

**MEMBER DAY**

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**HEARING**  
BEFORE THE  
**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

DECEMBER 10, 2025

**Serial No. 119-17**



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*agriculture.house.gov*

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## MEMBER DAY

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
*Washington, D.C.*

The Committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:02 a.m., in Room 1300, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Glenn Thompson [Chairman of the Committee] presiding.

Members present: Representatives Thompson, Austin Scott of Georgia, Crawford, Kelly, Baird, Craig, Costa, McGovern, Hayes, Brown, Davids of Kansas, Budzinski, McDonald Rivet, and Figures.

Staff present: Laurel Lee Chatham, Austin DeBerry, Sofia Jones, Sam Rogers, John Konya, Clark Ogilvie, Michael Stein, and Jackson Blodgett.

### **OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. GLENN THOMPSON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM PENNSYLVANIA**

The CHAIRMAN. This hearing of the Committee on Agriculture will come to order.

Good morning everyone, and welcome to the House Committee on Agriculture's Member Day hearing. I appreciate my colleagues taking the time to share their priorities, perspectives, and their feedback.

Over the past year, our country has entered a new chapter with the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump, the confirmation of Secretary Brooke Rollins at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Ambassador Jameson Greer as our U.S. Trade Representative, partners across the Administration who share a commitment to revitalizing American agriculture, expanding global market access, restoring program integrity, and putting producers in rural communities back at the center of Federal policy where they belong. The Committee has a magnificent mandate—strengthen American agriculture, expand opportunity, and safeguard the systems that underpin our food and national security—and I am proud that we have already begun to fulfill this mandate.

Earlier this year, Republicans in Congress passed the One Big Beautiful Bill (Pub. L. 119–21), the most significant investment in American agriculture in a generation, and this legislation strengthens the farm safety net, boosts conservation and ag research, and restores accountability and opportunity to SNAP by rebuilding guardrails that ensure the program works for those who truly need it and for the taxpayers who generously fund it. I do want to say most of those measures, if not all, came out of great bipartisan work as we traveled the country listening, 43 states and one Terri-

tory, and most of that was the basis for the Farm Food and National Security Act of 2024 (H.R. 8467) that passed out of this Committee. Our reforms modernize and strengthen work requirements for able-bodied adults without young children, incentivize states to reduce improper payments, and ensure assistance will go to those who genuinely need help. And by restoring those guardrails—reinforcing dignity and the value of work and prioritizing American families and taxpayers—we are putting SNAP back on the path Congress intended, one that protects the vulnerable while encouraging greater opportunity and self-sufficiency.

Our work on the farm bill reauthorization did not end with the passage of H.R. 1, or the One Big Beautiful Bill. While extensions of the previous farm bill and recently-announced economic assistance provide some certainty to our producers, it is not and should not be *in lieu of* a comprehensive and thoughtful bipartisan 5 year reauthorization. As we look ahead to the new year, we will advance what we are calling Farm Bill 2.0, a bipartisan piece of legislation responsive to the needs of our agriculture community.

This Committee has a large jurisdiction, and I have always said that we can walk and chew gum at the same time, and this year we have done just that. Working with our colleagues on the Financial Services Committee, we passed the bipartisan CLARITY Act of 2025 (H.R. 3633, Digital Asset Market Clarity Act of 2025), establishing a clear, workable market structure for digital assets, and finally bringing clarity to the jurisdiction of the CFTC and SEC. Momentum to pass CLARITY continues to build in the Senate as well, and this legislation will protect consumers, foster innovation, and fortify America's role as a global leader in financial markets. And finally, as we consider additional authorities for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, we must also reauthorize the Commission. A modern, well-functioning derivatives regulator is essential to the farmers, ranchers, energy producers, and manufacturers who rely on these markets every day. As the Ranking Member and I both agree, this is another critical piece of work for the Committee to undertake.

With that, I welcome my colleagues to today's hearing. I look forward to their testimony.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Thompson follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. GLENN THOMPSON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM PENNSYLVANIA

Good morning, and welcome to the House Committee on Agriculture's Member Day hearing. I appreciate my colleagues taking some time to share their priorities, perspectives, and feedback.

Over the past year, our country has entered a new chapter. With the inauguration of President Donald J. Trump, the confirmation of Secretary Brooke Rollins at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Ambassador Jamison Greer as our U.S. Trade Representative, we now have partners across the Administration who share our commitment to revitalizing American agriculture, expanding global market access, restoring program integrity, and putting producers and rural communities back at the center of Federal policy where they belong.

This Committee has a magnificent mandate: strengthen American agriculture, expand opportunity, and safeguard the systems that underpin our food and national security. I'm proud that we have already begun to fulfill this mandate.

Earlier this year, Republicans in Congress passed the One Big Beautiful Bill, the most significant investment in American agriculture in a generation. This legislation strengthens the farm safety net, boosts conservation and ag research, and re-

stores accountability and opportunity to SNAP by rebuilding guardrails that ensure the program works for those who truly need it and for the taxpayers who generously fund it.

Our reforms modernized and strengthened work requirements for able-bodied adults without young children, incentivized states to reduce improper payments, and ensured assistance will go to those who genuinely need help.

By restoring these guardrails, reinforcing the dignity and value of work, and prioritizing American families and taxpayers, we are putting SNAP back on the path Congress intended, one that protects the vulnerable while encouraging greater opportunity and self-sufficiency.

Our work on the farm bill reauthorization did not end with the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill.

While extensions of the previous farm bill and recently announced economic assistance provide some certainty to our producers, it is not and should not be *in lieu of* a comprehensive and thoughtful bipartisan five year reauthorization.

As we look ahead to the new year, we will advance what we are calling “Farm Bill 2.0,” a bipartisan piece of legislation responsive to the needs of our agricultural community.

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With that, I welcome my colleagues to today’s hearing and look forward to their testimony.

I now yield to the distinguished Ranking Member, Ms. Craig.

The CHAIRMAN. I would now like to welcome the distinguished Ranking Member, the gentlelady from Minnesota, Ms. Craig, for any opening remarks you would like to give.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. ANGIE CRAIG, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM MINNESOTA**

Ms. CRAIG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to start by thanking the Members for being here today to testify to us, but we are living in two different worlds when it comes to our opening statements today.

As we look back on this year, it is absolutely clear that the House Agriculture Committee plays a critical role in the daily lives of the American people. Whether you are a rancher being undercut by President Trump’s plan to import more foreign beef, a farmer worried about their ability to sell to export markets overseas, a single parent struggling to afford food for your child after Republicans cut SNAP, or all of the above, worried about how everything seems to cost more under President Trump’s America, one thing has become clear this year: sound agriculture and food policy matters. These issues affect every community in every Congressional district in this nation. And so, the Member Day hearing serves as an opportunity for our colleagues to present testimony to the Agriculture Committee on the issues that are most important to their constituents. I thank our colleagues for taking the time to share their priorities as they relate to this Committee’s jurisdiction. My hope is that my Republican colleagues on this Committee, who have a re-

sponsibility to act as a check on the Executive Branch and to serve the people who elected them to office, will listen and take their priorities to heart.

It has become crystal clear that the White House is not listening to farmers or families right now and that many of our Republican colleagues, sadly, are not speaking up. An idiotic trade war, band-aid relief programs that pick winners and losers in the ag economy, nonstop lies and misinformation about SNAP, pretending that there is no affordability crisis, rural hospitals closing, healthcare costs everywhere going up, that is this Administration and today's Republican Party. Instead of admitting that tariffs are increasing costs for all Americans, shutting farmers out of markets that took years and billions of dollars to develop, and making food more expensive for American families, the Administration has prioritized rushing a \$40 billion bailout to Argentina instead of ending the trade war that has contributed to increasing farm bankruptcies this year compared to recent years and cost farmers nearly \$30 billion in losses.

The Trump Administration announced a farm aid package for row crops that fails to meet the moment of helping American farmers after a challenging crop year, particularly leaving specialty crop growers, sugar producers, and foresters out in the cold. Day after day, week after week at press conferences, during TV interviews, and in Cabinet meetings, President Trump and his Administration make clear that they are not hearing the American people who are telling us, "Help us. Life is getting too expensive." Healthcare costs are going up in America's Heartland. Rural hospitals and clinics are closing because of the "Big Ugly Bill's" \$1 trillion in Medicaid cuts. Insurance premiums are skyrocketing due to the ACA tax credits expiring, which nearly 30 percent of farmers and ranchers themselves rely on for healthcare. Farmers are drowning in debt as input costs remain high, and trade wars cost them their biggest customers. Hungry seniors and children are getting less to eat because of nonstop attacks on food assistance.

Our Committee can do something about that. We can bring sanity back to our trade policy. We can make sure that basic needs programs, whether in rural health or food affordability, are there for hardworking Americans when we need them instead of helping the President cut the heart out of these programs. We can show the American people—the people who sent us to Washington—that we hear them and we are doing something about the current affordability crisis, if my colleagues in the Majority could find the courage.

I look forward to hearing from our colleagues about their priorities today, and thank you.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Craig follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. ANGIE CRAIG, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM MINNESOTA

I want to thank the Members for being here today to testify to us.

As we look back on this year, it is clear that the House Agriculture Committee plays a critical role in the daily lives of the American people.

Whether you are a rancher being undercut by President Trump's plan to import more foreign-grown beef, a farmer worried about their ability to sell their product overseas, a single parent struggling to afford food for your child after Republican

cuts to SNAP, or all the above worried about how everything seems to cost more in President Trump's America—one thing has become clear this year: sound agricultural and food policy matters.

These issues affect every community and every Congressional district in the nation, and so the Member Day hearing serves as an opportunity for our colleagues to present testimony to the Agriculture Committee on the issues that are most important to their constituents.

I thank our colleagues for taking the time to share their priorities as they relate to our Committee's jurisdiction.

My hope is that my Republican colleagues on this Committee—who have a responsibility to act as a check on the Executive Branch and to serve the people who elected them to office—will listen and take their priorities to heart. It has become crystal clear that the White House is not listening to farmers or families right now and that many of our Republican colleagues sadly are not speaking up.

An idiotic trade war. Band-aid relief programs that picks winners and losers in the ag economy. Non-stop lies and misinformation about SNAP. Pretending there is no affordability crisis. Rural hospitals closing. Health care costs everywhere going up. That's this Administration and today's Republican Party.

Instead of admitting that tariffs are increasing costs for all Americans, shutting farmers out of markets that took years and billions of dollars to develop and making food more expensive for American families—the Administration has prioritized rushing a \$40 billion bailout to Argentina.

Instead of ending the trade war that has contributed to increasing farm bankruptcies this year compared to recent years and cost farmers nearly \$30 billion in losses, the Trump Administration announces an farm aid package for row crops that fails to meet the moment of helping American farmers after a challenging crop year—particularly leaving specialty crop farmers, sugar producers, and foresters out in the cold.

Day after day, week after week, at press conferences, during TV interviews and in cabinet meetings, President Trump and his Administration make it clear that they are not hearing the American people who are telling us: Help us, life is getting too expensive.

Health care costs are going up in America's heartland; rural hospitals and health clinics are closing because of the Big Ugly Bill's \$1 trillion in Medicaid cuts; insurance premiums are skyrocketing due to ACA tax credit expirations, which nearly 30 percent of farmers and ranchers rely on for health care; farmers are drowning in debt as input costs remain high and trade wars cost them their biggest customers; hungry seniors and children are getting less to eat because of non-stop attacks on food assistance.

Our Committee can do something about that. We can bring sanity back to our trade policy. We can ensure that basic needs programs—whether in rural health or food affordability—are there for hardworking Americans when we need them, instead of helping the President cut the heart of out of these programs.

We can show the American people, the people who sent us to Washington, that we hear them, and we are doing something about the current affordability crisis. If my colleagues in the Majority could find the courage.

I look forward to hearing from our colleagues about their priorities today.

The CHAIRMAN. The chair would request other Members submit their opening statements for the record so our colleagues may begin their testimony.

The CHAIRMAN. I would like to welcome our colleagues who have joined us today to provide testimony on issues important to their Congressional districts. We have a bipartisan list of Members testifying today, and each Member will be recognized for 5 minutes. And I am pleased now to recognize the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Gonzalez, for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. VINCENTE GONZALEZ, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM TEXAS**

Mr. GONZALEZ. Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for holding this morning's hearing and giving us an opportunity to advocate for our district. I represent the 34th Dis-

trict of Texas in south Texas, and I want to talk about some of the impacts on our region.

Earlier this year, Republicans enacted a bill that cut nearly \$200 billion from SNAP, the largest cut of SNAP in American history. As Americans are struggling with inflated grocery costs and skyrocketing healthcare prices, taking food assistance away is really cruel. I represent a district that over  $\frac{1}{4}$  of households are recipients of SNAP, the highest of all districts in the State of Texas, and this is really a bipartisan issue. Seventy-five of the poorest districts in America are represented by Republicans who also benefit greatly from this program. What this cut will do is force families, and children, and senior citizens, and veterans to go hungry. I urge this Committee to work in a bipartisan manner to correct this wrong imposed by the Republican Big Bad Bill. I would be happy to work with any of you on this issue.

Another issue I want to talk about that is specific to the entire Gulf Coast in my district is I would like to take a moment to talk about the shrimping industry, in no particular order. First, our domestic shrimpers have really been hurt and experienced economic hardships by increased foreign shrimp imports, fuel price increases, labor shortages, and immigration regulations. As a result, the south Texas shrimping industry and the shrimping industry across the Gulf Coast is in peril. We are losing the American fishing industry to the disadvantage that they have competing with foreign- and farm-raised seafood. We should work hard.

When we talk about America First, let's also talk about American fishing industry, which is really shuttering. We have lost about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of it in the last decade. Hundreds of boats are sitting on the docks. Many of them are being sold to other countries because they cannot compete in today's markets. The Federal Government must do more to protect the shrimping industry and the fishing industry. I urge the Committee to allow commercial shrimpers to access agriculture safety net programs, and increase FDA inspections, and provide resources to allow the USDA to purchase domestic seafood and distribute them to our schools and local food banks.

The next issue I want to touch on is known as the New World screwworm. As it inches closer to the border of Texas, we are really concerned this could be devastating for the ranching economy, not only in Texas, but across the country. I know for a fact—I have been monitoring this since the issue was on the border of Mexico and Guatemala. We met with the USDA, Dr. Kim Lohmeyer, in central Texas. I think she is probably the global expert on this issue. She told us at the time we needed to be producing 700 million sterile flies weekly. At the time, we were producing about 200. A few months from there, it moved from the border to Vera Cruz, and now it is one state away from the State of Texas, and we just celebrated the construction of a facility, which will take years. We don't have time to construct a facility. I think we are working with Panama and Mexico and some other places. We are producing about 300 million sterile flies weekly. We need to more than double that, almost triple that, just to hold it back.

And I would urge the Committee to speak with her and speak with experts on this because it has become a very political issue, but we don't have our facts straight, and I think we need to talk

to the scientists and get up to par on what we really need. My office is at your disposal to work on this issue. There are facilities in northern Mexico. There are facilities in south Texas. There are places where we were housing migrants that are available. You need about 200,000 square feet to produce these sterile flies, and you need a lot of water. There are places that we can begin immediately. We don't have to wait years because that is what it will be: years. And I can assure you right now that this problem is about 150 miles away from our southern border. In 6 months, we will probably have it in Texas, and it will continue to grow through the country. We need to address this.

So, with that, I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Gonzalez follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM TEXAS

Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for holding today's Member Day hearing. I appreciate the opportunity to speak before the Agriculture Committee and advocate for south Texans.

Earlier this year, Republicans enacted a bill that cut nearly \$200 billion from SNAP—the largest cut to SNAP in history. As Americans are struggling with inflated grocery costs and skyrocketing health care prices, taking food assistance away is cruel.

I represent the 34th Congressional District of Texas, where over a quarter of all households use SNAP. The highest out of all districts in Texas, and one of the highest in the country.

This will force families, children, senior citizens, and veterans to go hungry.

I urge this Committee to work in bipartisan manner to right the wrong imposed by the Republican "Big, Ugly Bill."

I also want to take a moment to highlight the following issues currently facing the agricultural industry in South Texas, *in no particular order*.

First, our domestic shrimpers continue to experience economic hardships caused by an increase in foreign shrimp imports, high fuel prices, labor shortages, and immigration regulations.

As a result, many south Texas shrimpers are forced to remain docked or sell their trawlers. And are on the verge of a major collapse, threatening many small family-owned businesses and coastal communities in my district and along the Gulf Coast.

The Federal Government must do more to protect the shrimping industry. I urge the Committee to allow commercial shrimpers to access agricultural safety net programs, increase FDA (Food and Drug Administration) inspections, and provide resources to allow the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) to purchase domestic shrimp and distribute them to our schools and local food banks.

Second, as the New World Screwworm inches closer to south Texas, this represents a serious threat to our cattle producers and wreak havoc on our economy and food supply chain.

For decades, the U.S. has worked with Mexico, Panama, and other Central American nations to control the New World Screwworm using the Sterile Insect Technique. However, I fear current infrastructure is not enough.

We need to procure more production and distribution facilities if we are to eradicate this pest again. TX-34 stands ready to assist should the USDA consider the procurement of a new or temporary site. Our proximity to the border and robust transportation infrastructure makes us a prime candidate.

Last, I want to highlight the current H-2A visa backlog. The recent government shutdown caused significant backlogs and processing delays for the Department of Labor's Office of Foreign Labor Certification—halting H-2A processing and leaving farmers with deteriorating product in the fields.

Although operations have resumed, it's not enough. We need a solution, so farmers aren't left with rotting product in their fields.

Therefore, I encourage the Committee to urge the Administration to deem the certification office as "essential."

I also encourage you to support the workforce bill that I will soon introduce—the *Save the American Workforce Act*. My bill would allow employers to temporarily

sponsor migrants who have been in the country for at least 5 years with no criminal record.

I urge you and your colleagues to join me in driving these initiatives forward and focusing on concrete improvements for the American people.

Thank you, and I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Gonzalez, thank you for your testimony on behalf of your constituents. Much appreciated.

Now working down through my list. I now recognize the gentlelady from Michigan, Representative Tlaib, for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. RASHIDA TLAIB, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM MICHIGAN**

Ms. TLAIB. Thank you so much, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for hosting this hearing.

I am here because I know that children can't learn if they are hungry. I am also here because I represent the 12th Congressional District in Michigan, which houses one of the most beautiful, blackest city in the country. I am also here as the co-founder of the Congressional Mamas Caucus, and for me, I still remember years ago having a mother in my office in tears. And I don't know if you have ever heard the cry of a desperate mother, but I have, and she was crying because the Head Start program that her children were in was closing, and I told her, "I will find you a different place. I will figure out the transportation. Please, stop crying." I was trying to console her, and she said to me, "But you don't understand. That is the only place my children can eat twice a day."

