly exhausted its endowed Trust Fund, which was established in 1992. The President's Budget recommends eliminating funding for the Foundation because it has not consistently demonstrated clear outcomes from its awards and has high overhead costs. Moreover, no Administration has proposed funding for the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation since the creation of the Foundation almost two decades ago

13. College Textbook Rental Pilot Initiative (ED) Savings: $10 Million

This section eliminates the College Textbook Rental Pilot because of its narrow scope and because the program has achieved its intended purpose.[2] This program supports pilot programs that expand the services of bookstores to provide the option for students to rent course materials in order to achieve savings for students.

14. Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (NSF) Savings: $36 Million

This section would eliminate federal funding for the Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (DUSEL) project. The President's budget recommends cutting the funding because the National Science Board (NSB), the Presidentially-appointed oversight and policy-setting body for the National Science Foundation (NSF) concluded that the project's high cost and narrow scientific scope were inconsistent with NSF's traditional role in advancing research in a broad variety of fields and disciplines. The NSB was also concerned about accepting the risk involved during all stages of the project for the infrastructure required for the physics experiments being planned.

15. Delta Health Initiative (HHS) Savings: $35 Million

The Delta Health Initiative funds construction, training, and equipment purchases in Mississippi on a non-competitive basis. The President's Budget notes that a GAO report identified 29 other programs with similar purposes across 8 federal agencies.

16. Denali Commission (HHS) Savings: $10 Million

The Denali Commission builds health facilities in Alaska on a non-competitive basis. The President's Budget notes that a GAO report identified 29 other programs with similar purposes across 8 federal agencies.

17. Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant Program (EPA) Savings: $60 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant program. The President's Budget recommends eliminating DERA grants, which are designed to help States and localities reduce emissions from diesel engines by retrofitting or replacing older, more polluting diesel engines. According to the President, the marginal benefit of these individual retrofits is small at this point (after averaging previously 13:1 in cost to benefits) and there is also other funding available for such retrofits through the Department of Transportation's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program (about $45 million for diesel retrofits annually) and EPA's Supplemental Environmental Project enforcement agreements ($7.1 million in diesel emission reduction projects). Additionally, given that since 2007 new diesel engines have to comply with much higher emission standards, there is a decreasing need for retrofits in the first place.[3]

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[2] U.S. Department of Education, Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Summary, http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget12/summary/edlite-section3.html.

[3] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 21

18. Economic Action Program (USDA) Savings: $5 Million

This section would eliminate funding for USDA's Economic Action Program, because it is poorly managed and overlaps with existing USDA programs. The President's budget proposes to eliminate this program, because it has funded projects outside of the program's intended goals and often unrelated to the Forest Service. Awards have funded water music festivals and maritime technology programs and the White House has proposed the program be eliminated. Where the program does fund projects related to its purpose, it duplicates existing USDA programs, such as Urban and Community Forestry, rural business and industry loans, biomass utilization grants, and biorefining assistance.

19. Education Research Centers (HHS) Savings: $25 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Education and Research Centers (ERC) program within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The ERC program provides seed money to academic institutions to develop or expand occupational health and safety training programs. The President's budget indicates that all of the original goals of the program have been met. The budget explain that in 2000, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) estimated there were 175 Occupational and Safety Health programs across the United States and that U.S. schools graduate about 300 students annually and approximately 400 master's-level industrial hygienists' each year, a volume roughly equal to employer demand in the industrial sector that has most commonly used them." The budget also notes that the private sector and academic institutions will continue to fund these activities.

20. Election Reform Grants (EAC) Savings: $75 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Election Reform Grants, as called for by the President in his FY 2012 budget. According to the Administration, "Additional Federal funds are not needed to accomplish the purposes of HAVA at this time, as over $3 billion in Federal funds have been provided to the States since 2002, of which approximately $1 billion remains unspent." In 2010, Congress reduced funding for these grants by 25 percent. By eliminating this unnecessary federal funding it will encourage States to "spend current balances on HAVA-mandated programs to meet the goals of that Act sooner."[4]

21. Emergency Operations Center Grant Program (DHS) Savings: $60 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program at the Department of Homeland Security. The President's Budget recommends cutting the DHS Emergency Operation Center Grant (EOC) program because the grant program has moved from a risk-based grant program to a earmark slush fund for Members of Congress. In 2010, 78 percent of EOC grants were earmarked. In addition, this grant program is duplicative of the

[4] OMB, FY 2012 Terminations, Reductions and Savings, page 24, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf.

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program, because EMPG grants can be used for Emergency Operation Centers.

22. EP-X Manned Airborne Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Aircraft (DOD)

Savings: $12 Million

This section proposes to terminate the EP-X program, which is a manned airplane still under initial development that is meant to replace current manned intelligence airplanes. This is primarily a Navy program that is intended to replace the current aging EP-3 intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance aircraft. The future of manned intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance aircraft is in doubt given the advances made in unmanned platforms. Also, the current fleet of planes is performing the missions required with technology developed decades ago. It would be more prudent to upgrade the current fleet of planes with newer technology or adapt a commercial version of a plane with intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capability.

