



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA ANNOUNCES 22 STATES TO RECEIVE OVER \$5 MILLION IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON, April 11, 2002 - Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman announced this week that 22 states would receive more than \$5 million in rural business enterprise grant funds, designed to assist in the fostering of economic development in rural areas.

“Fostering economic development is important to our rural communities,” said Veneman. “The grants will provide assistance to improve the lives of rural residents and build stronger communities in rural America.”

Veneman noted that 622 businesses will benefit from the grant funds and that 1,410 jobs will be created or saved. Grants for the 39 proposals will be provided through USDA’s Rural Development [Rural Business Enterprise Grant \(RBEG\) program](#).

Arizona - \$280,887	Mississippi - \$535,000	South Dakota - \$795,409
California - \$487,723	Missouri - \$199,400	Tennessee - \$100,000
Guam - \$25,000	North Dakota - \$83,650	Virginia - \$81,180
Iowa - \$198,185	Nebraska - \$286,410	Vermont - \$190,218
Idaho - \$59,752	New Hampshire - \$99,000	Wisconsin - \$182,530
Louisiana - \$284,080	New Mexico - \$233,550	West Virginia - \$201,130
Maine - \$74,800	Oklahoma - \$495,000	
Michigan - \$90,000	Pennsylvania - \$50,000	

A complete list of the individual grant recipients can be found at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/newsroom/news.htm>

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through three agencies: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service and Rural Utilities Service. Further information on USDA Rural Development can be obtained by contacting any USDA Service Center or by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

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