So, I think after watching what happened with the SNAP benefits, which is a lifeline for food for our families, was treated as a political pawn, it was devastating. It was incredibly heartbreaking to get the calls and the emails and even the messages through social media, and they are so scared it is going to happen again, Mr. Chairman. And so, I know that they are not alone and it is 42 million Americans across the country, but understanding in the Budget Betrayal Bill, it is a 15 percent cut to \$6 a day average. Six dollars. We are going to cut 15 percent across the board, and it is going to be something that literally will take food off of the tables of our families. And when children can't learn when they are hungry, when they can't thrive because they are hungry, it is going to hurt our whole country.

And so, for me, it is not just the children, of course. We know that 40 percent of SNAP benefits and recipients are older adults—or 40 percent of SNAP beneficiaries are children, that we know that, also, we have a number of people that are senior citizens that also benefit from it. I know, right now studies show that an estimate of a dollar, Chairman, a dollar investment in children return \$62 in value over the lifetime. Investments like SNAP for childhood development allows kids to learn without thinking about where their next meal comes from, and it is not just children. It is 36 percent in Michigan alone that are senior citizens that benefit from SNAP benefits.

And so, Mr. Chairman, a 70 year old woman asked me to share her story, and I think it is important because she doesn't even get the \$6. She gets actually lower than that. She says, "I am 74 year old single female senior citizen with Social Security as my only income. I get \$24 in SNAP benefits. This helps me purchase fresh

fruits and vegetables.” She says she only buys a half gallon of milk, margarine, and a loaf of bread, and I don’t know what to say to her when I say are we really allowing—are we saying to her that we don’t have the money to make our seniors—help them afford milk and bread? And so, it is important to understand that the impact is real, and it is not just Republicans and Democrats. It is the American people, and we have a crisis around access to food. We know this, and the cost is going up, but even in Michigan, it is my ag community. The agricultural sector in Michigan is incredibly important, and the Michigan Farmers Market Association said they rely 15 percent on benefits from SNAP investment from this body, and so it is incredibly important to understand that connection.

I have to say this because it is heartbreaking to see us fighting for our Pentagon budget, whether it was \$890 billion for Pentagon budget that can’t even pass an audit, yet where we cut is in SNAP benefits, not where they are wasting all this money. And with my residents, I am telling them we always have money for war, but we don’t have money for food for them. And so, somehow, again, it is lacking the priority and understanding why it is important to make sure that we invest in SNAP benefits. Stories like this I am hearing from residents are not isolated. We are all hearing them. And so, I am asking all of you to please do your best investing into SNAP benefits. Do more than what we are already doing, and it is a win-win. It is not just the farmers. It is our whole country as a community, as together that we understand the investment is important for our children.

Last, I also have urban farmers, Mr. Chairman, and don’t forget the urban farmers. I say this because some of my families, the only place they can get food is a gas station, and now we have urban farmers creating these farmers’ market where people can get fresh food. They can get access to food, that, again, they don’t have access to at a gas station. And so, I am asking all of you as you prioritize and when you talk about farmers, talk about all the farmers. Don’t forget urban farmers. With that, I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Tlaib follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. RASHIDA TLAIB, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM MICHIGAN

Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for hosting this hearing.

I’m here today because my residents are reaching out in distress, and as co-founder of the Congressional Mamas’ Caucus, I’m here for the mothers and families across the country.

After seeing their lifeline to food get treated as a political pawn by the Trump Administration during the shutdown, they are scared it will happen again.

And they’re not alone: 42 million Americans will see their SNAP benefits cut as a result of Republicans’ Big Ugly Bill. This is the largest cut to SNAP in our history.

You cannot cut SNAP this deeply without taking food off the plates of children, seniors, and working families.

According to USDA, nearly 40% of SNAP recipients are children, so children will bear the brunt of these cuts.

One study estimates that every SNAP dollar invested in children returns \$62 in value over their lifetime. Investments like SNAP in childhood help in development, allowing kids to learn without having to think about where their next meal is coming from.

And it’s not just children, in Michigan, 36% of SNAP households also include older adults.

Hear it from a resident in our district, who wrote to us during the hostage taking of SNAP during the government shutdown.

She said: I'm a 74 year old single female senior citizen with social security as my only income. I get \$24 on an EBT card. This helps me to purchase fresh fruits and veggies. I can also get ½ gallon of milk, margarine, and loaf of bread.

Are we really saying we don't have money to make sure our seniors can afford milk and bread?

Almost 300,000 households in Michigan's 12th Congressional District receive SNAP benefits, and the average benefit is less than \$6 per person, per day. Some are even less, like the senior I just mentioned.

So let me get this straight, according to Republicans, \$6 a day is too expensive to help feed the hungry, but nearly \$1 trillion in tax cuts to corporations and the wealthy is okay. \$40 billion to Argentina is okay. The gold-plated ballroom is okay.

There always seems to be enough money for war, just this week we're voting on an \$890 billion bill for the pentagon. Yet, somehow, there's not enough money so we can feed our most vulnerable community members.

I call BS.

Stories like those I'm hearing from our residents are not isolated; they reflect reality in too many communities across this country. When SNAP is cut or disrupted, our families are forced into crisis mode.

Cutting SNAP doesn't make our families stronger, it makes them hungrier, sicker, and less economically stable.

The Agriculture Committee should be strengthening and protecting SNAP, so it is there when people need it, not gutting it at the very moment working families are getting crushed by the high cost of food.

I call on Congress to reject these cuts and make children and families, like those you represent, a national budget priority, not corporations, not billionaires, not special interests.

Thank you and I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. I thank the gentlelady. If Members do have questions—I apologize. I missed that when Mr. Gonzalez was here, so, yes, just indicate and let me know, and Mr. Scott has indicated—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Thank you. Ms. Tlaib, you said the lady was 74 years old?

Ms. TLAIB. Yes, she was 74.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Well, she is exempt from any of the changes that we made.

Ms. TLAIB. Well, she was saying that during the shutdown, sir. When she says, are we really political pawns with the SNAP cuts, the benefits so—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Oh, well—

Ms. TLAIB.—for her. Yes, and she always got it on—so every state invests—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Let me—let me—let me finish.

Ms. TLAIB. Oh. Okay.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. It is my time. You had your time.

Ms. TLAIB. Oh.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. So, first of all, like, 99 percent of the Republicans voted to keep the government open.

Ms. TLAIB. Yes.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. I know there were some Democrats that voted to keep the government open—

Ms. TLAIB. I know, sir, but—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. But the fact is, if she is a senior, seniors and children are exempt from the changes.

Ms. TLAIB. Oh, I am talking about during the shutdown, sir.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Okay. All right. That's fine.

Ms. TLAIB. So, she gets it on the 30th, and she didn't get it. She waits for it.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. I understand, and that is why I think what the Senate did—

Ms. TLAIB. And, sir, she doesn't understand what is happening here. She just knows that her card didn't get reloaded.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Okay.

Ms. TLAIB. So, just so you know.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. All right. So, let me say this. I had a lady at Walmart that I know. Her husband is disabled. She works full time. She asked me if her benefits were going to be cut, and the answer was, no, her benefits were not going to be cut. I mean, so, again, just the way you said it, you were indicating that they were going to be cut because she was 74, the way I understood it. You were talking about during the shutdown.

Ms. TLAIB. No, I was sharing the story—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. That is fine.

Ms. TLAIB.—because I told her we had \$5 billion, as you know, in money that we could have used as emergency response money, that we could have used to make sure she didn't go hungry for those few days.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Seniors and children were exempt from the changes that we made to the SNAP benefits.

Ms. TLAIB. Sir, I am talking about the shutdown and the political—the back—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. I voted to keep the government open—

Ms. TLAIB. I know. I get what you are saying.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.—and you voted to shut it down. So, I will yield the remainder of my time.

Ms. TLAIB. And, Mr. Chairman, through you, just please know, even that little bit of few days, if we didn't—we should have used the \$5 billion that we all appropriated and agreed to, and she wouldn't have—I mean, again, the anxiety and fear that we just inflict on our families. They don't know what is happening here.

The CHAIRMAN. Right.

Ms. TLAIB. They just know their card wasn't reloaded.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes. The shutdown was absolutely unforgivable. Mr. McGovern.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Yes. Well, let me just say for the record, my friends voted for nearly a \$200 billion cut to SNAP in the "Big Ugly Bill," right? And so, when they talk about not cutting benefits, they are. Number two, this is the first Administration in history that actually withheld food assistance from people even during a shutdown. This was a conscious decision. Federal courts were telling them that they had to administer it, and they kept on appealing it.

Ms. TLAIB. And they appealed it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. That is where they are coming from, and I would just say the cuts to SNAP that this Congress has enacted represent a moral failing in this Congress. The idea that making sure that no one in this country goes hungry, that somehow it is a radical idea is unconscionable, and by the way, the SNAP benefit is inadequate. It is, on average, about \$2 per person per meal. I mean, try living on that, and that is why so many people on SNAP

are looking for additional help from food banks and food pantries mid-month because it doesn't go far enough.

And the other thing I want to put to rest, too, I keep on hearing people say, "People on SNAP ought to work." Well, the majority of people who are able bodied who are on SNAP do work. Some of them are working not just one job, but two jobs just to try to make ends meet. And the idea that somehow we are nickel and diming this program, that we are taking benefits away from people at the same time we are giving tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires and big corporations, I think is pathetic. And so, I thank you all for being here and raising the issue of SNAP.

The CHAIRMAN. I recognize Mrs. Hayes.

Mrs. HAYES. Thank you. Representative Tlaib, I just have a question. The woman who shared this story with you, what is her political affiliation?

Ms. TLAIB. I don't know. I don't ask.

Mrs. HAYES. Pretty much.

Ms. TLAIB. Yes.

Mrs. HAYES. And I think that is the point I am trying to make: it doesn't matter. And I just want to make sure that we level set this Member Day hearing because it is not about what you did or you did. It is bringing forth the priorities and the concerns from constituents, because at the end of the day, that 74 year old woman who gets \$24 a month doesn't really care the letter behind the names of the people sitting on this dais. What she cares about is her fear and frustration with how am I going to continue to buy that loaf of bread, that margarine, that gallon of milk, so—

Ms. TLAIB. Yes.

Mrs. HAYES. Right. So, I just think that that is the important part of the testimony that you just gave because I think what we experienced during the shutdown, and what everyone saw, and something that I have been well aware of is that every part of the country, the fragility of our food security systems. And then the second part of what you said about many people in the places where you represent having to literally only get groceries from a gas station or—and I think that is very important because a lot of times on this Committee we are talking about what people can purchase. There really isn't a lot of availability in a lot of these communities. So, can you talk just a little bit about what you see in that respect for what is available to people in these communities that you represent?

Ms. TLAIB. You should see it.

Mrs. HAYES. Absolutely.

Ms. TLAIB. If you go into a gas station—and I know some of you have seen these massive kind of new gas stations—these are not. These are the old gas stations. If you remember going in there to get—I used to go in there to get my Now & Laters and—

Mrs. HAYES. Yes.

Ms. TLAIB. But it is because I actually go and look. Next to where the auto-related supplies, is, like, bread, cookies, chips.

Mrs. HAYES. Yes.

Ms. TLAIB. It is not healthy foods, but when you don't have access, that is what happens. That is why it was so important that all of you worked really hard to make sure that EBT cards and

food assistance could be used at some of the farmers' markets. And I will tell you, it is transformative the way on Saturdays and sometimes during the week they have these pop-up farmers' markets for our families, and they are taking fresh tomatoes, zucchini, you name it. I mean, it is amazing to see, but if you ever get a chance, just go into some of the gas stations. I am talking about the old school gas. I am not talking about the really fancy ones that come up now. The ones in my community are the ones with—literally, Congresswoman Hayes, it is like—

Mrs. HAYES. Oh. I used to do—

Ms. TLAIB.—two rows, and it is just, that is it, and then everything else is just really junk food.

Mrs. HAYES. Absolutely. Thank you. I think that is very important. I used to do an assignment with my students on urban revitalization, and one of the tasks was how long it would take for you to find a fresh tomato in your community. I would give the students a radius. You couldn't have any transportation. How long would it take for you? Not tomato paste, not canned tomatoes, not tomato sauce, but a fresh tomato. And the discussions that came out of that when my students realized how difficult it was to access fresh fruit and some vegetables in their surrounding communities and how that looked very different in some other communities. Thank you so much for your testimony. I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Okay. With that, Representative Tlaib, thank you so much for your testimony.

We have two Members of the Committee that are testifying. I am going to go to them next so that they can then take their place on the dais in case they have questions of other witnesses. So, I will first recognize the gentleman from California, Mr. Costa.

**STATEMENT OF HON. JIM COSTA, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM CALIFORNIA**

Mr. COSTA. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Craig, for the opportunity to speak at Members Day.

This morning, I speak on behalf of California, the constituents I represent in the 21st District, and the great, beautiful San Joaquin Valley that is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the entire country, therefore, the world.

I speak as a third-generation farmer. California's 70,251 farms and ranches are remarkably productive. Given the average size, 70 percent of these farms are less than 100 acres, 89 percent are less than 500 acres, and yet I represent as a third-generation farmer those individuals, those families that really put food on America's dinner table every night, and food is a national security issue. We don't treat it that way, I don't believe, often enough, but it is. Food on America's dinner table is a national security issue, and in California, the number one agricultural state, we produce 50 percent of the nation's fruits, nuts, vegetables, 20 percent of the milk supply, over 400 agriculture commodities that we grow, \$61 billion at the farm-gate.

It is imperative, given the current economic conditions we are facing with input costs and the cost of what farmers and ranchers and dairymen are getting for their products, that it is not making it. It is not making it these days across the country, and we know

that specialty crops are so critical to good nutrition. Robust Congressional oversight in the area of specialty crop insurance is necessary.

The recent Farm Bridge Assistance Program announced this week by the Administration, \$12 billion of which only \$11 billion is going to row crops, \$1 billion to specialty crops. I don't get it. This is *déjà vu* all over again, as Yogi Berra once said. We went through this in the first Trump Administration where we were acknowledging that tariffs had a negative impact upon the farm-gate economy, and there was an effort for the Administration then to provide \$28 billion out of the Commodity Credit Corporation to try to put in the safety net. Once again, we see specialty crops being left out. I don't get it. Forty billion dollars for Argentina? Twelve billion dollars for American agriculture? Somebody has got their priorities woefully in the wrong place.

I have always said that tariffs don't win trade wars, and I think the actions this Administration prove that. The fact of the matter is, is that we need to deal with the issues with our longstanding trading partners and allies. I have consistently led the charge for Market Access Program, Foreign Market Development Program, and peace programs, USAID, that, frankly address the issues of nutrition, not only for the people in our country, but around the world. Our farmers, ranchers, and dairyman want to provide their neighbors and communities food on their dinner table. They don't want to cut them off.

The "Not So Beautiful Bill" took food assistance away from nearly 5 million Californians. Five million Californians. In my district alone, almost 30 percent of the households rely on SNAP: 67,000 out of 237,000 homes. These homes include 60 percent of them with a child, 34 percent with an elderly person. Forty-six percent include someone living with a disability. We must ensure that we strengthen and improve these programs, not weaken them, and the examples that was used in the cutoff that took place earlier this year is a separation of the nutrition programs from the other titles. And I fear—this is my fourth farm bill reauthorization that we will never be able to put the toothpaste back in that tube as a result of the separation of nutrition from the other title programs.

Let me just talk about some other areas that I am concerned about. Conservation programs are key to reducing fire risks. We need to be bolstering our efforts there. Converting Our Waste Sustainably Act (H.R. 5875) is another area: headwaters protection, improvement, and flexibility. Each of these bills will strengthen the programs. The Chairman, I don't know where you continue to get your sense of enthusiasm. I appreciate that, and if we can come together to deal with some of these issues next year, God bless all of us. We need to do it.

Let me close by saying the following. This reorganization of the United States Department of Agriculture has been going on for 6 months. The reductions and the separation into four hubs, I don't understand. We have not had the Secretary of Agriculture testify before the Committee to justify the reorganization plan. We don't know what the appropriate priorities are with the reorganization plan. I do not get it. This Committee needs to provide the proper

amount of oversight for reorganization to understand where the Department of Agriculture is going in the future.

We got work to do, we must work together, and I want to thank the Chairman and the Ranking Member for giving me the opportunity to give you a little sentiment of my views and the concerns that the people of California have, whether you are on food assistance or whether you are part of the vital, incredible agriculture economy that California represents. Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Costa follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. JIM COSTA, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM CALIFORNIA

Good morning Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Craig, thank you for the opportunity to speak for Member's Day. On behalf of California's 21st District, I look forward to giving testimony and hearing from my colleagues here in Congress on their priorities as we look towards reauthorizing the farm bill and important matters under the jurisdiction of the Committee.

The first farm bill, the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 was a key part of the New Deal to support our nation in a time of dire need.<sup>1</sup> Since 1933, the farm bill has become known as the bill that is vital to America's production of food and fiber. The twelve title farm bill that we have come to know today did not appear overnight but was shaped by the unique periods of time in American history. From the Great Depression to World War II, the Civil Rights Movement to the Cold War, and from Y2K to the 2020s. Throughout each of these time periods, our nation went through periods of difficult challenges, which tested the will of our democracy and the will of the American people. The twelve titles in the farm bill are viewed as America's safety net with each title containing pertinent programs that contribute towards building a stronger food supply network, improving the livelihood of our nation, reducing food insecurity, and taking meaningful steps in combating climate change. As I have always stated, food security is national security. Any attempt to cut our food safety net is an attempt to cut our national security.

California's 70,251 farms and ranches are remarkably productive given their average size: 70% of these farms are less than 100 acres, and 89% are less than 500 acres. California produces 50% of the nation's fruits, nuts, and vegetables; 20% of our nation's milk supply; and more than 400 different agricultural commodities. This food production goes towards supporting nearly five million Californians who rely on SNAP,<sup>2</sup> who are a part of the 47.4 million plus who are food-insecure. Our farmers, ranchers, and dairymen and woman want to provide for their neighbors and communities, not cut them off from accessing America's dinner table. When our communities cannot afford food, it means our neighbors have one less tool to help in their daily life. The not-so-Beautiful Bill took food assistance away from nearly five million Californians. In my district alone, there are nearly 30% of households who rely on SNAP—over 67,000 out of 230,000 homes. Among these households—60% include a child, 34% include an elderly person, and 46% include someone living with a disability. When it comes to WIC—it is estimated about 43,000 families rely on it—combining WIC and SNAP—it equals 256,000 people who are reliant on Food Safety Net Programs, which is 33% of California's 21st District. We must ensure to work together to strengthen and improve such programs, not cut them when Americans are struggling with the high cost of food. The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated SNAP still needs additional strengthening—such as including my bill, the Dairy Nutrition Incentives Program Act of 2025 which aims to enhance access to dairy products for SNAP recipients by providing incentives for the purchase of protein dairy items such as milk, yogurt, and cheese. Additional improvements include adding hot foods to SNAP, ensuring college students are eligible for SNAP, and ensuring our Veterans have continued access for their families.