23. Erma Byrd Scholarship Program (ED) Savings: $2 Million

This section eliminates the Erma Byrd Scholarship Program because it is narrowly focused and is not specifically authorized under the Higher Education Act. In addition, this program, which provides scholarships to individuals pursuing a course of study that will lead to a career in industrial health and safety occupations, including mine safety, duplicates other federal programs that provide assistance to students to increase college access.

24. Marine Corps' Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (DOD) Savings: $293 Million

This section cancels production of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV). Procurement of the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle was initiated 23 years ago with the goal to buy the Marine Corps 573 ship-to-shore assault vehicles for a forcible amphibious landing at a total cost of $15.6 billion. Concerns have been raised that the new vehicles, with their low ground clearance, would be vulnerable to Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) on land and to long-range, shore-based, anti-ship cruise missiles that could be launched against Navy's amphibious ships when the vehicles disembark 25 miles from shore. In an April 17, 2009 speech at the Naval War College, the Secretary of Defense called for close examination of whether the mission itself is necessary, saying "we have to take a hard look at where it would be necessary or sensible to launch another major amphibious action again ... in the 21st century."

25. Farm Service Agency Direct Conservation Loans (USDA) Savings: $1 Million

This section would eliminate funding from the USDA Farm Service Agency's direct conservation loan program to its loan guarantee counterpart, which operates under higher loan limits, less cost to the federal government, and is sufficient in providing credit to farmers for conservation purposes. USDA also operates conservation-specific programs that provide payments to farmers for the same purposes of implementing conservation techniques.

26. Farm Service Agency Loan Programs - Direct Conservation Loans (USDA)

Savings: $24 Million

This section would terminate budget authority from USDA's guaranteed operating subsidized loans—the most expensive kind of loan—to its direct operating loan program. The guaranteed subsidized loans have a subsidy rate (cost of providing loans) over 14 percent while the direct loan rate is only 5.63 percent. In this case, the direct loans would actually have greater budgetary reach.

27. Forest Resources Information and Analysis (FIA) (USDA) Savings: $5 Million

This section would eliminate the Forest Resources Information and Analysis program, because it is outdated and duplicative of existing Forest Services initiatives. The program conducts long-term monitoring and inventory of forests to determine if current management practices are sustainble and takes climate change factors into consideration when doing so. It is managed by the Forest Service's Research and Development organization. FIA, which is a component of the Forest Service's Research and Development (R&D) Program, provides cost-share assistance (grants) with state funding. However, the R&D program has contributed only a minimal percentage of its program funds for FIA in recent years (6 percent in 2008) as the same activities can be conducted by other Forest Service initiatiaves, and state natural resource agencies already perform many of the same functions.

28. Graduate STEM Fellows in K–12 Education (NSF) Savings: $27 Million

This section would eliminate the GK-12 Graduate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program. The President's budget recommends cutting the program because it has achieved its goal of providing models for graduate traineeships associated with K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education, recent evaluation findings suggest that the effects of this program's fellowship experience in improving the trainees' research skills are mixed; and 3) the program design limits the ability of participants to gain enough in-depth experience in K-12 teaching to impact pupil learning. In Fiscal Year 2010, there were 28 STEM education programs at NSF totaling $1.2 billion. Across the federal government there are 105 federal programs supporting STEM education costing over $3 billion annually, including 15 programs for graduate level STEM education

29. Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation Savings: $1 Million

This section eliminates federal funding for the Harry S. Truman Scholarship

Foundation, which will continue to operate on interest from its endowed trust fund. Until 2009, the Truman Foundation had operated without new appropriations since it was originally endowed in the 1970s. No additional funds have been proposed for the Truman Foundation in any President's Budget since 1978.

30. Health Care Facilities and Construction Fund (HHS) Savings: $337 Million

This section would eliminate earmark funding for earmarks provided through three separate appropriations for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) at HHS. One of HRSA's earmark funds is through the Health Care Facilities and Construction program which provided 766 projects last year selected individually by Congress for public and private sector recipients. None of these projects are funded on a competitive basis. The President's Budget notes that a GAO report identified 29 other programs with similar purposes across 8 federal agencies. The House of Representatives has decided to forego earmarks this Congress and the White House has promised to veto any legislation with earmarks in it. This section ensures the taxpayers will realize savings from these decisions.

31. Health Care Services Grant Program (USDA) Savings: $3 Million

This section would eliminate the Health Care Services Grant Program, because it is outdated and duplicative of existing federal programs. USDA's Rural Utilities Service administers the Health Care Services Grant program, which provides grants, loans, and loan guarantees for, among other things, health care services, health education programs, and health care job training, which USDA has no experience or expertise in administering. At the same time, the Department of Health and Human Services administers a number of programs with similar goals, including the Health Center grants programs that also serve rural areas. The USDA program was created in the 2008 farm bill specifically for the needs of the Delta region.

