

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20250**

**SECRETARY'S MEMORANDUM 1076-031
August 12, 2019**

Under Secretary for Rural Development and Principal Deputy Chief Financial Officer

1. PURPOSE

This Memorandum establishes the position of Under Secretary for Rural Development and delegates to the Under Secretary all functions of the Department related to rural economic and community development. This Memorandum also establishes the position of Principal Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

2. AUTHORITY

This Memorandum implements Section 12407 of the *Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018* (P.L. 115-334), which amended Section 231 of the *Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994* (7 U.S.C. 6941), and uses the authority of the Secretary to reorganize the Department under Section 4(a) of *Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953* (5 U.S.C. App.; 7 U.S.C. 2201 note).

3. ACTIONS ORDERED

- a. This Memorandum establishes an Under Secretary for Rural Development, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and who shall report to the Secretary.
- b. The delegations of authority at 7 CFR § 2.17, previously delegated to the Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development, are transferred to the Under Secretary for Rural Development.
- c. The Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Housing Service, Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development Business Center, Office of the Chief Risk Officer, Office of Innovation, State Offices, Office of Civil Rights, and Office of External Affairs, previously established under the Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development, are realigned to report to the Under Secretary for Rural Development.
- d. This Memorandum establishes a Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development, who will report to the Under Secretary for Rural Development. Pursuant to 7 CFR § 2.17(a), subject to reservations in 7 CFR § 2.17(b), and subject to policy guidance and direction

by the Under Secretary for Rural Development, the following delegation of authority is made to the Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development, to be exercised only during the absence or unavailability of the Under Secretary: Perform all the duties and exercise all the powers which are now or which may hereafter be delegated to the Under Secretary for Rural Development.

- e. The position of Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development is abolished.
- f. This Memorandum establishes the position of Principal Deputy Chief Financial Officer. The delegations of authority at 7 CFR § 2.500, previously delegated to the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, are transferred to the Principal Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

4. INCIDENTAL TRANSFERS

The Assistant Secretary for Administration, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Office of Budget and Program Analysis are authorized to approve such transfers of funds, personnel, employment authority, space, records, property, and incidentals as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Memorandum.

5. EXISTING DIRECTIVES

Prior delegations of authority, administrative regulations, and other directives not inconsistent with the provisions of this Memorandum will remain in full force and effect.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION

This Memorandum is effective upon signature and will remain in effect for one year from the effective date, or until such earlier time as the Department's published delegations of authority have been revised to incorporate the provisions of this Memorandum.

/s/ SONNY PERDUE
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE