



House Republicans Support Rural America

- With the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and pandemic-related spending increases, the Administration and USDA are awash with cash. Spending and regulatory decisions are regularly made to address ideological, partisan, or political needs versus those of rural America.
- The Committee has spent countless hours traveling the country to hear from farmers, ranchers, foresters, rural communities, and everyday consumers. Their message has been clear: they need the government to work for them, not against them.
- These men and women have struggled with fractured supply chains, considerable input costs, relentless inflation, natural disasters, volatile markets, and labor shortages, each consistently worsened by ill-conceived, half-baked Executive action.
- In what seemingly is a daily occurrence, USDA is sending taxpayer dollars to every corner of the country, yet nothing has changed. We are not producing more fertilizer. We are not reducing the cost of production. We are not making food more affordable.
- However, we are burdening the taxpayer. We are losing ground on the world stage. We are a net agricultural importer. We are less independent, less resilient, and less competitive.
- **A strong farm bill is the best opportunity that exists to course correct.**
- House Republicans are crafting a bipartisan farm bill that aligns the farm safety net with the needs of producers, expands market access and trade promotion opportunities, and reinforces the importance of helping our neighbors in need, while doing so without indiscriminate expansion of our nutrition safety net.
- But a robust and resilient farm safety net, along with meeting other bipartisan Member priorities, cannot occur without significant investment.
- Democrats must think, in earnest, about those priorities, priorities that can be funded without cutting a SNAP benefit or eliminating the important conservation programs we have all come to appreciate.
- We have an opportunity to advance our country's independence, economic resiliency, and global competitiveness, an opportunity that will require leaders in Congress to set aside politics and focus on policymaking.