



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

AFFORDABILITY & THE FARM BILL

When farms and ranches thrive, we all thrive. Below are some of the many ways the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 will support all Americans — both in the field, at the grocery store, and on the global stage.

Keeping food abundant and markets stable.

- The bill strengthens proven risk management tools like crop insurance and Dairy Margin Coverage so farmers can withstand volatility and continue to produce wholesome, affordable food.
- When producers stay in business, the food supply remains strong, and prices stay more stable for consumers. Investing in these tools up front also reduces the need for costly, ad hoc disaster spending later, saving taxpayers money while keeping markets predictable.
- Expanded risk protection for specialty crop producers further helps producers manage volatile markets for fruits and vegetables, lowering production costs and helping keep fresh food affordable.
- If Congress doesn't act to provide certainty and reassert science-based federal regulatory structure for crop protection tools, farmers would face further escalating input costs and lower yields, leading to higher food prices for consumers.

Lowering costs through science, technology, and innovation.

- The bill promotes precision agriculture and innovation that allow farmers to produce more using fewer inputs like fuel, fertilizer, and other inputs. Greater efficiency lowers costs on the farm and puts downward pressure on food prices over time.
- Conservation and land stewardship programs are designed not just to protect resources, but also to keep farmers on the land, reduce insurance and disaster costs, and avoid regulatory burdens that cause higher prices for consumers.

Strengthening supply chains and trade.

- The bill supports agricultural exports and trade relationships that expand opportunities for U.S. producers while ensuring Americans continue to enjoy the most abundant, reliable, and affordable food supply in the world.
- Targeted investments to strengthen processing capacity, particularly in meat and poultry, reduce bottlenecks, increase competition, and help address price pressure caused by limited processing options.

Lowering energy, housing, and household costs.

- Energy efficiency and rural energy programs help farmers, small businesses, and households lower their utility bills and operating costs. These savings ripple

through the economy, making small businesses more competitive and reducing costs passed on to consumers.

- Rural development investments in broadband, water systems, and community infrastructure help lower local tax burdens and household expenses while supporting long term economic growth.

Expanding credit access that supports stable food prices.

- Affordable access to credit helps farmers weather economic downturns, expand operations, and bring more food to market.
- Supporting beginning farmers and modernizing agricultural lending increases competition and supply, key drivers of lower prices over time.

Providing forestry, housing, and insurance relief.

- Active forest management increases the supply of timber, helping ease construction and housing costs nationwide.
- Proactive wildfire prevention also reduces property risk, which can help stabilize or lower insurance premiums, especially in high-risk states like those across the West.
- Responsible grazing access on federal lands lowers cattle production costs and supports herd expansion, helping ease upward pressure on beef prices.

Preventing price spikes before they happen.

- The farm bill addresses patchwork state regulations that disrupt interstate markets and drive up food prices for consumers.
- It also strengthens biosecurity protections to prevent plant and animal disease outbreaks that can cause sudden shortages and price spikes.

Investing in long-term affordability.

- Agricultural research and innovation have consistently delivered outsized economic returns by allowing farmers to produce more with fewer resources.
- Continued investment ensures food remains affordable for American families while strengthening the resilience of the food system.