32. Health Workforce Activities (HHS) Savings: $2 Million

This section would eliminate funding for health workforce activities for Allied Health and Other Disciplines. The President's budget identifies this area as a "lower priority activity." Funding has been available for these purposes since 2009, supporting Chiropractic Demonstration Projects to develop research protocols focused in the treatment of lower back pain. Developing treatment protocols is, and should be, the purview of medical societies and associations and academic institutions, and developing new treatment protocols will not bolster the medical workforce.

33. Healthy Communities Program (HHS) Savings: $23 Million

This section would eliminate the Healthy Communities Program at HHS. The Healthy Communities programs support small-scale community programs in health care settings, schools, and work sites. The President's budget notes that while some activities may have improved health outcomes in some settings, "there have been no overall health outcome measures for these activities." In addition to providing questionable health outcomes, community-based interventions are a questionable use of federal resources and could potentially be used for wasteful and ineffective efforts. The administration notes that these funds are duplicative of new mandatory funding through the Prevention and Public Health Fund (created under PPACA). For example, the "Community Transformation Grants" program which has been used to build sidewalks and bike paths and to advocate for new taxes on sugary drinks.

34. High Energy Cost Grants (USDA) **Savings: $18 Million**

This section would eliminate the High Energy Cost Grant Program that both the Bush and the Obama Administrations targeted for elimination. This program provides grants for low cost electricity to rural areas, but only Alaska, Hawaii, and a few remote regions in the continental United States qualify for them. It also duplicates and is less effective than the Electric Loan Program, which is available nationwide from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS).

35. Historic Whaling and Trading Partners (ED) **Savings: $9 Million**

This section eliminates funding for the Exchanges with Historic Whaling and Trading Partners. This program provides non-competitive grants to support culturally-based educational activities for Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, children and families of Massachusetts, and any federally recognized Indian tribe in Mississippi. Funds are provided only to five museums named in statute and have been awarded to the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians since 2006, rather than making awards based on a competition or merit. The Department of Education has no reliable performance data on grantees, the design of the program makes it difficult to evaluate effectiveness and circumvents the merit-based process of grant-making at the Department, and the program's narrow goals are more appropriately served with State, local, and private funding.

36. Inter-City Bus Security Grant Program (DHS) **Savings: $12 Million**

The section would eliminate funding for this Homeland Security grant for several reasons. First, this program duplicates the much larger Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) which seeks to secure our nation's critical surface transportation networks. Second, the Administration supports the distribution of DHS grants based on risk, however, this grant program is not awarded based on risk assessments. Finally, many of the projects funded under this grant program are going to private companies who could have made security investments without federal dollars.

37. International Forestry program (USDA) **Savings: $10 Million**

This section would eliminate the Forest Service's International Forestry programs, because they duplicate existing federal initiatives, incluing USAID and USDA international development and conservation initiatives. Additionally, this program's international focus is inconsistent with the Forest Service's mission of domestic forestry initiatives.

38. Joint Strike Fighter Alternate Engine (DOD) **Savings: $465 Million**

This section would end the Alternative Engine program at the Department of Defense. This is a congressionally mandated program whereby the Defense Department funds engine research and development at two companies (Pratt and Whitney and GE/Rolls Royce) with the intention that they would create two distinct engines for use in the Joint Strike Fighter. While the supporters of the alternate engine state that it will improve competition at the Pentagon, it the alternate engine program as currently administered will go to only one company with no competition (GE/Rolls Royce). In the past you have supported ending this program and the Pentagon has asked that Congress end this funding since 2006. The House of Representatives voted to end this program in the version of the Continuing Resolution. Also, the savings of $465 million is only counting one year's worth of savings. It does not count the billions of dollars in additional life-cycle costs that would be required in future years in the program continues to be funded.

39. LANSCE Refurbishment (DOE) Savings: $20 Million

This section would cancel the Los Alamos Neutron Science Center (LANSCE) refurbishment project, because it is outdated and its mission largely complete. The President's budget proposes to continue the program with existing resources but cancel any future funding or refurbishment. According to the President's budget, much of this program's mission has been completed and the majority of users are outside groups who do not adequately share in the costs of maintain the facility.

40. Legal Assistance Loan Repayment (DOE) Savings: $5 Million

This section eliminates the Legal Assistance Loan Repayment program, which provides up to $40,000 in loan repayments for certain civil legal assistance attorneys. The program has no income limitation, and civil legal service attorneys already qualify for loan forgiveness benefits under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness provisions of the William D. Ford Direct Student Loan program.

41. Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) Program (ED)

Savings: $64 Million

This section eliminates the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) program, because "it has fulfilled its purpose of encouraging States to provide postsecondary student financial assistance and is no longer the most optimal way of targeting such assistance to needy students."[5] The LEAP program provides grants to States to encourage them to provide need-based grants and community service work-study assistance to eligible postsecondary students.

