

## Committee History

September 21, 2007

In 1825 when Senator William Findlay, a Republican from Pennsylvania, argued that agriculture was one of "three great branches of domestic industry" along with commerce and manufacturing, the Senate Committee on Agriculture was born.

Senator Findlay submitted a resolution providing for the creation of a standing Committee on Agriculture during debate on dividing the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures. He pointed out that while commerce and manufacturing were two equal components of the American economy, like a three-legged stool, there was one other important segment being left out &ndash; agriculture. All three, he claimed, were equally entitled to the care and protection of the Government. He contended further that agricultural interests were distinct and not always best served when included with those of commerce.

On December 9, 1825, the Senate, by a vote of 22-14, approved a resolution creating a standing Committee on Agriculture. [Click here to read more on the Committee's history from the U.S. Government Printing Office web site: S.Doc 105-24.](#)