California produces \$61 billion annually at the farm-gate and has a total export value of \$22.4 billion. Out of the \$22.4 billion, 24% of those exports (\$5.4 billion) go to Canada and Mexico. With many of those specialty crops and dairy coming from my district, it is critical we continue to prioritize our trading relationships with our

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/ghe/cascade/index.html?appid=1821e70c01de48ae899a7ff708d6ad8b&bookmark=Farm%20Bills>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/california.department.of.social.services/viz/CFdashboard-PUBLIC/Home>.

North American partners and other allies globally to ensure sustained market access. Tariffing our allies and partners is not a conducive way to gaining market access. Crops cost more than ever to produce—it is critical market access sustains and are not eliminated because of this Trump Administration’s decisions to continue to impose tariffs on our longstanding trade partners and allies. I have consistently led the charge on ensuring the Market Access Program, Foreign Market Development Program, and Food for Peace Program, continues to have dedicated funding in the farm bill and will continue to do so.

It also is imperative to ensure no more further cuts are made by USDA regarding agriculture research. Funding in the farm bill must reflect continued investment in programs such as the Specialty Crop Research Initiative and the Specialty Crop Block Grant. Farm bill funding must expand USDA’s participation and research support through the University of California System, California State University system, and minority-serving institutional agricultural research programs. Funds must be sustained for these research programs, and investments must be made for programs that showcase the future of agricultural research and technology. These programs are critical towards enhancing the future workforce for farms and ranches as we continue to ensure farmworkers are able to use the best and safest available technology. These programs are also key to USDA plant pest and disease prevention research and inclusion of a waiver of matching fund requirements would allow for enhanced research. Additional investments in supporting organic research and a robust specialty crop insurance program is critical for producers throughout the state.

Since the enactment of the 2018 Farm Bill, California has continued to experience record wildfires and drought. Conservation programs, hazardous fuels reduction, and managing our forests effectively continues to be a top priority for California. My priorities include the Conserving Our Waste Sustainably (COWS) Act, the Headwaters Protection Act, and the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Improvement and Flexibility Act. Each of these bills would strengthen existing programs and add new conservation practices. The COWS Act aims to add a list of new alternative manure management practices to the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and ensure carbon and nitrous oxide reductions are prioritized. The Headwaters Protection Act would reform and increase authorization for the Water Source and Protection Program to allow for further public and private partnerships in forestry and watershed management. The CRP Improvement and Flexibility Act would increase the annual CRP payment limitation and provide a cost-share for establishment of grazing infrastructure, reinstate mid-contract management cost-share payments, and permanently establishes State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) practices. Such enhancements are needed and necessary to ensure our sustainable groundwater goals and greenhouse gas reductions.

The Good Neighbor Authority program is also a key tool in wildfire risk reduction and can be more effective in providing jobs in rural and Tribal communities. Reform to the program must center around increased funding that promotes benefits for California as a whole. These benefits include access for counties and Tribal partners to retain and expand Good Neighbor Authority timber sales revenue, in addition to reducing wildfire risk while providing jobs to rural and Tribal communities. Stewardship contracts should be considered as a vital tool to help encourage partnerships towards critical projects. Lastly, reduction of hazardous and additional biomass materials helps provide for long-term ecological sustainability of our forests while sequestering carbon and providing material for new sustainable products.

It is beyond unfortunate that my colleagues across the aisle had moved forward with the not-so-Beautiful Bill. I still am in disbelief, but we must work to strengthen and improve our safety net programs, conduct appropriate oversight, ensure our farmers, ranchers, and dairy men and woman have the tools to feed our nation and the world, and ensure Americans have continuous access to America’s dinner table with no interruption. I want to remind my colleagues that we have a duty to defend the Constitution, represent our constituents, and protect our nation. Gutting our food security is leaving our national security vulnerable.

ATTACHMENT 1



[<https://www.loc.gov/ghe/cascade/index.html?appid=1821e70c01d48ae899a7ff708d6ad8b>]

**History of the United States Farm Bill**

Highsmith, Carol M. Photographer. "Idaho farm and field."<sup>1</sup> 2005 June 19. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.

*Researched and written by Sidonie Devarenne, co-authored and published by Bailey DeSimone, Digital Resources Division, Law Library of Congress*

The origins of agricultural legislature are accessible through the *Law Library's*<sup>2</sup> *Statutes At Large*<sup>3</sup> collection. Keep scrolling to learn about the first farm bill, and the laws that evolved over time.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2012649300/>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/>



Harris & Ewing, photographer. *Last study of farm bill. Washington, D.C. Senator Ellison D. "Cotton Ed" Smith, Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, makes a last-minute study of the newly drafted farm bill before introducing it on the floor of the Senate today.*<sup>4</sup> 11/22/37. United States Washington D.C. District of Columbia Washington D.C., 1937. Photograph. External-facing links throughout the Story Map are indicated by an "(E)".

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<sup>4</sup><https://www.loc.gov/item/2016872627/>.

*What is the Farm Bill?*

Highsmith, Carol M., photographer. *Wintertime Farm Scene*.<sup>5</sup> United States, None. [Between 1980 and 2006] Photograph.

The *farm bill*<sup>6</sup> is an *omnibus bill (E)*<sup>7</sup> governing policy in many areas related to the agricultural sector, including farm income support, food assistance, trade, and more. This bill is renewed on a regular basis, about every five years. This gives policymakers an opportunity to regularly address agricultural policy issues. The U.S. has passed 18 farm bills, the most recent being the *Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018*.<sup>8</sup>

To read more about the farm bill, visit the author's *blog post*<sup>9</sup> on *In Custodia Legis*.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/item/2011633426/>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/RS/RS22131>.

<sup>7</sup> <https://thelawdictionary.org/omnibus-bill/>.

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-115publ334/pdf/PLAW-115publ334.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> <http://blogs.loc.gov/law/2021/03/history-of-the-united-states-farm-bill/>.

<sup>10</sup> <http://blogs.loc.gov/law/>.



Trikosko, Marion S., photographer. *President Carter signs Farm Bill Food and Agriculture Act.*<sup>11</sup> 1977. Photograph.

*Agricultural Policy Prior to the Farm Bills*

*Agricultural policy in the United States prior to the farm bills (E)*<sup>12</sup> focused on land distribution, support for education and research programs to increase agricultural productivity, and programs to provide farmers with market information.



Barnett, A.L. "*In the rice fields of La.*"<sup>13</sup> 1910. Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Online Catalog.

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/item/2018645720/>.

<sup>12</sup> <https://wayback.archive-it.org/5923/20110915024912/http://ers.usda.gov/publications/agoutlook/mar2000/ao269g.pdf>.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/pan/item/2007662175/>.

*The First Farm Bills*

Rothstein, Arthur. "Farmer and sons walking in the face of a dust storm. Cimarron County, Oklahoma." <sup>14</sup> 1936. Farm Security Administration—Office of War Information Photograph Collection. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division.

The Agricultural Act of 1933 was replaced five years later by the *Agricultural Act of 1938*.<sup>15</sup> The 1938 Act continued the *1935 Soil Conservation Act*<sup>16</sup> and the *1936 Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act*,<sup>17</sup> two laws designed to address the ecological crisis of soil erosion. These soil conservation acts established the Soil Conservation Service to conduct surveys and develop preventative measures against soil erosion. Farmers were compensated for planting soil supporting crops such as soybeans and reducing production of crops that contributed to soil erosion.

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsa/item/2017760335/>.

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/75th-congress/session-3/c75s3ch30.pdf>.

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/74th-congress/session-1/c74s1ch85.pdf>.

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/74th-congress/session-2/c74s2ch104.pdf>.



Harris & Ewing, photographer. *Discuss farm bill. Washington, D.C., Jan. 5. Chairman Ellison D. 'Cotton Ed' Smith of the Senate Agriculture Committee and Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace were in happy moods today as they discussed the Administration Farm to be introduced at this session of Congress, 1/5/39.*<sup>18</sup> United States Washington D.C. District of Columbia Washington D.C. 1939. [January 5] Photograph.

#### *Supporting Farmers*

Supporting farmers is a primary purpose of the farm bill. Over time, farm bills have been used to authorize a variety of programs to support farm income, though the nature of agricultural commodity support varies depending on prevailing economic policy.

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/item/2016874689/>.



Wood, Art, Artist, and Copyright Claimant American Farm Bureau Federation. "I hope we make it by January 1!"<sup>19</sup>/Art Wood AFBF. United States. [198] Photograph.

One of the main funding outlays to support farm income in farm bills is for Federal crop insurance. The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 established the *Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (E)*.<sup>20</sup> Farm bills continue to support farmers by authorizing funding for Federal crop insurance, an important risk management tool.[]

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/item/2005685921/>.

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.rma.usda.gov/fcic/>.

*Nutritional Trials*

Highsmith, Carol M, photographer. *Rural Tennessee farm scene*.<sup>21</sup> United States Tennessee, None. [Between 1980 and 2006] Photograph.

With the addition of a nutrition title, the 1973 Farm Bill is considered the first of the “omnibus” farm bills. It expanded the focus of the farm bill beyond farm supports to other policy areas affecting the agricultural sector. The omnibus nature of farm bills after 1973 involves a broader range of stakeholders in the negotiation process.

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<sup>21</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/item/2011631227/>.

*Conservation Titles*

Highsmith, Carol M., photographer. *Farm, rural Wyoming*.<sup>22</sup> United States Wyoming, 2007. Photograph.

Farm bills have also addressed conservation by including titles on climate change, renewable energy, and forestry. The *Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990*<sup>23</sup> included the Global Climate Change Prevention Act and the first forestry title. The *Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002*<sup>24</sup> was the first farm bill to include an energy title.

*2018 Farm Bill*

The most recent farm bill is the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018. The bill includes 12 titles and makes few major changes to agricultural policy. Most of the provisions in the bill will last until 2023, when it will be time to pass the next farm bill.

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/item/2010630973/>.

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-104/pdf/STATUTE-104-Pg3359.pdf>.

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-116/pdf/STATUTE-116-Pg134.pdf>.



Highsmith, Carol M. "Farm machinery at the Dunnun Family's Top of the Town dairy farm near Westby in Vernon County, Wisconsin." <sup>25</sup> 2016. Highsmith (Carol M.) Archive. Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division.

*Timeline of U.S. Farm Bills from 1933 to Present*



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<sup>25</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/highsm/item/2016631243/>.

Highsmith, Carol M., photographer. *Tall corn stretches to the horizon at Century Farm, near Luzerne in Benton County, Iowa.* United States Iowa Benton County, 2016.<sup>26</sup> –08–08. Photograph.

*Agricultural Adjustment Act (1933) (48 Stat. 31)*<sup>27</sup>  
*Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (52 Stat. 31)*<sup>28</sup>  
*Agricultural Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 1247)*<sup>29</sup>  
*Agricultural Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 1051)*<sup>30</sup>  
*Agricultural Act of 1954 (68 Stat. 897)*<sup>31</sup>  
*Agricultural Act of 1956 (70 Stat. 188)*<sup>32</sup>  
*Food and Agriculture Act of 1965 (79 Stat. 1187)*<sup>33</sup>  
*Agricultural Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1358)*<sup>34</sup>  
*Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 221)*<sup>35</sup>  
*Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (91 Stat. 913)*<sup>36</sup>  
*Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (95 Stat. 1213)*<sup>37</sup>  
*Food Security Act of 1985 (99 Stat. 1354)*<sup>38</sup>  
*Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (104 Stat. 3359)*<sup>39</sup>  
*Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (110 Stat. 888)*<sup>40</sup>  
*Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (116 Stat. 134)*<sup>41</sup>  
*Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (122 Stat. 923)*<sup>42</sup>  
*Agricultural Act of 2014 (128 Stat. 649)*<sup>43</sup>  
*Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (132 Stat. 4490)*<sup>44</sup>

## ATTACHMENT 2

**CalFresh Data Dashboard**

[<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/california.department.of.social.services/viz/CFdashboard-PUBLIC/Home>]

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/item/2016630370/>.

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/73rd-congress/session-1/c73s1ch25.pdf>.

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/75th-congress/session-3/c75s3ch30.pdf>.

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/80th-congress/session-2/c80s2ch827.pdf>.

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/81st-congress/session-1/c81s1ch792.pdf>.

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-68/pdf/STATUTE-68-Pg897.pdf>.

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-70/pdf/STATUTE-70-Pg188.pdf>.

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-79/pdf/STATUTE-79-Pg1187.pdf>.

<sup>34</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-84/pdf/STATUTE-84-Pg1358-2.pdf>.

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-87/pdf/STATUTE-87-Pg221.pdf>.

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-91/pdf/STATUTE-91-Pg913.pdf>.

<sup>37</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-95/pdf/STATUTE-95-Pg1213.pdf>.

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-99/pdf/STATUTE-99-Pg1354.pdf>.

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-104/pdf/STATUTE-104-Pg3359.pdf>.

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-110/pdf/STATUTE-110-Pg888.pdf>.

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-116/pdf/STATUTE-116-Pg134.pdf>.

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/STATUTE-122/pdf/STATUTE-122-Pg923.pdf>.

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.congress.gov/113/plaws/publ79/PLAW-113publ79.pdf>.

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.congress.gov/115/plaws/publ334/PLAW-115publ334.pdf>.



**Quick Facts**  
*October 2025*

**All**

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| CF persons .....                       | 5,365,657       |
| CF households .....                    | 3,189,003       |
| Applications received .....            | 174,564         |
| Online applications received .....     | 101,653         |
| Applications approved .....            | 111,893         |
| Applications denied .....              | 74,787          |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$1,063,758,807 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$1,053,858,716 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$9,900,091     |
| July 2024:                             |                 |
| Child-only households .....            | 175,448         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 360,987         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 5,116,047       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |                 |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 1,913,371       |
| CalFresh persons age 18-59 .....       | 2,355,072       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 1,139,052       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 1,430,424       |

