5 Facts Supporting FDA's Food Safety Budget Request

For fiscal year 2016, the president asked Congress for \$109.5 million in additional funding for the Food and Drug Administration to continue implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). Providing the agency with the resources needed to implement this important food safety law has been a bipartisan priority since FSMA was enacted in 2011. Significant funding is needed for the coming fiscal year, when FDA will finalize major food safety rules and must be ready to help food producers comply with the new requirements.

Figure 1

\$109.5M Would Help FDA Close the FSMA Funding Gap

To complete the implementation of FSMA, FDA estimates it will need a total of \$276 million in additional funding.



Source: U.S. Food and Drug Administration, "President's FY 2016 Budget Request for FSMA: The Context and History of FSMA Funding," accessed Mar. 11, 2015, http://www.fda.gov/Food/ GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/ucm436160.htm.

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FDA safeguards 80 percent of the U.S. food supply.

FSMA includes new safety standards for fresh produce, prevention-based requirements for processed foods, and a comprehensive oversight system for imported food. Once these are all up and running, decreases are expected in rates of pathogenic contamination in FDA-regulated foods and foodborne illnesses.



An estimated 12 million shipments of food enter the U.S. per year—**a 60-fold increase** since the early 1990s. FDA's budget request includes \$25.5 million for a system that ensures imported food meets U.S. safety standards.



As many as **300,000 food growers, processors, and importers** will need to implement FSMA's prevention-based safety standards. FDA's request includes **\$11.5 million** to provide food producers with technical assistance in meeting the new requirements.



To meet FDA's goal of preventing foodborne illnesses, about **2,000 inspectors need to be retrained** and equipped to carry out more frequent, risk-based inspections; **\$25 million** has been requested for this purpose.



More than **3,000 state, local, and tribal agencies have roles in the U.S. food safety system,** from conducting inspections to investigating foodborne-illness outbreaks. FDA's request includes **\$32 million** to train and prepare these partner agencies to successfully implement FSMA.

Source

U.S. Food and Drug Administration, "President's FY 2016 Budget Request: Key Investments for Implementing the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)," accessed Feb. 12, 2015, http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/ucm432576.htm.

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