42. Local Government Climate Change Grants (EPA) Savings: $10 Million

This section would eliminate funding for this grant program. Established in 2009 for local communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the Administration has repeatedly[6] recommended terminating this program because it "lacks focus and applies to disparate sectors ranging from land use planning to methane capture and improving the energy efficiency of buildings." It is considered duplicative of other federal programs (such as EnergySTAR, Smart Growth and AgSTAR) and less efficient.[7]

43. Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses (USDA)

Savings: $3 Million

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[5] OMB, FY 2012 Terminations, Reductions and Savings, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf.

[6] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/trs.pdf, , page 35

[7] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 43

This section would eliminate this program, because the activities it funds are already routinely funded by the National Forest System. The President's budget does not propose to discontinue the initiatives taken by this program but instead ensure it does not receive duplicating payments.

44. Mobile Enforcement Teams (DOJ) Savings: $31 Million

In 1995, the DEA created mobile enforcement teams (METs)to attack drug trafficking organizations by deploying teams on a temporary basis to partner with state and local law enforcement. The Inspector General has found, however, that these teams are often located in Metropolitan areas near DEA offices and not in rural areas with methamphetamine or violent gang problems. Since 2008, MET has grown almost 75% in personnel and 90% in funding. The program has not demonstrated an effectiveness in reducing crime, and it is duplicative of other Federal, State, and local law enforcement efforts. The administration proposes cutting the entire program, though relocating the personnel (145 positions, which has grown 75% in three years) to DEA's Diversion Control Fee Account to staff Tactical Diversion Squads, which dismantle pharmaceutical trafficking.

45. Multifamily Housing and Community Facilities Loan Guarantees (USDA)

Savings: $8 Million

This section would eliminate loan guarantees for multifamily housing and community facilities, because it is more expensive than originally expected due to a spike in the number of defaults and, according to the President's budget, not as effective as its direct loan counterpart.

46. Multifamily Housing Revitalization Demonstration Program (USDA)

Savings: $27 Million

This section would terminate funding for the Multifamily Housing Revitalization Demonstration Program, because the primary beneficiaries are the developers of the properties rather than the low-income tenants. According to the President's budget, the program has finished its job of funding for necessary repairs. Any additional repairs, while potentially improving the developers' portfolios, would not provide new benefits to the tenants themselves.

47. National Biological Information Infrastructure (DOI) Savings: $7 Million

This section would eliminate the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII). NBII is a database of the Nation's biological resources that is designed to provide access to data and products maintained by other contributors in government agencies, academic institutions, non-government organizations, and private industry.[8] According to the President, this program is duplicative of other efforts both by the Federal Government and private sector and should be

[8] http://www.nbii.gov/portal/server.pt/community/about_nbii/1684

eliminated. For example, data.gov provides public access to various Federal datasets in a single location.[9]

48. National STEM Distributed Learning (Digital Library) (NSF) Savings: $16 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the NSDL, the National Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Distributed Learning program, a digital library. The President's budget recommends cutting the funding because recent preliminary evaluation findings have pointed to the challenges of sustaining the collection in the face of changing technology and have raised concerns about the currency of the collections, peer review of collections, collaboration across pathways, and lack of standardization, and indicate a need for targeted research. The technological landscape is changing so rapidly that new approaches are being considered, based on the substantial NSDL experience. NSF plans to address key areas in cyberlearning through other programs and activities, such as Cyberlearning Transforming Education, and Teacher Learning for the Future, going forward. In Fiscal Year 2010, there were 28 STEM education programs at NSF totaling $1.2 billion. According to a May 2007 report of the Academic Competitiveness Council, there are 105 federal programs supporting STEM education, with aggregate funding of $3.2 billion in FY 2006.

49. National Wildlife Refuge Fund (DOI) Savings: $15 million

This section would eliminate the discretionary funding contribution to the National Wildlife Refuge Fund (NWRF), which is a low priority within the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) according to the President. The Refuge Revenue Sharing Act authorizes revenues and direct appropriations to be deposited into the NWRF and used for payments to counties in lieu of taxes for lands acquired in fee or reserved from public domain and managed by the FWS. These payments can be used in almost any capacity. Local governments are also compensated through the Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program for lands that are withdrawn from the public domain. The President recommends this termination.[10]

50. Non-Line of Sight Launch System (NLOS-LS) (DOD) Savings: $92 Million

This section ends funding for the Army's Non-Line of Sight Launch System, which was originally a part of the Army's now-terminated Future Combat Systems (FCS). According to a Department of Defense statement, "A detailed analysis of alternatives determined that the NLOS-LS does not provide a cost-effective precision-fire capability." During limited user tests conducted between January and February of 2010, the NLOS-LS Precision Attack Missile failed to hit its target four out of six times. As a result, the Army recommended terminating theprogram and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics concurred. The Army, Air Force, and Navy all have programs for precision attack munitions launched by conventional means: ships, planes, and artillery. Funds for this program are better

[9] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 48

[10] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 50

spent modernizing and improving these other systems that would benefit the entire military, versus the small capability that the Non-Line of Sight Launch System (NLOS-LS) would have provided.