**Alameda**

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| CF persons .....                   | 173,100 |
| CF households .....                | 109,808 |
| Applications received .....        | 5,978   |
| Online applications received ..... | 3,896   |
| Applications approved .....        | 3,633   |
| Applications denied .....          | 2,974   |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Total issuances *                | \$34,962,236 |
| Federal issuances *              | \$34,393,984 |
| State issuances                  | \$568,252    |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 4,401        |
| Child-only persons               | 7,892        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 154,980      |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 46,775       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 71,549       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 45,192       |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 49,909       |
| <b>Alpine</b>                    |              |
| CF persons                       | 169          |
| CF households                    | 102          |
| Applications received            | 2            |
| Online applications received     | 0            |
| Applications approved            | 1            |
| Applications denied              | 2            |
| Total issuances *                | \$32,573     |
| Federal issuances *              | \$32,573     |
| State issuances                  | \$0          |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 1.0          |
| Child-only persons               |              |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 173.0        |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 58.00        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 93.00        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 29.00        |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 0.00         |
| <b>Amador</b>                    |              |
| CF persons                       | 4,423        |
| CF households                    | 2,778        |
| Applications received            | 133          |
| Online applications received     | 44           |
| Applications approved            | 90           |
| Applications denied              | 51           |
| Total issuances *                | \$808,966    |
| Federal issuances *              | \$807,498    |
| State issuances                  | \$1,468      |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 23           |
| Child-only persons               | 37           |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 4,056        |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 1,325        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 1,983        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 1,034        |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 88           |
| <b>Butte</b>                     |              |
| CF persons                       | 42,241       |
| CF households                    | 27,553       |
| Applications received            | 1,628        |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Online applications received .....     | 1,083       |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,449       |
| Applications denied .....              | 589         |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$8,652,698 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$8,630,654 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$22,044    |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 243         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 453         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 38,278      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 11,265      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 22,761      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 6,789       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 2,718       |
| <b>Calaveras</b>                       |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 6,240       |
| CF households .....                    | 3,925       |
| Applications received .....            | 191         |
| Online applications received .....     | 88          |
| Applications approved .....            | 115         |
| Applications denied .....              | 40          |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$1,195,453 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$1,194,648 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$805       |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 25          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 55          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 6,047       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 1,770       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 2,995       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 1,386       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 88          |
| <b>Colusa</b>                          |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 2,705       |
| CF households .....                    | 1,490       |
| Applications received .....            | 84          |
| Online applications received .....     | 36          |
| Applications approved .....            | 57          |
| Applications denied .....              | 28          |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$450,183   |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$447,605   |
| State issuances .....                  | \$2,578     |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 129         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 282         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 2,705       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 1,247.0     |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 1,092.0     |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 529.0       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 793.0       |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025***Contra Costa**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CF persons .....                       | 108,520      |
| CF households .....                    | 64,201       |
| Applications received .....            | 3,284        |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,926        |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,882        |
| Applications denied .....              | 1,690        |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$21,741,004 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$21,467,183 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$273,821    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 3,474        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 6,523        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 98,632       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 35,597       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 42,891       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 21,180       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 18,313       |
| <b>Del Norte</b>                       |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 6,109        |
| CF households .....                    | 3,793        |
| Applications received .....            | 153          |
| Online applications received .....     | 33           |
| Applications approved .....            | 130          |
| Applications denied .....              | 42           |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$1,145,196  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$1,143,848  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$1,348      |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 28           |
| Child-only persons .....               | 55           |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 6,159        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 1,930        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 3,307        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 1,197        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 181          |
| <b>El Dorado</b>                       |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 14,463       |
| CF households .....                    | 9,467        |
| Applications received .....            | 571          |
| Online applications received .....     | 287          |
| Applications approved .....            | 369          |
| Applications denied .....              | 170          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$2,876,448  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$2,868,242  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$8,206      |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 112          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 226          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 13,367       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 4,073        |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 7,027        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 3,272        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 786          |
| <b>Fresno</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 244,436      |
| CF households .....                    | 124,707      |
| Applications received .....            | 6,598        |
| Online applications received .....     | 4,151        |
| Applications approved .....            | 4,417        |
| Applications denied .....              | 2,511        |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$47,347,625 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$47,071,694 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$275,931    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 8,063        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 18,063       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 233,376      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 107,346      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 100,845      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 30,872       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 52,383       |
| <b>Glenn</b>                           |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 4,446        |
| CF households .....                    | 2,449        |
| Applications received .....            | 101          |
| Online applications received .....     | 44           |
| Applications approved .....            | 67           |
| Applications denied .....              | 28           |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$786,696    |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$784,001    |
| State issuances .....                  | \$2,695      |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 116          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 240          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 4,543        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 1,668        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 1,971        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 761          |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 750          |
| <b>Humboldt</b>                        |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 29,050       |
| CF households .....                    | 19,462       |
| Applications received .....            | 906          |
| Online applications received .....     | 376          |
| Applications approved .....            | 669          |
| Applications denied .....              | 323          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$5,763,940  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$5,751,421  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$12,519     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 364          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 531          |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 27,677       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 7,650        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 16,382       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 5,222        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 852          |
| <b>Imperial</b>                        |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 49,705       |
| CF households .....                    | 25,905       |
| Applications received .....            | 1,185        |
| Online applications received .....     | 558          |
| Applications approved .....            | 721          |
| Applications denied .....              | 317          |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$8,885,980  |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$8,835,434  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$50,546     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 685          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 1,460        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 48,156       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 18,664       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 20,565       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 9,966        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 26,323       |
| <b>Inyo</b>                            |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 2,025        |
| CF households .....                    | 1,251        |
| Applications received .....            | 54           |
| Online applications received .....     | 30           |
| Applications approved .....            | 33           |
| Applications denied .....              | 23           |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$380,513    |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$379,879    |
| State issuances .....                  | \$634        |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 32           |
| Child-only persons .....               | 58           |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 2,043        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 758.0        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 959.0        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 455.0        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 136.0        |
| <b>Kern</b>                            |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 205,782      |
| CF households .....                    | 104,768      |
| Applications received .....            | 5,463        |
| Online applications received .....     | 3,009        |
| Applications approved .....            | 3,453        |
| Applications denied .....              | 2,095        |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$39,582,229 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$39,349,602 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$232,627    |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 6,676       |
| Child-only persons .....               | 15,111      |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 204,762     |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 90,559      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 86,442      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 27,256      |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 42,047      |
| <b>Kings</b>                           |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 29,418      |
| CF households .....                    | 15,207      |
| Applications received .....            | 894         |
| Online applications received .....     | 319         |
| Applications approved .....            | 619         |
| Applications denied .....              | 307         |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$5,476,103 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$5,445,456 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$30,647    |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 833         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 1,911       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 29,190      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 12,891      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 13,173      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 3,761       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 6,276       |
| <b>Lake</b>                            |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 16,083      |
| CF households .....                    | 10,153      |
| Applications received .....            | 426         |
| Online applications received .....     | 187         |
| Applications approved .....            | 272         |
| Applications denied .....              | 134         |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$3,008,666 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$3,001,284 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$7,382     |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 255         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 527         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 16,070      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 5,104       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 7,930       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 3,670       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 1,169       |
| <b>Lassen</b>                          |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 3,900       |
| CF households .....                    | 2,373       |
| Applications received .....            | 104         |
| Online applications received .....     | 47          |
| Applications approved .....            | 85          |
| Applications denied .....              | 34          |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Total issuances *                | \$793,122     |
| Federal issuances *              | \$791,247     |
| State issuances                  | \$1,875       |
| July 2024:                       |               |
| Child-only households            | 30            |
| Child-only persons               | 85            |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 3,924         |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |               |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 1,388         |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 2,160         |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 762           |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 73            |
| <b>Los Angeles</b>               |               |
| CF persons                       | 1,516,683     |
| CF households                    | 960,433       |
| Applications received            | 44,446        |
| Online applications received     | 23,713        |
| Applications approved            | 30,581        |
| Applications denied              | 18,076        |
| Total issuances *                | \$311,623,063 |
| Federal issuances *              | \$308,110,729 |
| State issuances                  | \$3,512,334   |
| July 2024:                       |               |
| Child-only households            | 59,340        |
| Child-only persons               | 116,857       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 1,464,570     |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |               |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 521,571       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 701,388       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 378,869       |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 498,842       |
| <b>Madera</b>                    |               |
| CF persons                       | 33,615        |
| CF households                    | 16,515        |
| Applications received            | 754           |
| Online applications received     | 368           |
| Applications approved            | 449           |
| Applications denied              | 255           |
| Total issuances *                | \$6,397,460   |
| Federal issuances *              | \$6,363,754   |
| State issuances                  | \$33,706      |
| July 2024:                       |               |
| Child-only households            | 1,984         |
| Child-only persons               | 4,826         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 33,936        |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |               |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 17,034        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 13,316        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 4,285         |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 10,312        |
| <b>Marin</b>                     |               |
| CF persons                       | 15,325        |
| CF households                    | 10,665        |
| Applications received            | 492           |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Online applications received .....     | 250         |
| Applications approved .....            | 318         |
| Applications denied .....              | 169         |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$3,133,983 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$3,076,080 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$57,903    |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 1,115       |
| Child-only persons .....               | 2,038       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 14,756      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 4,854       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 6,222       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 4,032       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 4,736       |
| <b>Mariposa</b>                        |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 2,909       |
| CF households .....                    | 1,793       |
| Applications received .....            | 86          |
| Online applications received .....     | 46          |
| Applications approved .....            | 60          |
| Applications denied .....              | 24          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$550,918   |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$550,172   |
| State issuances .....                  | \$746       |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 18          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 36          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 2,966       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 878         |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 1,516       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 692         |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 71          |
| <b>Mendocino</b>                       |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 16,387      |
| CF households .....                    | 10,299      |
| Applications received .....            | 435         |
| Online applications received .....     | 223         |
| Applications approved .....            | 283         |
| Applications denied .....              | 145         |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$3,188,688 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$3,178,186 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$10,502    |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 349         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 731         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 16,144      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 5,325       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 8,049       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 3,501       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 1,741       |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025***Merced**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CF persons .....                       | 61,467       |
| CF households .....                    | 31,810       |
| Applications received .....            | 1,589        |
| Online applications received .....     | 706          |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,066        |
| Applications denied .....              | 689          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$11,913,901 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$11,875,269 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$38,632     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 2,239        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 5,031        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 61,382       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 28,394       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 28,136       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 8,125        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 14,970       |
| <b>Modoc</b>                           |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 1,769        |
| CF households .....                    | 1,057        |
| Applications received .....            | 48           |
| Online applications received .....     | 21           |
| Applications approved .....            | 31           |
| Applications denied .....              | 14           |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$299,051    |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$298,801    |
| State issuances .....                  | \$250        |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 9            |
| Child-only persons .....               | 20           |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 1,825        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 634.0        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 918.0        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 417.0        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 52.0         |
| <b>Mono</b>                            |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 0.00         |
| CF households .....                    | 0.00         |
| Applications received .....            | 30.00        |
| Online applications received .....     | 18.00        |
| Applications approved .....            | 25.00        |
| Applications denied .....              | 13.00        |
| Total issuances* .....                 |              |
| Federal issuances* .....               |              |
| State issuances .....                  |              |
| July 2024                              |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 26.0         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 58.0         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 642.0        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 217.0        |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 342.0        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 142.0        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 86.0         |
| <b>Monterey</b>                        |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 54,179       |
| CF households .....                    | 29,091       |
| Applications received .....            | 2,502        |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,039        |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,562        |
| Applications denied .....              | 806          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$10,164,740 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$10,131,582 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$33,158     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 5,817        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 13,067       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 54,647       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 28,153       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 18,560       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 7,008        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 24,082       |
| <b>Napa</b>                            |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 10,562       |
| CF households .....                    | 6,520        |
| Applications received .....            | 394          |
| Online applications received .....     | 181          |
| Applications approved .....            | 216          |
| Applications denied .....              | 154          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$1,961,995  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$1,950,479  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$11,516     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households.                 |              |
| Child-only persons.                    |              |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees.      |              |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 3,503        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 3,744        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 2,144        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 2,938        |
| <b>Nevada</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 11,506       |
| CF households .....                    | 7,660        |
| Applications received .....            | 402          |
| Online applications received .....     | 220          |
| Applications approved .....            | 253          |
| Applications denied .....              | 128          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$2,309,403  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$2,306,946  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$2,457      |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 74           |
| Child-only persons .....               | 147          |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 10,754       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 3,092        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 5,786        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 2,526        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 253          |
| <b>Orange</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 304,051      |
| CF households .....                    | 188,456      |
| Applications received .....            | 11,289       |
| Online applications received .....     | 5,945        |
| Applications approved .....            | 6,694        |
| Applications denied .....              | 5,079        |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$59,799,703 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$59,064,167 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$735,536    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 12,561       |
| Child-only persons .....               | 26,175       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 289,766      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 96,843       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 120,940      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 81,106       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 103,882      |
| <b>Placer</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 28,453       |
| CF households .....                    | 16,779       |
| Applications received .....            | 953          |
| Online applications received .....     | 608          |
| Applications approved .....            | 517          |
| Applications denied .....              | 353          |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$5,435,920  |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$5,347,123  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$88,797     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 323          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 658          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 24,621       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 7,616        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 10,899       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 5,444        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 2,962        |
| <b>Plumas</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 2,322        |
| CF households .....                    | 1,545        |
| Applications received .....            | 95           |
| Online applications received .....     | 60           |
| Applications approved .....            | 77           |
| Applications denied .....              | 47           |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$464,038    |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$463,203    |
| State issuances .....                  | \$835        |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 10           |
| Child-only persons .....               | 23           |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 1,990        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 651          |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 1,144        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 549          |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 38           |
| <b>Riverside</b>                       |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 338,605      |
| CF households .....                    | 189,617      |
| Applications received .....            | 12,138       |
| Online applications received .....     | 8,041        |
| Applications approved .....            | 7,142        |
| Applications denied .....              | 6,052        |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$66,407,877 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$66,117,673 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$290,204    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 7,969        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 17,565       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 311,627      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 129,815      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 145,058      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 57,541       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 57,051       |
| <b>Sacramento</b>                      |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 265,038      |
| CF households .....                    | 145,124      |
| Applications received .....            | 7,746        |
| Online applications received .....     | 4,445        |
| Applications approved .....            | 4,733        |
| Applications denied .....              | 3,221        |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$51,275,718 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$50,403,081 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$872,637    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 3,124        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 6,360        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 241,901      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 88,801       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 115,785      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 47,846       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 65,040       |
| <b>San Benito</b>                      |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 7,109        |
| CF households .....                    | 3,812        |
| Applications received .....            | 218          |
| Online applications received .....     | 95           |
| Applications approved .....            | 116          |
| Applications denied .....              | 82           |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Total issuances *                | \$1,367,005  |
| Federal issuances *              | \$1,363,751  |
| State issuances                  | \$3,254      |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 295          |
| Child-only persons               | 648          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 6,707        |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 2,897        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 2,890        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 1,044        |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 1,894        |
| <b>San Bernardino</b>            |              |
| CF persons                       | 368,887      |
| CF households                    | 197,795      |
| Applications received            | 10,248       |
| Online applications received     | 5,970        |
| Applications approved            | 6,031        |
| Applications denied              | 5,092        |
| Total issuances *                | \$72,128,426 |
| Federal issuances *              | \$71,889,203 |
| State issuances                  | \$239,223    |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 9,877        |
| Child-only persons               | 20,960       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 357,319      |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 154,903      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 166,154      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 58,434       |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 56,048       |
| <b>San Diego</b>                 |              |
| CF persons                       | 387,587      |
| CF households                    | 233,565      |
| Applications received            | 17,154       |
| Online applications received     | 12,835       |
| Applications approved            | 10,316       |
| Applications denied              | 8,581        |
| Total issuances *                | \$76,117,141 |
| Federal issuances *              | \$75,273,131 |
| State issuances                  | \$844,010    |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 7,003        |
| Child-only persons               | 13,964       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 354,067      |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 119,827      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 169,569      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 87,441       |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 116,034      |
| <b>San Francisco</b>             |              |
| CF persons                       | 109,078      |
| CF households                    | 80,970       |
| Applications received            | 3,663        |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Online applications received .....     | 2,311        |
| Applications approved .....            | 2,347        |
| Applications denied .....              | 1,511        |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$21,467,949 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$21,018,327 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$449,622    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 2,705        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 4,385        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 96,411       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 17,956       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 42,198       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 44,979       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 48,322       |
| <b>San Joaquin</b>                     |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 122,404      |
| CF households .....                    | 67,057       |
| Applications received .....            | 3,319        |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,972        |
| Applications approved .....            | 2,040        |
| Applications denied .....              | 1,266        |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$23,299,795 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$23,159,699 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$140,096    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 3,154        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 7,058        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 118,056      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 48,771       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 52,636       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 21,193       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 21,906       |
| <b>San Luis Obispo</b>                 |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 28,908       |
| CF households .....                    | 21,083       |
| Applications received .....            | 2,398        |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,927        |
| Applications approved .....            | 2,235        |
| Applications denied .....              | 869          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$6,049,389  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$6,036,402  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$12,987     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 974          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 1,975        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 21,694       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 7,098        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 12,302       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 4,730        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 3,233        |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025***San Mateo**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CF persons .....                       | 33,909       |
| CF households .....                    | 22,119       |
| Applications received .....            | 1,561        |
| Online applications received .....     | 831          |
| Applications approved .....            | 672          |
| Applications denied .....              | 849          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$6,576,785  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$6,476,035  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$100,750    |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 2,282        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 4,090        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 31,664       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 10,509       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 11,098       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 10,388       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 12,007       |
| <b>Santa Barbara</b>                   |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 54,017       |
| CF households .....                    | 33,556       |
| Applications received .....            | 2,908        |
| Online applications received .....     | 2,069        |
| Applications approved .....            | 2,160        |
| Applications denied .....              | 1,197        |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$11,056,799 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$11,008,694 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$48,105     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 5,029        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 10,888       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 49,819       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 22,926       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 22,953       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 8,158        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 18,405       |
| <b>Santa Clara</b>                     |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 131,152      |
| CF households .....                    | 85,846       |
| Applications received .....            | 4,458        |
| Online applications received .....     | 2,398        |
| Applications approved .....            | 2,486        |
| Applications denied .....              | 1,662        |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$25,907,660 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$25,640,846 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$266,814    |
| July 2024                              |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 5,474        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 10,329       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 124,841      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 36,957       |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 48,719      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 40,765      |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 47,291      |
| <b>Santa Cruz</b>                      |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 30,494      |
| CF households .....                    | 20,639      |
| Applications received .....            | 1,672       |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,113       |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,235       |
| Applications denied .....              | 638         |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$6,232,705 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$6,219,422 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$13,283    |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 1,507       |
| Child-only persons .....               | 3,182       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 27,375      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 10,197      |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 13,827      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 5,749       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 8,789       |
| <b>Shasta</b>                          |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 0           |
| CF households .....                    | 0           |
| Applications received .....            | 1,029       |
| Online applications received .....     | 516         |
| Applications approved .....            | 645         |
| Applications denied .....              | 394         |
| Total issuances* .....                 |             |
| Federal issuances* .....               |             |
| State issuances .....                  |             |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 115         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 224         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 28,747      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 8,939       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 15,303      |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 6,181       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 813         |
| <b>Sierra</b>                          |             |
| CF persons .....                       | 330         |
| CF households .....                    | 230         |
| Applications received .....            | 9           |
| Online applications received .....     | 2           |
| Applications approved .....            | 5           |
| Applications denied .....              | 2           |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$59,767    |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$59,767    |
| State issuances .....                  | \$0         |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 1.0         |
| Child-only persons .....               |             |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 294.0        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 64.0         |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 166.0        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 110.0        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 5.0          |
| <b>Siskiyou</b>                        |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 9,125        |
| CF households .....                    | 5,574        |
| Applications received .....            | 249          |
| Online applications received .....     | 142          |
| Applications approved .....            | 184          |
| Applications denied .....              | 132          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$1,705,170  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$1,701,296  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$3,874      |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 62           |
| Child-only persons .....               | 113          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 8,825        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 2,658        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 4,465        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 2,167        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 316          |
| <b>Solano</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 53,633       |
| CF households .....                    | 32,958       |
| Applications received .....            | 1,689        |
| Online applications received .....     | 903          |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,102        |
| Applications denied .....              | 645          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$10,585,860 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$10,530,102 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$55,758     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 1,309        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 2,678        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 48,989       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 17,507       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 23,839       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 9,743        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 7,430        |
| <b>Sonoma</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 42,944       |
| CF households .....                    | 27,547       |
| Applications received .....            | 1,558        |
| Online applications received .....     | 745          |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,039        |
| Applications denied .....              | 618          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$8,623,237  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$8,512,816  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$110,421    |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 1,888        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 3,748        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 37,076       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 13,197       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 15,607       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 9,108        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 9,042        |
| <b>Stanislaus</b>                      |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 92,039       |
| CF households .....                    | 50,943       |
| Applications received .....            | 2,470        |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,195        |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,685        |
| Applications denied .....              | 1,212        |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$17,521,649 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$17,443,000 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$78,649     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 2,445        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 5,268        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 89,145       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 35,097       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 41,431       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 15,368       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 18,198       |
| <b>Sutter</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 16,483       |
| CF households .....                    | 8,409        |
| Applications received .....            | 451          |
| Online applications received .....     | 232          |
| Applications approved .....            | 271          |
| Applications denied .....              | 152          |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$3,101,456  |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$3,065,226  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$36,230     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 358          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 761          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 15,337       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 5,857        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 6,309        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 2,243        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 2,754        |
| <b>Tehama</b>                          |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 11,738       |
| CF households .....                    | 6,900        |
| Applications received .....            | 336          |
| Online applications received .....     | 183          |
| Applications approved .....            | 196          |
| Applications denied .....              | 138          |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Total issuances *                | \$2,076,705  |
| Federal issuances *              | \$2,074,576  |
| State issuances                  | \$2,129      |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 308          |
| Child-only persons               | 612          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 12,481       |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 4,339        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 5,630        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 2,312        |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 1,200        |
| <b>Trinity</b>                   |              |
| CF persons                       | 2,990        |
| CF households                    | 1,889        |
| Applications received            | 76           |
| Online applications received     | 25           |
| Applications approved            | 49           |
| Applications denied              | 23           |
| Total issuances *                | \$574,043    |
| Federal issuances *              | \$573,678    |
| State issuances                  | \$365        |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 5            |
| Child-only persons               |              |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 3,041        |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 766          |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 1,550        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 695          |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 59           |
| <b>Tulare</b>                    |              |
| CF persons                       | 128,382      |
| CF households                    | 63,276       |
| Applications received            | 2,578        |
| Online applications received     | 896          |
| Applications approved            | 1,911        |
| Applications denied              | 957          |
| Total issuances *                | \$24,938,490 |
| Federal issuances *              | \$24,775,954 |
| State issuances                  | \$162,536    |
| July 2024:                       |              |
| Child-only households            | 4,923        |
| Child-only persons               | 11,015       |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees | 129,018      |
| Point-in-time 2024:              |              |
| CalFresh children under 18       | 59,339       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59       | 54,699       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over | 16,490       |
| CalFresh persons ESL             | 37,637       |
| <b>Tuolumne</b>                  |              |
| CF persons                       | 6,522        |
| CF households                    | 4,419        |
| Applications received            | 257          |

**Quick Facts—Continued***October 2025*

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Online applications received .....     | 87           |
| Applications approved .....            | 162          |
| Applications denied .....              | 83           |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$1,228,058  |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$1,226,999  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$1,059      |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 34           |
| Child-only persons .....               | 56           |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 6,109        |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 1,630        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 3,285        |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 1,678        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 79           |
| <b>Ventura</b>                         |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 75,646       |
| CF households .....                    | 44,407       |
| Applications received .....            | 2,517        |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,377        |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,346        |
| Applications denied .....              | 1,155        |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$14,719,141 |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$14,630,449 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$88,692     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 4,000        |
| Child-only persons .....               | 9,246        |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 73,090       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 30,756       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 31,508       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 15,492       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 22,331       |
| <b>Yolo</b>                            |              |
| CF persons .....                       | 27,653       |
| CF households .....                    | 18,834       |
| Applications received .....            | 2,134        |
| Online applications received .....     | 1,614        |
| Applications approved .....            | 1,280        |
| Applications denied .....              | 789          |
| Total issuances * .....                | \$5,956,091  |
| Federal issuances * .....              | \$5,914,302  |
| State issuances .....                  | \$41,789     |
| July 2024:                             |              |
| Child-only households .....            | 496          |
| Child-only persons .....               | 957          |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 22,375       |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |              |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 6,844        |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 13,975       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 4,175        |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 4,941        |

**Quick Facts—Continued**

October 2025

**Yuba**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| CF persons .....                       | 18,941      |
| CF households .....                    | 10,419      |
| Applications received .....            | 458         |
| Online applications received .....     | 217         |
| Applications approved .....            | 311         |
| Applications denied .....              | 157         |
| Total issuances* .....                 | \$3,649,397 |
| Federal issuances* .....               | \$3,631,543 |
| State issuances .....                  | \$17,854    |
| July 2024:                             |             |
| Child-only households .....            | 274         |
| Child-only persons .....               | 581         |
| CalFresh/Medi-Cal dual-enrollees ..... | 18,532      |
| Point-in-time 2024:                    |             |
| CalFresh children under 18 .....       | 6,888       |
| CalFresh persons age 18–59 .....       | 9,031       |
| CalFresh persons age 60 and over ..... | 2,849       |
| CalFresh persons ESL .....             | 1,749       |

\*Due to the issuance of CalFresh Emergency Allotments in response to COVID-19, issuance data for the period April 2020 through July 2020 is inconsistent. For trend and analysis purposes, these months should be excluded.

