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- [main page](#)
- [faq](#)
- [index](#)
- [search](#)



[TITLE 7](#) > [CHAPTER 98](#) > [SUBCHAPTER III](#) > § 6941

[Prev](#) | [Next](#)

## § 6941. Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development

[How Current is This?](#)

### **(a) Authorization**

The Secretary is authorized to establish in the Department the position of Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development.

### **(b) Confirmation required**

If the Secretary establishes the position of Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development authorized under subsection (a) of this section, the Under Secretary shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

### **(c) Functions of Under Secretary**

#### **(1) Principal functions**

Upon establishment, the Secretary shall delegate to the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development those functions under the jurisdiction of the Department that are related to rural economic and community development.

#### **(2) Additional functions**

The Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development shall perform such other functions as may be required by law or prescribed by the Secretary.

#### **(d) Succession**

Any official who is serving as Under Secretary of Agriculture for Small Community and Rural Development on October 13, 1994, and who was appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall not be required to be reappointed under subsection (b) of this section to the successor position authorized under subsection (a) of this section if the Secretary establishes the position, and the official occupies the new position, within 180 days after October 13, 1994 (or such later date set by the Secretary if litigation delays rapid succession).

**(e) Loan approval authority**

Approval authority for loans and loan guarantees in connection with the electric and telephone loan and loan guarantee programs authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 ([7 U.S.C. 901](#) et seq.) shall not be transferred to, or conditioned on review of, a State director or other employee whose primary duty is not the review and approval of such loans or the provision of assistance to such borrowers.