

RESTORE BASE FUNDING

FY 2018 & 2019 Exceptional Item

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is a unique education agency with a statewide network of professional educators, trained volunteers, and county offices, reaching into every Texas county to address local priority needs. For more than 100 years, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has worked to help Texans better their lives through the application of science-based knowledge.

STATE REDUCTION = LOCAL IMPACTS

As an education agency, more than 90% of AgriLife Extension's annual budget is invested in its faculty and staff, who, with a cadre of volunteers across the state, deliver the educational programs and resources that help Texans better their lives. A reduction in state funding directly equates to a reduction of at least **50 faculty and staff** and weakens our ability to leverage funds provided by county governments:

- Loss of 26 local county and state educators in agricultural programming will reduce our ability to respond to the emerging needs and critical issues facing Texas agriculture producers, such as **livestock and crop protection, drought remediation and invasive pests and diseases like West Nile virus and Zika**. Equivalent loss of leveraged county funds = \$327K (estimated).
- Loss of 9 local county and state educators will result in a **reduction of health and wellness education** programs statewide, including chronic disease prevention and nutrition education through the Healthy Texas initiative. Equivalent loss of leveraged county funds = \$110K (estimated).
- Loss of 9 local county and state educators translates into **fewer learning experiences for hundreds of thousands of urban and rural Texas youth** participating in 4-H and other leadership activities. This would also reduce our ability to provide certification and continuing professional development for county governments and AgriLife Extension's extensive network of volunteers. Equivalent loss of leveraged county funds = \$118K (estimated).
- Loss of 4 specialists reduces our ability to provide **predator-control assistance and prevention** of wildlife-damage problems caused by feral hogs, coyotes and beavers.
- Loss of 2 specialists will lead to diminished capacity to **effectively communicate** with internal and external audiences on program offerings and accountability metrics.

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE

**Requested Amount
 (Biennial)
 \$3,458,022**

Objective

Restore base funding to provide programs, tools, and resources —on a local and statewide level — that teach people how to improve agriculture and food production, advance health practices, protect the environment, strengthen the economy and enrich youth.

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE PROVIDING SOLUTIONS



4% Reduction

A 4% reduction in the AgriLife Extension Service budget will not only stifle development of new education initiatives, it will greatly diminish the delivery of existing programs and the impact those programs have on Texans.



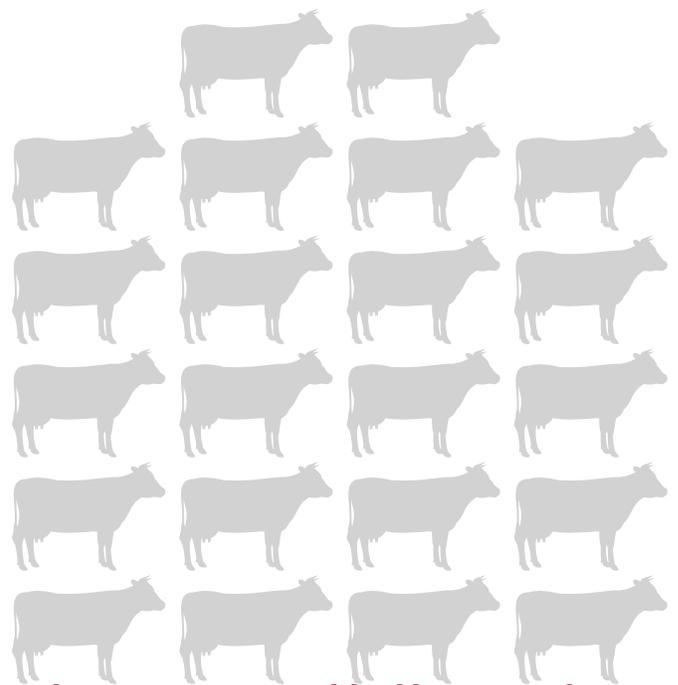
fewer health and wellness education programs statewide, including child immunization, obesity, and disease prevention
loss of 9 educators



fewer opportunities for youth 4-H and continuing professional development programs
loss of 9 educators



reduced ability to provide predator-control assistance and prevention of wildlife-damage problems caused by feral hogs, coyotes and beavers
loss of 4 educators



less response to critical issues such as livestock and crop protection, drought remediation and invasive pests and diseases like West Nile virus and Zika
loss of 26 educators



diminished capacity to effectively communicate with internal and external audiences on program offerings and accountability metrics
loss of 2 educators

For more information, contact:

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What is Texas A&M AgriLife?

It's a family of agencies that brings world-class research, education and service to Texans as a part of the Texas A&M University System.