



United States Senator

**MARY L. LANDRIEU**  
*Louisiana*

News Release

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## **SEN. LANDRIEU SECURES MONROE FUNDING**

*Projects in Monroe and surrounding area to  
receive \$480,000.*

WASHINGTON – Sen. Mary L. Landrieu, D-La., announced today that \$480,000 in funding for Monroe and the surrounding area in the Agriculture Appropriations bill that passed the Senate Appropriations Committee this afternoon.

“The Louisiana projects included in the Senate bill will help our research institutes and wildlife agencies better support the agriculture community,” said Sen. Landrieu, a member of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. “Louisiana’s farmers face several challenges today, including increasing budget deficits and continued trade talks that, if successful, would have a crippling effect to Louisiana’s agriculture community.

“When we passed the Farm Bill in 2002, we gave critical support to our farmers and rural communities that are facing growing hardships in this increasingly complex and competitive global market,” said Sen. Landrieu said. “While the President’s budget made swiping cuts to an industry that is much in need, the Senate bill is a start at restoring those funds.”

The \$16.8 billion Agriculture Appropriations bill funds the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. The Senate bill funds 13 Louisiana projects, 2 of which will aid the Monroe area.

“I will continue to fight for Louisiana’s funding as we move to the full Committee vote and through conference,” said Sen. Landrieu.

Some of the projects in the Monroe area in the Agriculture Appropriations bill include:

- more -

- **\$250,000 to Lincoln Parish and Union Parish for the Union-Lincoln Parish Regional Water Conservation Project**

The Sparta groundwater aquifer in North Central Louisiana is being depleted at an alarming rate. These funds would be used to develop alternative source solution and conservation plans for the short and long term.

- **\$230,000 to Louisiana Tech University for the Louisiana Rural Development Center**

This funding will help the center facilitate the transfer of information and technical assistance from Louisiana's universities, state and federal agencies to rural communities on issues that are important to rural areas.