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# 7 U.S. Code § 1627b

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## National Sheep Industry Improvement Center

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### **(a) Definitions**

In this section:

#### **(1) Board**

The term “Board” means the Board of Directors established under subsection (f).

#### **(2) Center**

The term “Center” means the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center established under subsection (b).

#### **(3) Eligible entity**

The term “eligible entity” means an entity that promotes the betterment of the United States sheep or goat industries and that is—

- (A) a public, private, or cooperative organization;
- (B) an association, including a corporation not operated for profit;
- (C) a federally recognized Indian Tribe; or
- (D) a public or quasi-public agency.

#### **(4) Fund**

The term “Fund” means the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center Revolving Fund established under subsection (e).

#### **(5) Intermediary**

The term “intermediary” means a financial institution receiving Center funds for establishing a revolving fund and relending to an eligible entity.

### **(b) Establishment of Center**

The Secretary shall establish a National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.

### **(c) Purposes**

The purposes of the Center shall be to—

- (1) promote strategic development activities and collaborative efforts by private and State entities to maximize the impact of Federal assistance to strengthen and enhance production and marketing of sheep or goat products in the United States;
- (2) optimize the use of available human capital and resources within the sheep or goat industries;
- (3) provide assistance to meet the needs of the sheep or goat industry for infrastructure development, business development, production, resource development, and market and environmental research;
- (4) advance activities that empower and build the capacity of the United States sheep or goat industry to

design unique responses to the special needs of the sheep or goat industries on both a regional and national basis; and

(5) adopt flexible and innovative approaches to solving the long-term needs of the United States sheep or goat industry.

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