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**Last Published Date:** Dec. 11, 2025.

## SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 605, Headwaters Protection Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr605ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr605ih.pdf> (See p. 280).
2. **H.R. 2496, Dairy Nutrition Incentives Program Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr2496ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr2496ih.pdf> (See p. 316).
3. **H.R. 5111, CRP Improvement and Flexibility Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5111ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5111ih.pdf> (See p. 362).
4. **H.R. 5875, Converting Our Waste Sustainably Act of 2025 (COWS Act of 2025):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5875ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5875ih.pdf> (See p. 405).

The CHAIRMAN. Well, Mr. Costa, thank you, and thank you for your service on this Committee. Anyone have any questions for Mr. Costa? I will be real specific. What I am asking from Members are questions for him to answer *versus* long statements. Anyone over here?

Ms. BROWN. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you. Go ahead, Ms. Brown.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Representative Costa, if you could touch a little bit more on how the ranchers, in your district, if they have expressed the concerns around the Argentina bailout as opposed to this new pool of money that is supposed to assist them.

Mr. COSTA. Well, the expressions range from outrage, to being mystified, to frustration, because the input costs have continued to rise as a result of inflation. And as I told President Obama a number of years ago, farmers and ranchers, dairymen, they are price takers, not price makers. You grow your commodity or product, or if you have a dairy, it is 365 days a year, and you put all this investment in it, but at the end of the year, you get paid for what-

ever the market prices are. And so, they see their costs increasing, but yet, what they are getting for their product, their commodity, not increasing, and the tariff war is a real critical part of that. Forty billion for Argentina. Twelve billion dollars for American agriculture. They don't get it. Neither do I.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you. And as we talk about those input costs, I, too, have had the opportunity to visit some farmers across the country in Michigan, Illinois, of course Ohio where I represent, and the sentiment that has been shared with me is that—I will give the Administration a little bit of credit because we have been so delayed with getting a farm bill over the finish line for this \$12 billion, but it just does not seem to meet the moment. And the parameters that have been established capping it at \$150,000 will not help some of the most impacted farmers, cattle ranchers, and dairymen, as I see it. Would you agree with that assessment?

Mr. COSTA. No, I would agree with that assessment, and I must say this is a difficult time in farm country, whether you are in any region of the country or out in California because of inflation, because of the input costs, and because, again, farmers are price takers, not price makers, and clearly, this tariff war has impacted their ability to access those markets. And guess what? The other countries have the ability to retaliate, and they do: Canada. We have the trade agreement with Canada and Mexico. Forty percent of California wines have gone from California. By the way, they are good wines, but you can hardly find a bottle of California wine in a supermarket or in a restaurant in Canada today. Why? Because they are acting in response to this tariff war, and they have other markets where they can access those products and enjoy them, and in some cases, we never regain those markets. So, it is of great concern, and that is but one example.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you. And as I close, I think that you mentioned the tariffs being part of the major problem as it relates to this situation that we are in, which is a self-induced problem, if you ask me. And the fact that the President is touting that the relief that he is offering the farmers is coming from tariffs, I believe, is questionable because, if I understand the resource correctly, the source of these funds are coming from the CCC, not actually the tariffs. And we have industry folks who are in litigation to question the legality of the tariffs and to fight for getting the recuperation of the resources that they had to spend on tariffs in their own companies: Costco, for example.

Mr. COSTA. I think you are correct, and the Administration won't say it, but I will flat out make a point. The fact that they are reducing some of these tariffs is an acknowledgement that it is impacting the costs. Why else would they reduce in the last week some of these tariffs and some of these products if, in fact, we are not impacting the bottom line? And so, it is a *de facto* way of acknowledging that the tariffs are impacting the cost to consumers, and this is their response to try to address it, but, it is not working.

Ms. BROWN. All right. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. I thank the gentlelady.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask unanimous consent to submit for the record a REUTERS article from

November 11: *The U.S. profited from Argentina currency swap deal, Treasury chief Bessent says.*

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection.

[The article referred to is located on p. 129.]

The CHAIRMAN. I would ask that our focus be on——

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Absolutely, Mr. Chairman, but, the Members of this Committee know that it is a false narrative to call a currency swap a bailout. We actually profited from the currency swap. It was an effort to stabilize the economy in that country, and the facts will show that what we did worked, and we actually profited from it. It was a currency swap, not a bailout. With that, I yield.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you so much [inaudible].

**STATEMENT OF HON. SHOMARI FIGURES, A REPRESENTATIVE  
IN CONGRESS FROM ALABAMA**

Mr. FIGURES. Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for allowing us the opportunity to testify here today. As you know, I serve on this Committee, and it is with great pride that I serve on this Committee given what it means to my district. I represent Alabama's 2nd Congressional District, which consists of 13 counties. Eleven of them are completely rural, and the two non-completely rural counties are likely the only two places in my district that most people on this Committee or in America have ever heard of in my district, and that is Mobile and Montgomery, and both of those have significant rural portions of those counties as well.

So, the work of this Committee is not abstract to me or to the district that I represent back in Alabama. For my community, ag issues are a daily reality, from soybean farmers and specialty crop growers, to row crop growers, to our forestry industry. Agriculture and the work of this Committee has real-life ramifications on my neighbors across the 2nd District, and, historically, this Committee has met those needs with a spirit of bipartisanship that puts the needs of rural America first, and that is the way I try to operate myself on this Committee. I think many people know that I go above and beyond to attempt to work across the aisle in ways that will bring tangible benefits to the people of my district and of this nation. And I believe that commitment right now matters more than ever, and we can start with what has been touched on, I guess, a lot already, so I won't beat a dead horse, as we say back home, but I think it is worth noting.

Earlier this year, we did witness the largest SNAP cut in the history of this country by this Administration through the bill, and we also saw throughout the shutdown process the refusal to spend available money on SNAP beneficiaries. And so, that is something that was very concerning and something that my colleagues here have touched on. So, I am going to spend my time touching on another aspect of those SNAP changes, and it is the fact that in the Big Bill, we held a hearing on SNAP after we made the SNAP cuts. We held our first hearing on SNAP, and every witness on the panel testified that we had put into control of the states the ability of whether or not they would even participate in a SNAP program or not.

And that is one of the biggest, most concerning pieces that I hope we can come back together in a bipartisan way and rectify, because as it is now, if states do not meet or cannot or refuse to meet the cost-sharing provisions for whatever reason, whether they are political reasons, whether they are financial reasons, every witness on this panel testified at that hearing that there is no SNAP in that state, and that is not where we should be from a policy standpoint. I don't think it is good policy, I don't think it is good law, and it is certainly not good patriotism to allow 50 different states to say, "Well, we are not going to feed hungry people even though they would qualify in other states." And so, that is something that I certainly hope that we can come together and work in a bipartisan way to at least fix that issue.

The rising costs and tariffs is something that is huge. It is something that is impacting all of our districts in a variety of ways. I represent a community where the median individual income is just north of \$32,000. To say that a different way, 50 percent of the people who file a tax return in my district make less than \$32,000 a year. It is one of the poorest districts in this country, and so even the smallest rise in the cost of putting food on the table or the cost to do business, it significantly impacts people where I am from. And so, it is something that we have to keep at the front of mind as we continue our work in this environment that we are in, and so I want to cite to that.

The farm bill: everyone knows here we are long overdue for a farm bill. I am a rookie on this Committee. I am hoping that I can bring some rookie good luck with us, or I was hoping to bring some rookie good luck in terms of getting a farm bill across the table. Obviously, many of those provisions were pumped into H.R. 1, but there are still things that have to be done. And it is sincerely my hope that we can come back to the table in a meaningful way, in a timely way, and pass some things that will support our beginning farmers, that will expand ag research, that will modernize SNAP, that will strengthen our crop insurance, something that will ensure that our rural communities have the housing infrastructure and economic tools that they need going forward.

And with my remaining time, one of the big reasons I wanted to be on this Committee was for Rural Development purposes. I represent a district where rural hospitals are closing left and right, probably at the fastest rate of any district in this country. We have a number of food deserts with no grocery stores. We have a number of areas that don't have real broadband access. And so, it is my hope that we can prioritize working together across the aisle in a meaningful, impactful way to be able to bring some Rural Development funds, to not just my district, but to everyone on this Committee's districts and in Congress to be able to positively impact the lives of those people in rural America to show them that, despite the environment here, that we can still figure out a way to move the ball forward on a wet field. And so, I look forward to working with you guys to do that, and thank you.

I see my time has expired. I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Figures follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. SHOMARI FIGURES, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM ALABAMA

Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for holding this Member Day hearing and allowing us the opportunity to testify.

Many of you may not know this, but I represent Alabama's 2nd District where the plight of our farmers and the needs of rural communities are not abstract Washington talking points. For my community, agriculture issues are our daily reality.

From the soybean farmers of Macon County to families in Washington County—agriculture and the work of this Committee has real life ramifications on my neighbors across the Second District.

Historically, this Committee has met those needs with a spirit of bipartisanship that puts the needs of rural America first. And I believe that commitment matters more now than ever.

Let's start with SNAP. Earlier this year, we witnessed the largest SNAP cut in the history of this country by the Trump Administration. To add insult to injury, millions of Americans—including around 29,000 people in my District who rely on SNAP—were denied their benefits by a heartless Administration that was willing to break the law to withhold SNAP benefits and cause children, seniors, people with disabilities, and millions of families go hungry during the Thanksgiving holiday season.

This Committee knows all too well that if SNAP benefits falter or if states cannot meet their cost-sharing requirements to fund the program, our constituents—the people who entrusted us to advocate on their behalf in Washington—are the ones who suffer.

In Alabama's 2nd District, that is one in four households going hungry. In my community, letting SNAP falter means losing nearly 500 jobs across sectors. Without SNAP, every food pantry would be overwhelmed because SNAP generates nine meals for every one meal offered by a local charity.

As the Vice Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Nutrition and as one of only two Members from the State of Alabama serving on this Committee—strengthening SNAP remains at the forefront of all that I do on this Committee, and I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to ensure that this lifeline is restored for the most vulnerable in this country.

We also know that rising costs are keeping many Americans up at night. I represent a community where the median individual income is just north of \$32,000, so even the smallest rise in the cost of putting food on the table or raising crops or energy prices can cause irreparable harm.

That's why the President's tariff war and market instability has been concerning for the people of Alabama—particularly our small- and mid-size farmers who are not receiving the support and relief funding they need from the Federal Government to weather this storm. Relief checks for some when farmers are experiencing billions of dollars in losses is not only disappointing but borders flat out irresponsible. We need stronger risk-management tools, meaningful disaster assistance, and fair access to USDA programs—especially for farmers who have historically faced discrimination in lending and program eligibility. And we must strengthen the connection between local producers and local communities so that food grown in Alabama fills the cafeterias in our schools, the shelves of our neighborhood stores, and the tables of families using SNAP. That is what keeps dollars circulating locally and gives our next generation of farmers a real chance to succeed.

Everyone here knows that we're long overdue to pass a new, comprehensive farm bill that delivers real, tangible progress for rural families. A new farm bill is our opportunity to reach bipartisan consensus and tackle our major priorities including:

- supporting beginning farmers
- expanding agricultural research at HBCUs like Tuskegee University
- modernizing SNAP
- strengthening crop insurance,
- ensuring that our rural communities have the housing, infrastructure, and economic tools they need to thrive.

We cannot keep shifting resources from one critical program to make up for cuts in another. We cannot “rob Peter to pay Paul” and call it a strategy.

A strong farm bill means farmers can hold onto their land. It means more than 10,000 Alabamians avoid falling into poverty. It means our food supply chain, from the field to the grocery aisle, remains stable and secure. And it means we keep faith with the communities that feed and fuel this nation.

I'll end with this: as a proud father of four young children and a son of rural Alabama, I can't help but think about the opportunities children have, or don't have, simply because of where they grow up. In my District, a student may not have access to reliable broadband to complete their homework. That child may grow into a young adult who fears that the only path to a good job requires leaving home altogether. Throughout that child's life, they may be forced to drive an hour just to receive quality and comprehensive health care. This isn't hypothetical—it's the reality for far too many in rural America.

It's time to put our money where our mouths are and invest in the broadband, distance learning, and telemedicine that is required for rural communities to compete in a modern economy. These are exactly the challenges USDA's Rural Development Program was designed to confront, and they are why we must strengthen these programs. I am hopeful that this Committee can once again rise to the moment and deliver bipartisan solutions that put families, farmers, and rural America first.

Thank you, and I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Figures, thank you so much. Anyone have any questions for Mr. Figures? If not, sir, thank you for representing your constituents. Go ahead, Ms. Brown.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Figures, you touched on Rural Development. I know that broadband internet access has been essential in both the urban and the rural communities. Is that something you can elaborate on?

Mr. FIGURES. Yes. I mean, if you want to come home with me one day to Alabama, to my district, to some of the rural parts of my district, I can take you to a McDonald's parking lot in some of these rural counties, and it has more cars in the parking lot than people in the restaurant because of the need—they don't have access to the internet, and I know that is not unique to my district. I am sure if we go to communities across the dais, you would see something similar. The difference is, many of the communities that I represent, they don't have the capacity locally. They don't have the tax base. Some of them have geographical challenges, and, quite frankly, given the economics of it, historically, what we have seen is that companies are not willing to make the middle-leg or the last-leg investment in expanding broadband access because it will just take them too long to reap the profits of it, which, from a business perspective, as a business owner myself, I understand that. We don't want business owners being forced to make decisions that put them in the red.

But I think as it relates to rural broadband, that that is something that is an area where the Federal Government has to step up because it is implications on education, it is implications on being able to bring businesses into areas, it is implications on rural telemedicine, and so it is something that, ultimately, is costing us in the long run. And so, it is my hope that we can come together in a way to drive some real resources to rural broadband deployment.

Ms. BROWN. And I love that you touched on telemedicine because when we consider the fact that the Affordable Care Act is going to skyrocket folks' premiums, and we already know that the largest cuts to our healthcare system in our nation's history has already resulted in some rural hospitals closing, the farmers that I visited in different parts of the country rely on the Affordable Care Act to provide healthcare to their families and their employees as well. Can you speak about that?

Mr. FIGURES. Yes. Look, we have heard from several farmers and just a number of constituents in general, as I am sure everyone here has, in terms of the impact that the premium subsidies have. Regardless of how they got here or when they got here, they got here, and they provide a meaningful benefit to millions of American families and about 50,000 or so just in my district. And on average, without those premiums, they will see their healthcare costs, on average, increase by about 106 percent in my district. And again, this is a district where the individual median income is just \$32,000, and half of people make less than that, and that is not even raising that number up to \$35 or \$37 or \$38, which is still too low. But at the end of the day, I represent a very poor district, financially speaking, and so it is something that really matters.

Ms. BROWN. Right.

Mr. FIGURES. And on the hospital front, I say this not to, like, raise, like, alarm flags. I got 13 counties in my district. You can deliver a baby in two of them.

Ms. BROWN. Yes.

Mr. FIGURES. Ten of the 13 counties either have a hospital that has closed, or is in the process of converting to an REH to be able to stay open, or on literal life support. The largest hospital in my state capital, Montgomery, which I represent, is in the middle of a bankruptcy, and they are, like, the hub of rural healthcare in that region. And there are only two hospitals in Montgomery, so if lose that one, you are really in a bad situation in terms of rural healthcare, and this is all in a state that has the third-lowest life expectancy in the United States of America.

And so, the healthcare piece for me it is not talking points. It is not political. It is how do we get to an answer that can fix these issues and at least keep our hospitals open because it is hard to recruit a business, or retain a business, or to recruit back retirees who grew up in an area to come back to where they grew up, or to recruit developers or builders to come to an area when that pitch begins with the reality of we don't have a hospital. No one wants to live in those communities, no one wants to invest in those communities, and that is not a red or blue or Democratic or Republican issue. That is just a pure economics issue, that it is my hope that we can find a way to work collaboratively to recognize that fact, and figure out a way to try to address it.

And I know that there are some Members on this Committee that I know have worked on both sides of the aisle to try to address rural healthcare, but we have an ability to do it through Rural Development funds, and I look forward to working with you guys to figure out a way to try to do it.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you. I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Figures. Thank you for testifying. I now recognize the gentlelady from Washington State, Representative Schrier, for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. KIM SCHRIER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM WASHINGTON**

Ms. SCHRIER. Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for the opportunity to testify today.