51. Off-Campus Community Service (ED) **Savings: $1 Million**

This section eliminates the Off-Campus Community Service program, which supports the recruitment and compensation of students for work assignments in off-campus community service jobs. This program duplicates the Federal Work Study program, has minimal impact because of its size, and results in unnecessary administrative costs.[11]

52. Park Partnership Project Grants (DOI) **Savings: $5 Million**

This section would eliminate Park Partnership Project grants so the National Park Service(NPS) can focus its available funding on the highest-priority park projects and needs. The Park Partnership program was established as the National Parks Centennial Initiative in 2008 to help prepare NPS for its 100-year anniversary in 2016. The program was designed to leverage private investments for projects in national parks, but these projects, which are primarily low-priority according to the President, have failed to attract the necessary funding commitments from non-Federal funding sources. The President recommends this termination. [12]

53. Patient Navigators Program (HHS) **Savings: $5 Million**

This section would eliminate funding for the Patient Navigator program at HHS. The program was first funded in 2008 and supports local programs that help coordinate health care services for the chronically ill. The President's budget notes that there is no performance data associated with this program and classifies it as a "lower priority" program.

54. Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (HHS) **Savings: $100 Million**

This section would eliminate the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG) through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The administration notes that the program funds 265 separate activities that could yield more positive health outcomes if they were better coordinated and integrated into other CDC programs. The President's budget indicates that this program was once an important aspect of the federal approach to assisting states with chronic disease management, but not consists of just 1 percent of state budgets in this area.

55. Public Broadcasting Grants (USDA) **Savings: $5 Million**

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[11] U.S. Department of Education, Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Summary, http://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/budget12/summary/edlite-section3.html.

[12] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 54

This section would eliminate funding for rural public broadcasting grants at USDA, because the the conversion to digital transmission is largely complete and it duplicates the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program at the Department of Commerce, which receives approximately $20 million annually, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which is a federally created non-profit that received $430 million in FY 2010.

56. Public Telecom Facilities Grant Program (DOC) Savings: $20 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Public Telecommunications Facilities Grant Program (PTFP) is intended to help public broadcasting stations, state and local governments, Indian Tribes, and nonprofit organizations construct telecom facilities. Since 2000, this grant program has primarily funded public television stations' conversion to digital broadcasting. Since the transition to digital broadcasting has been completed, there is no need for this program according to the President, who has recommended eliminating PTFP three times[13] because its primary purpose has become obsolete and funding public broadcasting would be duplicative.[14] This program is duplicative of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), which received $430 million for appropriations for FY10, funds various activities to promote and stabilize public broadcasting, and USDA's Public Broadcasting Grants program, which received $5 million in FY10 and provides funding to public broadcast companies to convert to digital transmission.[15] A recent DOC study concluded that 68 percent of PTFP funding was awarded to projects that were eligible for CPB support.[16]

57. Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (HHS) Savings: $39 Million

This section would eliminate the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) program at HHS. Much like the Healthy Communities Program, the President notes that "there have been no overall health outcome measures for these activities," and the program is now duplicated by newly-created mandatory spending under health reform, the Prevention and Public Health Fund and the Community Transformation Grant program. These funds are being used for activities—such as building sidewalks and bike paths—that many Americans believe are a questionable use of resources, particularly in difficult budget times.

58. Research Initiation Grants to Broaden Participation in Biology (NSF)

Savings: $2 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Research Initiation Grants to Broaden Participation in Biology program. The President's Budget recommends eliminating the program because it has not performed its stated goal of increasing the diversity of researchers who apply for and receive Biological Sciences Directorate (BIO) funding. The number of proposals submitted to BIO programs by individuals from underrepresented groups did not increase, so this program is expected to be completed in 2011.

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[13] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2010/assets/trs.pdf, Page 52
[14] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/trs.pdf, , page 42
[15] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/trs.pdf, , page 41
[16] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 57

59. Resource Conservation and Development Program (USDA) Savings: $51 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the USDA's Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC&D), which was created nearly fifty years ago as a short-term jump start for locally directed development and conservation programs but not intended to become permanent federal operations. The program has accomplished its original mission, and the relationships it has helped to build in states and local communities are now sufficiently strong without federal funding. Additionally, this program only provides 16 percent of funding to RC&D councils who access the majority of their budget from other federal and outside sources.

60. Revenue Forgone from Reduced Rate Mail (Postal Service) Savings: $29 Million

This section would eliminate funding for Congressionally mandated reduced postage rates for non-profit mailers. This appropriation was authorized to compensate USPS for lost revenues that occurred in the early-1990s and ended in 1998, and is not related to any current USPS activities. As of 2010, USPS has been reimbursed $493 million. This funding represented only 0.04 percent of USPS' gross revenue in 2010. In addition, the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act (PRA) made the Postal Service an independent government entity requiring that it be self-financing and run more like a business.

