House Agriculture Subcommittee Holds Hearing

Thursday, the House Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research Subcommittee held a hearing to "Review Implementation of USDA Farm Bill Research Programs". Discussion on the move of the Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) to Kansas City dominated the hearing. Subcommittee Chairwoman Stacey Plaskett (D-VI) noted 214 of the appropriated 329 positions at ERS are vacant. NIFA has 264 vacant positions out of 336 funded positions. USDA Deputy Undersecretary for Research, Education and Economics Scott Hutchins noted the hiring process has "accelerated tremendously." View the hearing <a href="here">here</a>.