Over the past year, our constituents have had their food assistance stripped away from them. Working people are struggling with rising costs, producers and consumers are dealing with the uncertainty of tariffs, and we are leaving farmers behind in all of this, and today's Member Day really couldn't be timelier. The government shutdown highlighted just how important SNAP is for all of our districts. While people were working without pay and their SNAP benefits were delayed, food banks were then overrun, and many of my constituents actually reached out to see how they personally could help make up the difference, but the fact is that none of us can.

Earlier this year, House Republicans made it even harder to access SNAP benefits. Food is not a luxury. It is a necessity, as you have heard from every one of my colleagues up here, and we should be striving to make sure that everybody has the food they need and not increasing barriers for those who are already struggling. The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, or WIC, is another program that needs our continued investment. WIC is an effective intervention to support positive pregnancy and birth outcomes and healthy child development, and WIC saves lives. Studies have shown that WIC reduces the risk of pre-term birth and infant mortality, reduces the prevalence of childhood obesity, and saves significant healthcare costs. And at a time when constituents are forced to spend thousands more on healthcare coverage or go without coverage altogether, this could not be more imperative.

We also need to invest in community resources, like food banks that provide that safety net lifeline during times of crisis or to make up for SNAP deficits. The Emergency Food Assistance Program, or TEFAP, offers this support while also investing in our agricultural community. My bill, the EAT Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act (H.R. 6697, Expanding Access To Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act), takes us one step farther by allowing states to use TEFAP dollars to purchase locally-grown food from small and beginning farmers and get that to their local food banks and local food organizations. This bill would also fill a gap that was left by the Local Food Purchase Assistance Program, which was hastily canceled by the Trump Administration earlier this year. I will be reintroducing the EAT Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act this week, and I urge the Committee to please prioritize it and other ways to invest in family farms.

Rising costs are not only impacting consumers, they are lowering profits for producers. The Administration's tariffs have increased infrastructure costs and risked farmers' opportunity to just compete fairly in a global marketplace. It took over 2 years of my fighting to convince India to drop their retaliatory tariffs on Washington apples following President Trump's 2018 tariff war, which precipitated a 99 percent drop in those apple exports. We cannot afford to spend years cleaning up this new tariff mess while our local economies continue to struggle to pay Trump's tab.

I introduced the Agriculture Export Promotion Act of 2025 (H.R. 1086) to increase funding to USDA export promotion programs, like the Market Access Program, to give farmers who export their crops a fighting chance in this Trump economy. My district is home to

apples, and pears, and a variety of other specialty crops, much of which is exported, and I also want to thank you for your focus on expanding specialty crop research and extension services. I introduced bipartisan legislation to waive the prohibitive matching funds requirement for specialty crop research funding, and this will allow our research institutions and individual orchardists to more readily invest in projects to combat fungicide resistance in wine grapes and pestilence in onions, precision irrigation for fruit growers, and a variety of other issues, including—we were talking about flies before—mealy flies as well, not just mealy worms.

Finally, we need to support a resilient agricultural system and ensure that farmers and producers can invest in climate-smart practices. My bill, the Partnerships for Agricultural Climate Action Act (H.R. 6341), allows farmers to choose to implement practices that reduce emissions, enhance soil carbon storage, and improve resilience to extreme weather. It is modeled after a bipartisan Washington State program, and it is a good bill. I also introduced the bipartisan ENABLE Conservation Act of 2025 (H.R. 5365, Eliminating Needless Administrative Barriers Lessening Efficiency for Conservation Act of 2025), which expands the Conservation Reserve Program county acreage cap so that more farmers can choose to restore their land and protect it for future generations. All of our U.S. conservation programs are oversubscribed, and I urge the Committee to prioritize these pieces of legislation and conservation programs that help the Earth and our farmers.

Thank you, and I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Schrier follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. KIM SCHRIER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM  
WASHINGTON

Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for the opportunity to testify before you today.

Over the past year, our constituents have had their food assistance stripped away from them. Working people are struggling with rising costs, producers and consumers are dealing with the uncertainty of tariffs, and we are leaving our farmers behind. Today's Member Day could not be timelier.

The government shutdown highlighted just how important SNAP is for my district. While people were working without pay and their SNAP benefits were delayed, food banks were overrun, and my own constituents reached out to see how they could help and make up the difference. Earlier this year, House Republicans made it even harder to access SNAP benefits. Food is not a luxury, it is a necessity, and we should be striving to ensure everyone has food on their table, not increasing barriers for those struggling to feed themselves and their families.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, or WIC, is another program that needs our continued investment. WIC is an effective intervention to support positive pregnancy and birth outcomes and healthy child development—WIC saves lives.

Studies have shown that WIC reduces the risk of pre-term birth and infant mortality, reduces the prevalence of childhood obesity, and saves significant healthcare costs, which at a time when my constituents are forced to spend thousands more on healthcare coverage or go without coverage altogether, could not be more imperative.

We must also invest in community resources, like our food banks, that provide support during times of crisis. The Emergency Food Assistance Program, or TEFAP, offers this support while investing in our agricultural economy. My bill, the *EAT Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act*, takes this one step further by allowing states to use TEFAP to purchase locally grown food from small and beginning farmers and distribute it to food banks and other emergency food organizations. This bill would also fill a gap left by the Local Food Purchase Assistance program, which was hastily canceled by the Trump Administration earlier this year. I will be reintro-

ducing the *EAT Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act* this week, and I urge the Committee to prioritize it and other ways to invest in family farms.

Rising costs are not only impacting consumers—they are lowering profits for our producers. This Administration's tariffs have increased infrastructure costs and risked farmers' opportunity to compete fairly in the global market. It took over two years to convince India to drop their retaliatory tariffs on Washington apples following President Trump's 2018 tariffs which precipitated a 99% drop in those apple exports. We cannot afford to spend years cleaning up this new tariff mess while our local economies continue to struggle to pay Trump's tab. I introduced the *Agriculture Export Promotion Act* to increase funding to USDA export promotion programs like the Market Access Program to give farmers who export their crops a fighting chance in this Trump economy.

My district is home to apples and a variety of other specialty crops, and I will continue to focus on expanding specialty crop research and extension services. I introduced bipartisan legislation to waive the prohibitive matching funds requirement for Federal specialty crop research funding. This allows our agriculture research institutions to more readily invest in projects to combat fungicide resistance in wine grapes, prevent pestilence in onions, and improve precision irrigation for fruit growers, among a variety of other issues that impact specialty crop growers.

Finally, we need to support a resilient agricultural system and ensure that farmers and producers can invest in climate-smart practices. My bill, the *Partnerships for Agriculture Climate Action Act*, allows farmers to choose to implement practices that reduce emissions, enhance soil carbon storage, and improve resilience to extreme weather. It is modeled after a bipartisan Washington State program and supports first-time, low-income, and minority farmers that don't traditionally have the capital to invest in these practices. I also introduced the bipartisan *ENABLE Conservation Act*, which expands the Conservation Reserve Program county acreage cap so that more farmers can choose to restore their land and protect it for future generations. All U.S. conservation programs are over-subscribed, and I urge the Committee to prioritize both pieces of legislation so that farmers can continue to reliably provide for their families and the country amidst climate change and increasingly severe weather conditions.

I look forward to working with the Committee to advance these priorities and pieces of legislation. Thank you for your time.

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 1086, Agriculture Export Promotion Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr1086ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr1086ih.pdf> (See p. 298).
2. **H.R. 5365, Eliminating Needless Administrative Barriers Lessening Efficiency for Conservation Act of 2025 (ENABLE Conservation Act of 2025):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5365ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5365ih.pdf> (See p. 380).
3. **H.R. 6341, Partnerships for Agricultural Climate Action Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr6341ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr6341ih.pdf> (See p. 420).
4. **H.R. 6697, Expanding Access To Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act (EAT Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr6697ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr6697ih.pdf> (See p. 438).

The CHAIRMAN. I thank the gentlelady. Any questions for Ms. Schrier? Go ahead, please.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Schrier, so thankful for your testimony. I just want to get a little bit more insight. You talked about the 99 percent drop in the apple exports. Can you walk us through that? What countries were impacted? Did the market recover? Like, how did Washington work through that?

Ms. SCHRIER. So, Washington apples are the best apples in the world. Most of them are exported, but chances are when you go to the store down the street, you will see apples from my district. These particular tariffs were retaliatory tariffs imposed by India on the U.S. after the Trump Administration—the first Trump Administration—imposed tariffs on India, and predominantly, India was

importing Red Delicious apples, which are not consumed so much in the U.S. anymore. We have so many other varieties, but they are very popular in India, and that tariff brought \$120 million market down to \$1 million market. It really nearly killed these apple farmers. It was 2 years of fighting. We finally got it flipped around, and they are now up and shipping again, but this is all quite uncertain. We saw what happened the first time, and retaliatory tariffs hurt farmers.

Ms. BROWN. And were they able to recover back up to the \$120 million, or is it still a work in progress?

Ms. SCHRIER. It is still a work in progress.

Ms. BROWN. Yes.

Ms. SCHRIER. We don't know if they are going to get all the way back to \$120. It will take some time. I mean, the longer that you don't have a market, the more likely it is that you are going to lose that market permanently, and we have already experienced that in Washington State, specifically with regard to China.

Ms. BROWN. Exactly. And so, that was my point because that is something that I also experience when visiting farms in the Midwest as it relates to soybeans. The soybean market has been drastically impacted by these tariffs, and the concern of the farmers is if they will be able to recover and regain those markets, however you want to phrase it, but I will call it a bailout, too. When you are bailing out other countries like Argentina when it comes to our beef and cattle market, it creates a space where our farmers are challenged to regain those markets, and so what do you do? And so, I appreciate you sharing that, and with that, I will yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Mrs. Hayes.

Mrs. HAYES. Thank you. I just wanted to make a point. I appreciate you bringing up your comments about the WIC program. Very important, and so many of our families rely on that program. The Chairman and I both sit on the Committee of Education and Workforce, which, oddly enough, has jurisdiction over childhood nutrition programs. So, I would encourage you to also share that part of your testimony with the Committee on Education and Workforce, because it is worth noting, and it is very important, and that overlap needs to be just, I guess, considered because we work together with the two committees, to make sure that that program is funded.

Ms. SCHRIER. Yes.

Mrs. HAYES. Thank you.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Schrier, India has long had tariffs on the majority of U.S. agriculture products going into that country, correct?

Ms. SCHRIER. Yes. This was an additional 50 percent that killed the market.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Right.

Ms. SCHRIER. I mean, there is a point where—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. I am not—

Ms. SCHRIER.—you can bend only so far, and then you break.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. But I will tell you, just as somebody who represents pecan growers and a lot of other products that go to India, India has long had significant tariffs on our agricultural products going into that country, correct?

Ms. SCHRIER. Yes, but the point is really not that.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. That is—but—

Ms. SCHRIER. The point is that we were at a great equilibrium, our farmers were thriving, and then additional tariffs got—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Okay.

Ms. SCHRIER.—added on unnecessarily against, essentially, an ally.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Okay. So, where I disagree with you on that is your term *equilibrium* because what we want to reach is equilibrium, and I know what their tariff was on pecans. I know what it took for my good friend and colleague, Sanford Bishop, what it took for David Scott, what it took for myself to work to get the India tariff simply back down to a level where they were even affordable in their country. And so, we can disagree on things, but India had long been tariffing U.S. agriculture products going into that country. Our goal is to reach an equilibrium with them where we get the tariffs reduced. With that, I will yield.

Ms. SCHRIER. If I could just add, the U.S. feeds the whole world. If we had calibrated our country just to supply food for our own country, we would not have farmers stuck in this position where they are getting lowballed by local supermarkets so they can't make ends meet if they only sell domestically.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Ma'am, there—

Ms. SCHRIER. We don't have enough people in this country to eat all of this—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. So we might agree—

Ms. SCHRIER.—and we need to figure out how to play fairly in the world.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. We might agree on that more than you think we do. They are not actually being lowballed by the supermarket. They are being lowballed because there are very few people that are actually buying the commodity and turning it into food anymore. So, there are very few cereal makers. There are very few—there are very few companies that are actually buying the commodity and turning it into the products that we buy at the grocery store.

Ms. SCHRIER. Different products? Apples are apples. You just eat an apple.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Fair enough. Fair enough. I am talking—

[Laughter.]

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Fair enough. I am talking about peanuts. I am talking about grains. I am talking—that is fair enough. Pecans are pecans, too.

[Laughter.]

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Actually, they are pecans until you bake a pie with it. Then it is pecans.

[Laughter.]

The CHAIRMAN. Well, as you finish up, Ms. Schrier, I wanted to say Ms. Schrier has been a champion on child nutrition. Next week, we will have on the floor Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act

of 2025 (Pub. L. 119–69),<sup>1</sup> which she is an original cosponsor of, restoring that nutrition as an option back into our schools, as many of this panel actually are cosponsors of it.

Ms. SCHRIER. Thank you for partnering with me.

The CHAIRMAN. Ms. Schrier was one of the leaders on it, so thank you for that. I am pleased to recognize a very patient Member of Congress—

[Laughter.]

The CHAIRMAN.—who has waited through this panel—I apologize—Representative Underwood for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. LAUREN UNDERWOOD, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM ILLINOIS**

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Craig.

Americans across the country, and especially in rural communities, are feeling the impact of President Trump and MAGA Republicans' extreme policies. Families are paying more for basics. Hospitals are closing. Farms are facing higher costs and more extreme weather due to manmade crises, like climate change and Trump's tariffs, and instead of strengthening our rural economies and improving affordability, Trump's "Big Ugly Bill" made things worse. It cut Medicaid by nearly \$1 trillion, threatening access to lifesaving care for rural communities and increasing the cost of healthcare for everybody. It also undermined vital conservation payments that help farmers face the dual challenges of rising costs and a changing climate. And on top of the "Big Ugly Bill," President Trump and his tariffs have created chaos for the communities that keep this country fed. The damage is obvious, and rural communities are the ones paying the price. That is why I have introduced two bipartisan bills to undo some of the harm House Republicans have caused: the Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act (H.R. 4272) and the Strong Farms, Strong Future Act (H.R. 4428). Together, these bills address two of the biggest challenges I hear about from farmers in my district: access to healthcare and affordability.

Republicans just passed the largest cut to healthcare in American history, and now hundreds of rural healthcare facilities are projected to close. When a hospital closes, families are forced to travel for hours for emergency care, preventive care plummets, and conditions worsen before people can get help. That means higher costs for families and higher costs for the entire healthcare system. We must act immediately to address the significant challenges people in our rural communities face in accessing quality healthcare. My bill, the Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act, would address these disparities by prioritizing funding for rural healthcare facilities applying for Rural Development funding through USDA.

This bill gives communities the ability to renovate outdated buildings, reopen shuttered clinics, expand telehealth, and equip providers with the tools that they need to expand care. The Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act is a crucial step towards reversing the damage done by Trump and House Republicans when they

<sup>1</sup> **Editor's note:** Mr. Thompson is referring to the House version of the bill, H.R. 649. S. 222 was considered under suspension of the rules and passed, December 15, 2025.

slashed Federal investment in rural healthcare. We need to act quickly to provide rural communities with the resources that they need to ensure everybody can access care when they need it, no matter where they live.

Unfortunately, Trump and House Republicans didn't stop at cutting healthcare. To pay for tax cuts to the wealthy, they also stole from the conservation programs that farmers rely on. Family farms keep rural economies running, and they have been hit hard by rising costs and the financial uncertainty that comes with the changing climate. The "Big Ugly Bill" undermined conservation programs that farmers rely on to manage risk, improve soil health, and stay competitive. It pulled the rug out from under farmers who are acting as good as good stewards of their land. My bill, the Strong Farm Strong Families Act—I am sorry—the Strong Farms, Strong Future Act is a commonsense measure that puts farmers back on solid ground. It makes sure that when costs go up for things like cover crop seeds, labor, and equipment, conservation payments rise with them. Finally, farmers will receive inflation-adjusted payments for implementing and strengthening climate practices on their farms. It also builds on the Conservation Stewardship Program so farmers who adopt or improve conservation practices can renew their contracts with ease. Plus, it expands climate-smart bundles so that farmers can access region-specific bundles for different types of land. These practices are helping farmers reduce input costs and stabilize yields.

Better soil health means fewer expensive fertilizers. Better grazing systems mean healthier herds and lower feed costs. Better water retention means fewer crop losses during drought. These bills give farmers and families the support that they are being denied by this Administration. As Congress works towards a bipartisan farm bill, we cannot ignore rural hospitals or the financial pressure on family farms. Both of these bipartisan proposals should be included in the farm bill and brought to the House floor without delay because rural communities need action now. Thank you, and I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Underwood follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. LAUREN UNDERWOOD, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM ILLINOIS

Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig.

Americans across the country, and especially in rural communities, are feeling the impact of President Trump and MAGA Republicans' extreme policies.

Families are paying more for basics. Hospitals are closing. Farms are facing higher costs and more extreme weather due to man-made crises like climate change and Trump's tariffs.

And instead of strengthening our rural economies and improving affordability, Trump's Big Ugly Bill made things worse.

It cut Medicaid by nearly \$1 trillion, threatening access to life-saving care for rural communities and increasing the cost of health care for everybody. It also undermined vital conservation payments that help farmers face the dual challenges of rising costs and a changing climate.

And on top of the Big Ugly Bill, President Trump and his tariffs have created chaos for the communities that keep this country fed. The damage is obvious, and rural communities are the ones paying the price.

That's why I've introduced two bipartisan bills to undo some of the harm House Republicans have caused: the Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act and the Strong Farms, Strong Future Act.

Together, these bills address two of the biggest challenges I hear about from farmers in my district: access to health care and affordability.

Republicans just passed the largest cut to health care in American history, and now hundreds of rural health care facilities are projected to close. When a hospital closes, families are forced to travel hours for emergency care. Preventive care plummets, and conditions worsen before people can get help. That means higher costs for families and higher costs for the entire health system.

We must act immediately to address the significant challenges people in our rural communities face in accessing quality health care.

My bill, the Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act, would address these disparities by prioritizing funding for rural health care facilities applying for Rural Development funding through USDA.

This bill gives communities the ability to renovate outdated buildings, reopen shuttered clinics, expand telehealth, and equip providers with the tools they need to expand care.

The Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act is a crucial step towards reversing the damage done by Trump and House Republicans when they slashed Federal investment in rural health care. We need to act quickly to provide rural communities with the resources they need to ensure everybody can access care when they need it, no matter where they live.

Unfortunately, Trump and House Republicans didn't stop at cutting health care. To pay for tax cuts for the wealthy, they also stole from the conservation programs farmers rely on.