61. Rural Access to Emergency Devices (HHS) Savings: $3 Million

This section would eliminate funding Rural Access to Emergency Devices program at the Department of Health and Human Services. The program was created in 2002 to help communities purchase defibrillators. The President's budget proposal identifies this program has having largely outlived its purpose: "Much of the demand for these medical devices has been met through prior grants and future demand can be met through other rural health activities in HRSA. Moreover, costs of defibrillators have become more affordable in the last ten years from over $10,000 to under $2,000 today." To be a good steward of taxpayers' dollars, Congress should eliminate programs that are no longer needed.

62. Rural Community Facilities Program (HHS) Savings: $10 Million

This section would eliminate the Rural Community Facilities program at the Department of Health and Human Services. The President's budget proposal says "the program is duplicative of other wastewater treatment programs in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)." USDA and EPA already managed water treatment programs and have expertise in that area. However, the office at HHS that houses the program administers social service programs, and social service staff do not have the expertise to effectively and efficiently administer a water treatment program. In a time when our national debt is over $14 trillion dollars, it's a common-sense move for Congress to eliminate duplicative federal programs that may be more poorly run than other programs.

63. Rural Fire Assistance (DOI) Savings: $7 Million

This section would eliminate funding the Rural Fire Assistance program, a program that began as a pilot in 2001 to provide grants to rural fire protection districts that serve communities of less than 10,000. The grants require a 10 percent local cost share and are used for the purchase of fire engines and other firefighting equipment, as well as for firefighter training and other related support. According to the President, this program is duplicative of other fire assistance grant programs and should be eliminated. DHS and USDA's Forest Service both operate much larger grant programs that provide similar services to rural fire departments across the country. While there are serious concerns with even larger-scale duplication between USDA and FOI, [17] the President has at least recommended terminating the Rural Fire Assistance program.[18]

64. Rural Housing Assistance-Small Loan and Grant Programs (USDA)

Savings: $61 Million

This section would eliminate small loans and grants for rural family housing, which include housing repair loans, self-help housing loans, self-help housing grants, housing assistance grants, and loans for inventory property. According to the President's budget, these programs have no measurable impact, and the goals of these loans are more efficiently and effectively achieved through USDA's guaranteed loan program for single family housing.

65. Save America's Treasures and Preserve America (DOI) Savings: $30 Million

This section would eliminate two small grant programs aimed at supporting preservation efforts that are duplicative of other DOI efforts. The Preserve American program was established in 2003 to "provide planning funding to support preservation efforts through heritage tourism, education, and historic preservation planning."19 $4.6 million was appropriated for this program in FY 2010 under the National Recreation and Preservation funding account. The President has recommended eliminating this program because it has not demonstrated how it contributes to National historic preservation goals and lacks rigorous performance metrics and evaluation efforts.20 The Save America's Treasures Program was created as a two-year program in 1999 to preserve historically significant properties. $25 million, including $10.2 million in earmarks, was appropriated in FY 2010. The President has twice recommended eliminating this program because it has not demonstrated how it contributes to National historic preservation goals and lacks rigorous performance metrics and evaluation efforts.21 The President believes these programs should be terminated in a time of difficult trade-offs.22

DOI, additionally, oversees multiple, overlapping historic preservation programs. Every federal agency is required to maintain a historic preservation program23 and must appoint a historic preservation officer and comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Historic

[17] http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09877.pdf

[18] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 57

[19] http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/preserveamerica/

[20] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/trs.pdf, , page 48

[21] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/trs.pdf, , page 48

[22] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 64

[23] http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/fapa_p.htm

preservation programs substantially overlap throughout DOI and across several other federal agencies and include the Historic Preservation Tax Credit (a 20 or 10 percent tax credit which can be applied to preservation efforts of historic buildings.24 This subsidy is expected to total $400 million in federal funds for FY10 – including $300 million for corporations – and $600 million in FY1125), the Historic Preservation Fund (which is funded by oil receipts in the outer continental shelf for state and tribal preservation activities as specified in the NHPA.26 $80 million is appropriated for DOI historic preservation activities for FY2010), the Heritage Preservation Services (DOI/NPS) office (which oversees nine preservation programs, including the Federal Agency Preservation Assistance Program, the Historic Preservation Planning Program, and Technical Preservation Services for Historic Buildings27), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (which "is an independent federal agency that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of our nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy."28 $5.9 million is appropriated for this agency in FY 2010).

66. Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program (HUD)

Savings: $27 Million

The Administration proposes to eliminate the Self-Help Homeowner Opportunity Program (SHOP). This program duplicates existing and more efficient programs that address the same needs at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). SHOP provides low-income and very low-income families the opportunity to become homeowners be contributing sweat equity to make housing more affordable. SHOP activities are eligible under the much larger HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), for which the 2012 Budget provides $1.65 billion.

