

## **Agriculture Disaster Assistance Provisions in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020.**

The spending package includes changes (Sec. 791 on page 307 of [Rules Committee Print 116-44](#)) that:

- Extend the availability of unobligated funds that were initially made available for agriculture disaster in the wake of the 2017 hurricanes, which were set to expire at the end of the year. After all amounts have been obligated there will be an estimated \$1.5 billion remaining.
- Make producers affected by additional disaster events (including drought, excess moisture, and quality losses due to a qualifying disaster) eligible to apply for aid via WHIP+ for losses in 2018 and 2019.
- Drought losses will be eligible if any area within the county in which the loss occurs was rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having a D3 (Extreme Drought) or higher level of drought intensity at any time during the applicable calendar years (see map below).
- Provide an additional \$400 million in funds to be allocated to block grants to states for 2018 and 2019 losses.
- Require that losses to sugar beet crops shall be made directly to the cooperative processor, who will then provide the assistance to their member growers.
- Extend the Secretary's authority to continue to make payments for certain 2017 losses that may not be processed yet.

### **Map of counties meeting the D3 or higher drought threshold for 2018 and 2019**