Family farms keep rural economies running, and they've been hit hard by rising costs and the financial uncertainty that comes with a changing climate.

The Big Ugly Bill undermined conservation programs that farmers rely on to manage risk, improve soil health, and stay competitive. It pulled the rug out from under farmers who were acting as good stewards of their land.

My bill, the Strong Farms, Strong Future Act, is a common-sense measure that puts farmers back on solid ground. It makes sure that when costs go up—for things like cover crop seeds, labor, and equipment—conservation payments rise with them. Finally, farmers will receive inflation-adjusted payments for implementing and strengthening climate practices on their farms.

It also builds on the Conservation Stewardship Program, so farmers who adopt or improve conservation practices can renew their contracts with ease. Plus, it expands climate-smart bundles so farmers can access region-specific bundles for different types of land.

These practices are helping farmers reduce input costs and stabilize yields. Better soil health means fewer expensive fertilizers. Better grazing systems mean healthier herds and lower feed costs. Better water retention means fewer crop losses during drought.

These bills give farmers and rural families the support they're being denied by this Administration. As Congress works toward a bipartisan farm bill, we cannot ignore rural hospitals or the financial pressure on family farms. Both of these bipartisan proposals should be included in a farm bill and brought to the House floor without delay, because rural communities need action now.

Thank you. I yield back.

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 4272, Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr4272ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr4272ih.pdf> (See p. 332).
2. **H.R. 4428, Strong Farms, Strong Future Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr4428ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr4428ih.pdf> (See p. 340).

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I thank the gentlelady, and, certainly, I think that the economic rural development aspect of the farm bill has been a force for good—

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN.—when I look at the construction of hospitals or whether it is maybe a new diagnostic machine or an emergency room upgrade. And I think it is something that is overlooked by maybe a lot of Members of Congress and where it actually is significant. So, I appreciate your focusing on that.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Any Members that have questions or anything?

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. I would just mention to you, ma'am, one of the challenges for those of us that represent rural America with our hospitals is that many urban hospitals are claiming rural access. And that small pot of money that is put aside for rural healthcare, because of urban hospitals claiming rural status, they are dipping into that money. And so, in many cases, that is leading to the wealthiest hospitals in the country taking money from the poorest. I would just point that out.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Well, what this bill would do is that it takes the USDA Rural Development pot of money that only those communities that are certified and that are accessing the Rural Development programs across the board, it would allow a prioritization for the healthcare programs when a community applies for those funds. That is important because, as you know, sir, when there is a closure of a rural healthcare facility, that infrastructure gets depleted very quickly. And if there is another company or nonprofit that wanted to come into that physical space, they often need help to afford the renovations to reopen, and that is what this bill is designed to address.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Okay.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. It is not addressing what you are talking about.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. I understand.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. It is really talking about the communities that are being directly served by the existing Rural Development program.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. I represent 30 counties in Georgia.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Oh, yes. I am not doubting—

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. And so, I am just pointing out that there are a multitude of problems.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Yes.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. And I mean, I have just watched as the county next to me was able to secure some funds to rebuild an older healthcare facility that had shut down so that they will now have a physician in that community, who, by the way, happens to be my personal doctor, so now I will travel 20 minutes instead of an hour. So, the issues you are talking about affect a lot of us.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Excellent.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you so much for your service to your constituents and bringing those before the Committee.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. We are going to have some folks coming up. We are going to keep going as we get other folks seated. The gentelady from Wyoming is seated, so we are going to jump right into and proceed as any of the other Members come up for the panel. And so, we will get the water passed out.

[Pause.]

The CHAIRMAN. All right. Thank you very much for the staff for helping us. That was real quick. I recognize the gentelady from Wyoming for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. HARRIET M. HAGEMAN, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM WYOMING**

Ms. HAGEMAN. Thank you. Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify today.

I was raised on a ranch in Goshen County, Wyoming, and dozens of my immediate and extended family members remain in the ranching industry to this day. I have become increasingly concerned by the disappearance of ranching families in my community over the last 25 years or so, due in large part to numerous Federal policies that have not only caused the current out-migration of our ag producers, but accelerated it in recent times.

2025 started as a year of optimism. Wyoming livestock producers were selling at higher prices, finally turning profits after years of losses, drought, and skyrocketing costs and expenses. One impact I have heard from constituent ranchers, who, for the first time in years, didn't find it necessary to take a second job to keep the family ranch alive. Unfortunately, those gains for many were wiped away after unnecessary market disruptions, exacerbating larger issues that make it increasingly difficult to ranch in Wyoming. Because so many of these challenges originated in Washington, D.C., we should be able to fix them in Washington, D.C., but only if we have the courage to do so.

The Trump Administration has, again, taken a bold step forward in issuing its plan to fortify the American beef industry, and I believe we can build off this work. I have submitted a number of priorities to this Committee for the farm bill to do just that, and I want to touch on a few of those today: first, the electronic identification ear tag rule issued by APHIS in 2024. While I know there are Members of this Committee that do not agree with my opposition to mandatory EID, I am very grateful for your willingness to let me weigh in on this policy.

There have been several challenges to the rule's implementation that must be addressed regardless of whether we support it or not. Since the EID rule went into effect, Wyoming and its surrounding states have run into persistent shortages, making compliance nearly impossible. APHIS and the tag manufacturers assured us that they were prepared for the rule, but the fact is they were not. There is, however, another issue exacerbating the shortages. State veterinarians, in an abundance of caution to ensure compliance with this Federal mandate, are instructing their cattle producers that they must put EID tags on all cattle from birth to grave, regardless of the type of animal and despite the fact that the rule requires no such thing. The rule instead applies to sexually-intact cattle that are 18 months of age or older and that will be sold or moved across state lines. Many of our cattle do not meet this criteria, including replacement heifers, other breeding and non-breeding stock, and they should not be required to sport an EID tag.

The problem is that ear tag manufacturers and state livestock boards are saying that they are now prohibited from manufacturing anything but EID tags. There are, thus, no bangs (brucellosis vaccination) tags available for those cattle that do not come within the definition of the rule. Ranchers are, thus, being forced to use EID tags for those cattle that were never included in the rule. This not

only creates shortages, but it is going to skyrocket the cost of the program. The rule, for example, was designed to cover only 11 percent of the cattle industry, with the USDA estimating the related cost to be \$26.1 million per year. If the rule is instead implemented against 100 percent of the cattle industry, the cost for the ear tags alone would be over \$260 million. Congress has not, and most likely would not, appropriate funds to meet that price tag, so we need to address this situation.

I believe that this—another priority of mine includes much-needed reform to the Conservation Reserve Program, or CRP. While there is, of course, a legitimate use for this program, it is now time to update and modernize it to safeguard U.S. food production. In summary, I believe that the CRP programs, which are really designed to disincentivize the productive use of land, are a top contributor in the decline in rural ranching families I referenced earlier. This is played out in my home community by literally removing, essentially, all families with young children across tens of thousands of acres in Goshen County alone. Why? Because our young producers simply cannot compete with the Federal Government when it comes to being able to purchase or lease land for cattle production when it comes to CRP.

The CRP program has risen to cover 27 million acres of land since the 2018 Farm Bill. In Wyoming, fully ½ of our CRP lands are in Goshen County, affecting our schools and the future of our young producers. We now have people who buy land solely for the purpose of putting it into CRP, thereby taking it out of production simply for the Federal payments that they can reap. I believe we must seriously consider lowering this overall cap and other reforms as well. Another important target for CRP reform would be to expand the types of approved management tools, to include livestock grazing. Cattle production is good for the land, cattle ranchers produce some of the healthiest protein that we can consume, and we need to increase cattle numbers in this country. This is one way to incentivize ranchers to do so while also furthering the intent of the CRP.

Last, I would like to express my appreciation for the Committee's recognition of the importance of the Secure Rural Schools Program and for the passage of its reauthorization in the House last night. Rural communities in my state have received vital economic assistance to support public infrastructure along with search and rescue and other emergency services.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Hageman follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. HARRIET M. HAGEMAN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM WYOMING

Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify today.

I was raised on a ranch in Goshen County, Wyoming, and dozens of my immediate and extended family members remain in the ranching industry to this day.

I have become increasingly concerned by the disappearance of ranching families in my community over the last 25 years or so, due in large part to numerous Federal policies that have not only caused the current out-migration of our ag producers, but accelerated it in recent times.

2025 started as a year of optimism—Wyoming livestock producers were selling at higher prices, finally turning profits after years of losses, drought, and skyrocketing costs and expenses.

One impact? I have heard from constituent ranchers who, for the first time in years, didn't find it necessary to take a second job to keep the family ranch alive.

Unfortunately, those gains for many were wiped away after unnecessary market disruptions, exacerbating larger issues that make it increasingly difficult to ranch in America.

Because so many of those challenges originated in Washington, D.C., we should be able to fix them in Washington, D.C., but only if we have the courage to do so.

The Trump Administration has again taken a bold step forward in issuing its plan to fortify the American beef industry, and I believe we can build off of this work.

I have submitted a number of priorities to this Committee for the farm bill to do just that, and I want to touch on just a few of those today.

First, the electronic identification eartag rule issued by APHIS in 2024.

While I know there are Members of this Committee that do not agree with my opposition to mandatory EID, I am very grateful for your willingness to let me weigh in on this policy.

There have been several challenges to the Rule's implementation that must be addressed, regardless of whether we support it or not.

Since the EID rule went into effect, Wyoming and its surrounding states have run into persistent shortages, making compliance nearly impossible.

APHIS and the tag manufacturers assured us they were prepared for the rule, but the fact is that they simply were not. There is, however, another issue exacerbating the shortages.

State veterinarians, in an abundance of caution to ensure compliance with this Federal mandate, are instructing their cattle producers that they must put EID tags on **all** cattle, from birth to grave, regardless of the type of animal and despite the fact that the rule requires no such thing.

The rule instead applies to sexually intact cattle that are 18 months of age or older and that will be sold or moved across state lines. Many of our cattle do not meet this criteria, including replacement heifers and other breeding and non-breeding stock, and should not be required to sport an EID tag.

The problem is that eartag manufacturers and state livestock boards are saying that they are prohibited from manufacturing anything but EID tags. There are thus no bangs tags available for those cattle that do not come within the definition of the rule. Ranchers are thus being forced to use EID tags for those cattle that were never included in the Rule. This not only creates shortages, but is going to skyrocket the cost of the program.

The rule, for example, was designed to cover only 11% of the cattle industry, with the USDA estimating the related cost to be \$26.1 million. If the rule is instead implemented against 100% of the cattle industry, the cost for the eartags alone would be over \$260,100,000. Congress has not, and most likely would not, appropriate funds to meet that price tag.

Neither of these directives are legally correct (that all cattle must now carry an EID tag and that manufacturers are prohibited from producing any other type of tag), and we need to correct this issue so APHIS provided tags go where they are needed.

The FY26 agriculture spending bill included report language acknowledging these concerns and encouraging APHIS to use enforcement discretion for producers unable to acquire tags, and requiring USDA to report on shortages.

I believe this Committee can help by further codifying this discretion and flexibility, while also working with USDA on guidance to assure the proper implementation of this rule.

Another priority of mine includes much-needed reform to the Conservation Reserve Program, or CRP. While there is of course legitimate use for this program, it is now time to update and modernize it to safeguard U.S. food production.

In summary, I believe that the CRP programs, which are really designed to disincentivize the productive use of our land, are a top contributor in the decline in rural ranching families I referenced earlier. This has played out in my home community by literally removing essentially all families with young children across tens of thousands of acres in Goshen County alone.

Why? Because our young producers simply cannot compete with the Federal Government when it comes to being able to purchase or lease land for cattle production when it comes to CRP.

The CRP program has risen to cover 27 million acres of land since the 2018 Farm Bill. In Wyoming, fully ½ of our CRP lands are in Goshen County, affecting our schools and the future of our young producers. Goshen has by far the largest

amount of CRP lands, with rental payments over \$4 million higher than the second highest county, and \$13.8 million higher than the lowest county.

We now have people who buy land solely for the purpose of putting it into CRP—thereby taking it out of production—simply for the Federal payments that they can reap.

I believe we must seriously consider lowering this overall cap, or, if we are going to leave it in place, we must institute caps in specified geographic areas, such as at the county level.

Another important target for CRP reform would be to expand the types of approved management tools to include livestock grazing. Cattle production is good for the land. Cattle ranchers produce some of the healthiest protein that we can consume. We need to increase cattle numbers in this country. This is one way to incentivize ranchers to do so while also furthering the intent of the CRP.

The Trump Administration will soon begin to enforce the voluntary country of origin labeling rule and implement the USDA–DOI Grazing Action Plan. Congress should be a part of these efforts by codifying those policies that facilitate more food production, which is something I know you are already committed to, Mr. Chairman.

Last, I would like to express my appreciation for the Committee's recognition of the importance of the Secure Rural Schools Program.

Rural communities in my state have received vital economic assistance to support public infrastructure, along with search and rescue and other emergency services through the SRS program.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

## ATTACHMENT 1



39540

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record access requirements and revising some requirements pertaining to slaughter cattle. These changes will enhance the ability of Tribal, State and Federal officials, private veterinarians, and livestock producers to quickly respond to high-impact diseases currently existing in the United States, as well as foreign animal diseases that threaten the viability of the U.S. cattle and bison industries.

**DATES:** This rule is effective November 5, 2024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Alexander K. Turner, Acting Director, Animal Disease Traceability and Veterinary Accreditation Center, Strategy and Policy, VS, APHIS, 2150 Centre Ave., Building B, Fort Collins, CO 80526; (970) 494-7353.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

Under the Animal Health Protection Act (AHPA, 7 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), the Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to issue orders and regulations to prevent the introduction into the United States and the dissemination within the United States of any pest or disease of livestock. Within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has primary regulatory responsibility to prevent, control, and eradicate communicable diseases of livestock in the United States. Knowing where diseased and at-risk animals are, where they have been, and when, is indispensable in emergency response and in ongoing disease control and eradication programs.

The animal disease traceability regulations, which were set forth in a final rule<sup>1</sup> published on January 9, 2013 (78 FR 2040–2075, Docket No. APHIS–2009–0091) and are contained in 9 CFR part 86, provide the requirements for identification and documentation for certain classes of cattle and bison to move interstate. These regulations establish minimum national official identification and documentation requirements for the traceability of livestock moving interstate. The species covered in the regulations include cattle and bison (sexually intact and 18 months of age or older, all female dairy cattle of any age and male dairy cattle born after March 11, 2013, cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo or recreational events, and cattle and bison of any age used for shows or exhibitions), sheep and goats, swine,

horses and other equids, captive cervids (e.g., deer and elk), and poultry.

Under the regulations, official identification devices or methods are determined by the APHIS Administrator. An “official identification device or method” is defined in § 86.1 of the regulations as “[a] means approved by the Administrator of applying an official identification number to an animal of a specific species or associating an official identification number with an animal or group of animals of a specific species or otherwise officially identifying an animal or group of animals.”

One of the approved identification methods for cattle and bison covered by part 86 is an official eartag. An official eartag is defined in § 86.1 of the regulations as “[a]n identification tag approved by APHIS that bears an official identification number for individual animals. Beginning March 11, 2014, all official eartags manufactured must bear an official eartag shield. Beginning March 11, 2015, all official eartags applied to animals must bear an official eartag shield. The design, size, shape, color, and other characteristics of the official eartag will depend on the needs of the users, subject to the approval of the Administrator. The official eartag must be tamper-resistant and have a high retention rate in the animal.” The other methods of official identification of cattle and bison include “[b]rands registered with a recognized brand inspection authority and accompanied by an official brand inspection certificate, when agreed to by the shipping and receiving State or Tribal animal health authorities; or [t]attoos and other identification methods acceptable to a breed association for registration purposes, accompanied by a breed registration certificate, when agreed to by the shipping and receiving State or Tribal animal health authorities; or Group/lot identification when a group/lot identification number (GIN) may be used.” 9 CFR 86.4(a)(1)(ii) through (iv).

Historically, APHIS has used metal, non-electronic identification (EID) tags for animal identification in disease programs for many decades and has approved both non-EID and radio frequency identification (RFID, a form of EID) tags for use as official eartags in cattle and bison since 2008.

Since the enactment of the animal disease traceability regulations, APHIS has worked with stakeholders to enhance its traceability capacity within the Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) program. In January 2017, APHIS staff officers met with State officials and

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

**9 CFR Parts 71, 77, 78, and 86**

[Docket No. APHIS–2021–0020]

RIN 0579–AE64

**Use of Electronic Identification Eartags as Official Identification in Cattle and Bison**

**AGENCY:** Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are amending the animal disease traceability regulations to require that eartags applied on or after a date 180 days after publication in the *Federal Register* of this final rule be both visually and electronically readable in order to be recognized for use as official eartags for interstate movement of cattle and bison covered under the regulations. We are also clarifying certain record retention and

<sup>1</sup> To view the final rule, supporting documents, and comments we received, go to: <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/APHIS-2009-0091>.

APHIS Veterinary Services field officers to gather input on what was working well in the traceability program and what gaps remained. A report of our findings was published in April 2017 (<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/adf-assessment.pdf>). Among other findings, the report discussed gaps in tracing animals due to the challenges of reading and recording numbers from non-EID eartags. A similar gap identified was the need for greater efficiency in collecting Animal Identification Numbers (AINs) or other official identification numbers of individual animals at slaughter and removing those identification numbers from future tracing efforts. Eliminating this gap was determined not to be feasible with visual-only eartags, but could be achieved with EID eartags.

On April 4, 2017, we published in the **Federal Register** (82 FR 16336, Docket No. APHIS-2017-0016) a notice<sup>2</sup> announcing a series of public meetings aimed at soliciting comment on the animal disease traceability program. A total of nine public meetings were hosted by APHIS between April and July of that year, and an additional meeting was hosted by the Kansas Department of Agriculture. As discussed in the April 2017 notice, the purpose of the meetings paralleled the prior discussion with State officials and APHIS field officers: to “hear from the public about the successes and challenges of the current ADT framework.” We specifically solicited attendance from cattle and bison industry members, as well as impacted States and Tribes.

The notice and meetings generated 462 written public comments. A working group composed of State and Federal officials, formed in March of 2017 to plan and attend the public meetings, was further tasked with listening to the discussions and preparing a final report summarizing input from the meetings and proposing directions to address gaps in the traceability system. The report was presented at the National Institute for Animal Agriculture fall public forum in September of 2017 and published in April of 2018 ([https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/adf-summary-program-review.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/adf-summary-program-review.pdf)).

During the remainder of 2017, 2018, and 2019, APHIS personnel frequently met with stakeholders to discuss questions and topics that arose during the 2017 outreach meetings. In addition

to individual and industry organization meetings, APHIS officers met with State officials as well as industry stakeholders at national public forums including the United States Animal Health Association and the National Institute for Animal Agriculture forum.