67. SM–2 Block IIIB Missile (DOD) Savings: $98 million

This section terminates the Navy's Standard Missile (SM) 2 Block IIIB surface-to-air missile, which provides area defense for the Navy's cruisers and destroyers. These missiles are no longer needed as they will be replaced by the more capable SM-6 Block I missile.

The short range (SM) 2 Block IIIB is shorter range than other available missiles and cannot effectively defeat the growing threat of modern fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles, and land-attack anti-ship cruise missiles.

68. State Health Access Grants (HHS) Savings: $74 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the State Health Access Program. This program was created in 2009 and supports grants to States to implement a program design that will expand

[24] http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/download/HPTI_brochure.pdf,
[25] http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=110_cong_senate_committee_prints&docid=f:45728.pdf#page=392
[26] http://www.nps.gov/history/HPS/hpg/HPF/index.htm
[27] http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/
[28] http://www.achp.gov/aboutachp.html

access to affordable health care coverage for uninsured populations. Because the President's health care law promises coverage to 32 million uninsured Americans, the President's budget proposes eliminating funding. Republicans have contended the President's controversial health law fails to fix our broken health care system and will only increase costs and taxes while reducing choices and control. However, this state grant program is duplicative of other federal funding streams that support the goal of helping uninsured individuals gain access to health care coverage.

69. Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile Program (DOD) Savings: $37 Million

This section cancels procurement of the Army's Surface Launched Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile (SLAMRAAM) short-range missile defense system following completion of research and development in 2012. This weapon system requires excessive funds to procure in sufficient quantities and is designed to destroy aircraft, helicopters, cruise missiles, and unmanned aerial vehicles, which are not a threat to our ground forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. The cost to procure SLAMRAAM missile interceptors has tripled since initial estimates. Additionally, SLAMRAAM is intended to hit aerial targets for which we already have both Air Force and Navy air assets to combat. However, this section will still provide $19 million in FY2012 funding to complete research and development of the Army's SLAMRAAM system so the design can be retained for future use if necessary.

70. Synchrotron Radiation Center (NSF) Savings: $3 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Synchrotron Radiation Center at the University of Wisconsin, which provides synchrotron radiation based instruments to a broad array of researchers The President's Budget recommends eliminating the funding because more powerful and capable facilities that surpass the capabilities of the SRC facility have come on-line since the Center was created 30 years ago. This decision was based on new opportunities, the capabilities available at current and planned Department of Energy facilities, and the result of a competitive peer-reviewed competition.

71. Targeted Airshed Grants (EPA) Savings: $20 Million

This section would eliminate funding for provided solely to California to retrofit existing diesel engines and funding for targeted airshed grants. Congress added provisions to the 2010 appropriations law providing $20 million in special grants for California and targeted airsheds to fund pollution reduction through diesel retrofits and replacements. The California-specific grant is not authorized in law, while the targeted airshed grants, though not explicitly set aside for California, will primarily be funding projects in that State. This termination recommendation was made last year as well.29 According to the President, the marginal benefit of these individual retrofits is small at this point (after averaging previously 13:1 in cost to benefits) and there is also other funding available for such retrofits through the Department of Transportation's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program (about $45 million for diesel

[29] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/trs.pdf, , page 52

retrofits annually) and EPA's Supplemental Environmental Project enforcement agreements ($7.1 million in diesel emission reduction projects). Additionally, given that since 2007 new diesel engines have to comply with much higher emission standards, there is a decreasing need for retrofits in the first place.30

72. Targeted Water Infrastructure Grants (EPA) Savings: $157 Million

This section would eliminate funding for EPA earmarks for wastewater and drinking water projects targeted to specific communities, projects which are not selected through competitive or merit-based process. According to the President, "This approach to funding projects duplicates funding available through more effective formula allocation programs to States (Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds) and bypasses the normal State prioritization process that funds the most important projects from a health and environmental standpoint. 333 such projects were earmarked in FY2010.[31] President Obama also recommended eliminating these earmarks in his last budget.[32]

73. Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms (DOC) Savings: $16 Million

This section would eliminate funding the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms (TAAF) program. TAAF provides matching grants of up to $75,000 to companies adversely impacted by trade so that the companies can hire consulting services "to help them become competitive." The program is administered through a network of regional, non-profit Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers (TAACs), which are chosen non-competitively. These TAACs have traditionally charged overhead rates equal to approximately 60 percent of grant funding, and the Government Accountability Office has questioned the program's effectiveness and administrative costs.Additionally, there are several other programs that similar provide consulting services to companies and small businesses, like the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the Small Business Development Center program. The Administration recommends terminating this program.[33]

74. Training for Realtime Writers (ED) Savings: $1 Million

This section eliminates Training for Realtime Writers, a narrowly focused program that is not a federal spending priority. The program provides grants for the recruitment, training and assistance, and job placement of individuals who have completed a court reporting training program as realtime writers.

75. Transitional Jobs Demonstration (DOL) Savings: $45 Million

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[30] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 75

[31] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 76

[32] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2011/assets/trs.pdf, , page 53

[33] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 78

This section eliminates the Transitional Jobs Demonstration, meaning a new round of demonstration projects would not be funded starting in FY 2012. The program funds demonstrations which combine short-term subsidized or supported employment with case management services to improve the employment outcomes of individuals with significant barriers to employment. In 2011, the Administration will launch a $45 million demonstration, including a random-assignment evaluation, to test the effectiveness of enhanced transitional jobs programs focused on non-custodial parents and ex-offenders. The Administration contends in its FY 2012 budget justification that "Results from this evaluation can be used to improve existing transitional jobs programs and inform decisions about the models that should be supported in the future."[34]

76. Underground Railroad (ED) Savings $2 Million

This section eliminates the Underground Railroad program, which supports competitive grants to non-profit organizations to house, display, interpret, and provide information to schools, institutions of higher education, and the public regarding artifacts and other materials relating to the history of the Underground Railroad. This was not intended to be a permanent federal responsibility. Federal funds previously provided have enabled a number of grantees to make progress in securing private support to create endowments. Federal funding may also be available under competitions conducted by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

77. University Community Fund (HUD) Savings: $25 Million

The Administration proposes to terminate the University Community Fund. This program duplicates existing programs that serve the same purposes and populations. The University Community Fund provides competitive grants to assist universities in revitalizing surrounding communities. The Minority Serving Institution programs within the Department of Education serve similar populations, and activities currently funded by the University Community Fund are eligible activities of the Community Development Block Grant program. In addition, there are no comprehensive and independent evaluations of the program, indicating the program lacks clear indicators of effectiveness and impact.

78. Valles Caldera (USDA) Savings: $4 Million

This section would terminate funding for federal management of the Baca Ranch, a preservation in New Mexico intended to conserve natural resources. Legislation passed in 2000 required this Preserve to be self sustaining by 2015. In the interim, the Forest Service has managed the Preserve until the Valles Caldera Trust (a government corporation) assumed management authority, which occurred in 2002. The trust receives funding from the Forest Servivce for managemetn purposes and also through hunting, fishing, recreation, and grazing fees, which were intended to be its primary funding sources. This amendmnet would eliminate the duplicating funding source at the Forest Service.

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[34] http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf.

79. Vocational Rehabilitation Recreational Program (ED) Savings: $2 Million

This section eliminates Vocational Rehabilitation Recreational Program because it has been found to have limited national impact, and because recreational programs would be more appropriately financed by State and local agencies and the private sector. The program supports recreation for individuals with disabilities to aid in their employment, mobility, independence, socialization, and community integration.

80. Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities (HHS) Savings: $17 Million

This section would eliminate funding for the Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities grant program, which assists States in making polling places accessible to individuals with disabilities and in training election workers on how best to promote access and participation of individuals with disabilities in elections. The President's budget recommends terminating this funding for 2012 because states have balances of over $35 million in unexpended funds from prior year appropriations for this program.

81). Water and Wastewater Treatment Projects (Corps of Engineers)

Savings: $129 Million

This section would eliminate funding for Water and Wastewater Treatment projects, as called for by the President in his FY 2012 budget. This program authorizes projects outside the Corps' main mission areas. Additionally, it is not cost effective and "duplicates funding for these types of projects in other Federal agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Agriculture."[35]

82. Water Resources Research Act Program (DOI) Savings: $7 Million

This section would eliminate funding the Geological Survey (USGS) grants to 54 Water Resources Research Institutes. According to the President, there is neither a Federal need nor a clear Federal responsibility for this research. Currently, each State, as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam, operates a Water Resources Research Institute at their land grant institute to conduct applied research on water quality and availability, as well as drought and flood hazards at the local scale. Regional and national USGS programs monitoring surface water through the nation used by stakeholders across the country and take precedent over these grants that do not address national needs.[36]

83. Watershed and Flood Prevention Program (USDA) Savings: $30 Million

This section would terminate funding for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program, because nearly all its funding is earmarked by Congress, preventing USDA from prioritizing funding. As a result, funding is directed towards projects without merit-based

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[35] OMB, FY 2012 Terminations, Reductions and Savings, page 84, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf.

[36] "Fiscal Year 2012 Terminations, Reductions, and Savings," Office of Management and Budget, http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/trs.pdf, Page 85

criteria, such as cost-effectiveness of a project. A 2003 OMB study showed that this program has a lower economic return than other federal flood prevention programs, such as those in the Army Corps or FEMA, for this reason.

84. Watershed Rehabilitation Program (USDA) Savings: $40 Million

This section would terminate funding the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Watershed Rehabilitation program, because flood control dams were built with the intention that future operations and maintenance would be paid by local sponsors. The locations of dams chosen by local sponsors have additional risks not relevant to a federal responsibility.

85. Women's Educational Equity (ED) Savings: $2 Million

This section eliminates the Women's Educational Equity program, which makes competitive awards to promote gender equity in education. This program is overly narrow in scope.