During this period, cattle and bison organizations provided significant and ongoing input on the animal disease traceability program. Although not everyone agreed, many stakeholders commented that electronic records and electronic identification were of significant value and were needed to protect the industry from diseases with potential for high economic impacts.

While APHIS focuses on interstate movement of livestock, States and Tribal Nations remain responsible for the traceability of livestock within their jurisdictions. APHIS partners with State veterinary officials each year to test the performance of States’ animal disease traceability systems with regard to the interstate movement of cattle and bison covered under 9 CFR part 86. (Tribes are free to request such test exercises on a voluntary basis and APHIS will report to the Tribes the results of any such exercise. At this time, Tribes have not requested such test exercises.) Results of these test exercises can be viewed on APHIS’ traceability web page.<sup>3</sup> The results indicate that when State veterinary officials are provided an identification number from an animal that has been identified with an official identification eartag, whether non-EID (e.g., metal or plastic) or electronic, and the number has been entered accurately into a data system, States on average can trace animals to any one of these four locations in less than 1 hour: the State where an animal was officially identified, the location in-State where an animal was officially identified, the State from which an animal was shipped out of, and the location in-State that an animal was shipped out-of-State from. However, lengthy times or failed traces in the test exercises resulted when numbers from non-EID tags were transcribed inaccurately, movement records were not readily available, or information was only retrievable from labor-intensive paper filing systems. We believe electronic tags and electronic record systems provide a significant advantage over non-EID tags and paper record systems, or systems that involve manual entry of tag numbers, by enabling rapid and accurate reading and

recording of tag numbers and retrieval of traceability information.

In support of greater efficiency in traceability and in furtherance of the above-listed program goals, on July 6, 2020, we published in the **Federal Register** (85 FR 40184–40185, Docket No. APHIS-2020-0022) a notice<sup>4</sup> in which we announced our proposal to approve only RFID tags as the official eartag for use in interstate movement of cattle and bison that are covered under the regulations. Specifically, the notice proposed that:

- Beginning January 1, 2022, USDA would no longer approve vendors to use the official USDA shield in production of visual eartags or other eartags that do not have RFID components.
- On January 1, 2023, RFID tags would become the only identification devices approved as an official eartag for cattle and bison pursuant to § 86.4(a)(1)(i).
- For cattle and bison that have official USDA visual (metal) tags in place before January 1, 2023, APHIS would recognize the visual (metal) tag as an official identification device for the life of the animal.

The 2020 notice further clarified that we were proposing no changes to the regulations pertaining to, nor proposing to restrict the use of, other official identification methods authorized by 9 CFR 86.4(a)(1)(ii) through (iv) (such as the use of tattoos and brands when accepted by State veterinary officials in the sending and receiving States).

We solicited comments on the 2020 notice for 90 days ending on October 5, 2020. We received 935 comments by that date from industry groups, producers, veterinarians, State departments of agriculture, and individuals.

Many of the commenters representing industry organizations and State department of agriculture regulatory officials were supportive of the transition and agreed with APHIS that RFID allowed for greater efficiency than non-electronic means of identification and furthered the goals of the ADT program with regard to animal traceability. We also received many comments expressing opposition to the proposal. These commenters expressed concern about issues including perceived costs, retention time on the animals of RFID eartags, as well as our legal authority under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 500 *et seq.*) to change the eartag requirements using a

<sup>2</sup> To view the notice, go to: <https://www.regulations.gov/document/APHIS-2017-0016-0001>.

<sup>3</sup> See ADT Trace Performance Metric Report 2013–2022. <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/adf-trace-perf-report-2013-2022.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> To view the notice, supporting documents, and comments we received, go to: <https://www.regulations.gov/document/APHIS-2020-0022-0001>.

notice-based procedure rather than rulemaking.

After reviewing the comments on the July 2020 notice, we determined that withdrawing our recognition of visual-only (non-EID) eartags as official eartags for cattle and bison moving interstate would constitute a change in the application of our regulatory requirements of sufficient magnitude to merit rulemaking rather than the notice-based process we originally envisioned. We also determined that the goal of maximizing transparency and public participation would also best be served through rulemaking in this instance. Therefore, on March 23, 2021, we issued a stakeholder announcement indicating that we would not finalize the 2020 notice, and that we “would use the rulemaking process for further action related to the proposal.”<sup>5</sup>

To that end, on January 19, 2023, we published in the *Federal Register* (88 FR 3320–3330, Docket No. APHIS–2021–0020) a proposal<sup>6</sup> to amend the animal disease traceability regulations to require that eartags applied on or after a date 6 months (180 days) after publication in the *Federal Register* of a final rule be both visually and electronically readable in order to be recognized for use as official eartags for interstate movement of cattle and bison covered under the regulations. The proposed rule differed from the 2020 notice in that we referred to electronic identification (EID) tags rather than to RFID tags to recognize the permissibility of other electronically readable technology, in addition to RFID technology, should it become available in the future. We also proposed several other changes to part 86 aimed at clarifying the regulations, including revising the definition of dairy cattle, amending certain provisions pertaining to recordkeeping, and revising certain requirements pertaining to slaughter cattle. We began soliciting comments concerning the proposal for 60 days, ending March 20, 2023, and in response to several requests by commenters, we extended<sup>7</sup> the comment period by 30 days to April 19, 2023.

We received 2,006 comments by the extended date. The comments were from industry groups, producers,

veterinarians, State departments of agriculture, and individuals.

Similar to the response to the notice published on July 6, 2020,<sup>8</sup> many of the commenters representing industry organizations and State departments of agriculture regulatory officials were supportive of the proposed rule and agreed that EID furthered the goals of the ADT program with regard to animal traceability. We also received many comments expressing opposition to our proposal. Our responses to those comments are provided below, organized by topic.

#### General Comments

Several commenters stated that our proposed rule would not improve animal disease traceability because an insufficient number of animals are covered under the proposed rule. These commenters noted that USDA has stated that a participation rate of 70 percent of the nation’s cattle herd would be necessary for an ADT program to be effective.

Having a higher percentage of the nation’s cattle population officially identified would certainly be a benefit to a robust ADT program, but our focus in this rulemaking is to continue to enhance our ability to respond quickly to high-impact diseases of livestock within the constraints of the animal classes and movements that are currently required to have official identification and the animal classes and movements that are currently exempted.

The source<sup>9</sup> cited by the commenters was the 2009 Congressional testimony of Dr. John Clifford, a former APHIS Deputy Administrator for Veterinary Services. Dr. Clifford was testifying about what measures were in place to survey for and respond to the possible introduction of high-risk foreign animal diseases (FADs) into the United States. His comments should be viewed through that lens and understood to mean that, in order to be fully prepared for a possible incursion of an FAD, an estimated 70 percent<sup>10</sup> of animals of a specific species/sector would need to be traceable. At the time of his testimony, Dr. Clifford estimated that 25 percent of the nation’s beef cattle herd participated

in the USDA’s National Animal Identification System (a voluntary system that prefigured the current ADT program). The higher the number of animals that are traceable, the higher the likelihood that we are able to trace any particular instance of disease and effectively respond.

These statements do not preclude APHIS from taking measures, such as our proposed rule, to move closer to that stated objective, nor do they contradict our claim that our proposal would improve the efficacy of our current ADT program. For the reasons outlined in the proposed rule and summarized above in this document, requiring EID for eartags will improve our ability to trace the cattle and bison that are currently required to have official identification and that meet this requirement with eartags.

A commenter stated that our proposed rule would not improve ADT because our proposal included no measure to solve problems with paper records by, for example, requiring the digitization of paper records used in disease traceback investigations.

We are making no change in response to the commenter. While the regulations do not require the digitization of paper records, APHIS has elsewhere encouraged the use of electronic recordkeeping through efforts such as targeted funding to State and Tribal animal health officials operating under an ADT cooperative agreement to support their electronic recordkeeping systems and maintain their internal databases used for animal disease traceability. Cooperators have used this funding in a variety of ways, including providing accredited veterinarians and livestock markets with free EID readers. Partly as a result of these efforts, electronic interstate certificate of veterinary inspections (ICVIs) are readily available now and frequently used. Moreover, our proposal included editing language in the definition of *interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)* in § 86.1 to clarify that electronic ICVIs may be used as an alternative to paper ICVIs. Our intention with respect to this change was to continue to encourage electronic recordkeeping in order to further alleviate the potential problems caused by paper records. However, because electronic ICVIs may sometimes be impracticable for the regulated community, we are not requiring the use of electronic ICVIs.

A commenter stated that typos were not a legitimate basis for major Federal action and claimed that APHIS was suggesting that ranchers “are doing sloppy work.”

<sup>5</sup> The notice was posted to [https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/newsroom/news/sa\\_by\\_date/sa-2021/rfid-traceability-rulemaking](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/newsroom/news/sa_by_date/sa-2021/rfid-traceability-rulemaking). It is available by contacting [traceability@usda.gov](mailto:traceability@usda.gov).

<sup>6</sup> To view the proposal, supporting documents, and the comments we received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/document/APHIS-2021-0020-0001>.

<sup>7</sup> The comment extension notice was published on March 20, 2023 (88 FR 16576, Docket No. APHIS–2021–0020).

<sup>8</sup> See footnote 4.

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/5\\_5\\_09\\_Clifford\\_Dep\\_Admin\\_for\\_Vet\\_Services\\_APHIS\\_National\\_Animal\\_ID.pdf](https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/5_5_09_Clifford_Dep_Admin_for_Vet_Services_APHIS_National_Animal_ID.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> More recently, a 2018 World Perspectives study commissioned by the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association estimated that a window of 45 percent to 90 percent, with a midpoint of 68 percent, is needed for traceability to have “national significance.” (“Comprehensive Feasibility Study: U.S. Beef Cattle Identification and Traceability Systems.” World Perspectives, Inc. 2018.)

Transcription errors in animal location and movement documents have the potential to significantly impede trace investigations. APHIS recognizes that producers and others who complete these documents typically take care in producing the documents; however, reading and transcribing tag identifiers by hand, especially National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tags that may be obstructed with debris or worn down, is a process that is inherently subject to human error. Errors can occur at the level of writing, reviewing, or completing movement documents, and an error in recording a single digit can have major impacts on a trace.

Some commenters stated that APHIS has failed to articulate the need for the proposed EID requirement, as the current ADT program has proven adequate. One of these commenters cited examples of successful disease outbreak control of bovine tuberculosis (TB) in Michigan; mad cow disease in Washington in 2003; and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in California in 1929.

Successes in the past do not mean EID is unnecessary. As explained in the proposed rule and summarized earlier in this document, APHIS partners with State veterinary officials each year to test the performance of States' animal disease traceability systems. Results of these test exercises currently show that when State veterinary officials are provided an identification number from an animal that has been identified with an official identification tag, either metal or EID, that has been entered accurately into a data system, over half of States can trace animals to any one of four locations in less than 1 hour (these four locations are: the State where an animal was tagged, the location in-State where an animal was tagged, the State from which an animal was shipped out of, and the location in-State that an animal was shipped out-of-State from). However, lengthy times in the trace test exercises resulted when numbers from visual (metal) tags were transcribed inaccurately, movement records were not readily available, or information was only retrievable from labor-intensive paper filing systems. EID tags and electronic record systems thus provide significant advantage over other forms of official identification to rapidly and accurately read and record tag numbers and retrieve traceability information.

As for the examples cited by the commenter, Michigan was unable to regain TB-free status in the vast majority of the State until improvements to its traceability program were made following the State's implementation of

the mandatory use of RFID ear tags in cattle and bison in 2007. Michigan faces a unique challenge in eradicating bovine TB, as the disease is endemic in free-ranging white-tailed deer present in specific areas of Michigan, and the disease can be transmitted between deer and cattle. Because of this, Michigan maintains a split-state status for TB: the State is divided into a Modified Accredited Zone and Accredited Free areas.<sup>11</sup> International trading partners and States have required Michigan to maintain a robust traceability program to continue to allow animals to move internationally or to other States from the Accredited Free areas of Michigan. Utilizing mandatory RFID tags in this traceability program allows immediate uploading of accurate records to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's system, which in turn allows Michigan to show their trading partners proof of where animals have been within the State, and helps to guarantee rapid response in the event of an animal disease emergency.

In addition to allowing for more rapid tracing of animals into and out of TB-positive herds, the mandatory RFID tagging requirement allows Michigan to provide real-time animal movement data for animals leaving the Modified Accredited Zone. This program allows State and Federal animal health officials to trace potentially exposed herds within hours, as opposed to days or weeks, saving both time and money. TB traces in Michigan are linked to source and exposed herds more accurately, which reduces the number of additional herds impacted by quarantine and testing. We believe Michigan's experience further supports our contention that increased use of EID eartags nationwide will improve APHIS's animal disease traceability program.

Regarding the 1929 outbreak of FMD in California, historically, cattle movement in the United States was much smaller. Animals today can be transported quickly and easily across State lines, allowing for a much more rapid and uncontrolled spread of disease. While the United States was fortunate to contain the disease in 1929, containing an outbreak would be far more difficult today. Moreover, the cost of containment, eradication, and the loss of export markets would far outweigh the cost of EID tags.

Regarding the 2003 case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE, "mad

cow disease") in Washington, the diseased cow was traceable to Canada. The United States was unable to trace all the cows in the diseased cow's cohort, leading to suspicion that more cows with BSE existed in the United States, which resulted in negative impacts to cattle prices and export markets that lasted several years.<sup>12</sup> We consider this further support for improving the animal disease traceability program, as we believe that a more effective and efficient animal disease traceability program may have prevented those impacts.

As we have previously stated, in order to be fully prepared for a possible incursion of a high-risk FAD, an estimated 70 percent of each species/sector would need to be traceable. To be an effective tool for disease control, the traceability must be successful to the source of the disease and exposed animals within the time window of the particular disease's exposure and transmission parameters. This rulemaking furthers this goal.

Some commenters claimed that the ADT program's goal to trace an animal from birth to death in less than 24 hours was flawed, as birth-to-death traceability is not needed for fast-moving diseases such as FMD. The commenter suggested that the program need only trace where the infected animal has been in the last few days. The commenters also claimed that slow-moving diseases such as TB do not require rapid traceback.

The ADT program does not have a goal of tracing an animal from birth to death in less than 24 hours; the ADT program's goal is to be able to trace animals' movements completely and as rapidly as necessary to contain the disease in question, which depends on the speed of disease transmission.

Traceability is necessary for controlling both fast-moving diseases, like FMD, as well as slower-moving diseases, like TB and brucellosis. In both cases, speed of data retrieval and information sharing is important for efficiently and effectively completing a trace investigation. Responders can better identify animals that may have come in contact with an affected animal, which sometimes can number in the thousands or tens of thousands, implement mitigation strategies, and thereby minimize the economic impact of outbreaks to the industry. This speed of information retrieval and sharing is

<sup>11</sup> The Modified Accredited Zone is currently comprised of 4 counties; the State's remaining 79 counties are Accredited Free areas (<https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/animals/diseases/bovine-tuberculosis>).

<sup>12</sup> Coffey, B., Mintert, J., Fox, J.A., Schroeder, T.C. and Valentin, L., 2005. The economic impact of BSE on the US beef industry: product value losses, regulatory costs, and consumer reactions. Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, MF-2678.

enhanced when electronic identification and recordkeeping methods are utilized.

A commenter stated that use of EID eartags would not be enough to help control a potential FMD outbreak, and that prevention should be the first line of defense.

APHIS agrees that a response to FMD in the United States would require a multifactorial approach. As explained in Dr. Clifford's 2009 testimony<sup>13</sup> before Congress, APHIS' response plan includes specific emergency response guidelines; coordination with Departments and Agencies that will support and partner with USDA in emergency response; rapid response teams stationed around the country; access to personnel through the International Animal Health Emergency Response Corps; the National Veterinary Stockpile; and guidelines regarding the use of FMD vaccine.

Moreover, while prevention and biosecurity are necessary first-line defenses, we do not agree that they are sufficient risk mitigation strategies alone. EID eartags will make the process of tracing infected and exposed animals more efficient and will improve our implementation of mitigations, like tracing animals forward or utilizing vaccination or regionalization strategies. EID would be critical to reopening export markets closed as a result of an FMD outbreak, as the rapid tracing afforded by EID would help the United States demonstrate freedom from disease and disposition of all infected and exposed animals.

A commenter stated that early diagnosis and good animal husbandry are more important to disease control than ADT, as evidenced by the failure of EID to prevent the porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED) outbreak of 2013.

While we agree that good animal husbandry is important for preventing disease and that early diagnosis can help prevent its spread, this does not negate the importance of an ADT program, which can help us contain potentially devastating disease outbreaks before they can do substantial damage.

The commenter is correct that electronic identification of swine moving interstate would not have materially impacted the spread of PED. However, this is due to the nature of the disease and swine industry practices, rather than a failure of EID identification. The primary mechanism of PED spread was through fomites (e.g., pig feed, trucks, etc.) and not animal-to-animal contact where tracing would have been of greater benefit. In contrast,

diseases of cattle and bison, such as TB, brucellosis, and FMD, often are transmitted by animal-to-animal contact and, when the cattle or bison are moving in interstate commerce, the diseases can rapidly damage the cattle and bison industry in multiple States.

Some commenters disagreed that our proposal would address animal disease outbreaks because they claimed the risk of outbreaks of diseases of livestock originates from people crossing the border into the United States. Commenters specifically cited the risk of human-to-animal transmission of TB.

The commenter's claim that disease outbreaks of TB in cattle and bison are largely the result of zoonosis, and exposure to infected humans is not supported by data. Information from APHIS' National Tuberculosis Eradication Program indicates that TB is usually spread through the purchase of infected animals or exposure to infected cattle or wildlife. While human-to-animal transmission of TB may periodically occur, genomic testing shows the incidence to be low.

Some commenters disagreed that our proposal would address livestock disease outbreaks because they claimed the risk of livestock disease outbreaks originates from imported cattle and beef. The commenters suggested that APHIS focus its efforts on restricting imports to prevent the introduction of livestock disease rather than improving ADT.

This rulemaking is limited in scope to improving our national animal disease traceability program; restrictions on the importation of live animals and animal products are outside of its scope. We note that, under our regulations in 9 CFR part 93, APHIS only allows the importation of live animals from countries that meet certain freedom from disease testing requirements.

Under 9 CFR part 94, APHIS similarly restricts the importation of animal products based on the animal disease status of the exporting region. Animals and animal products that do not meet these requirements may not be imported into the United States.

A commenter stated that the proposed rule does not mention biosecurity and, therefore, is not focused on disease prevention.

We agree with the commenter that biosecurity is important to preventing disease and encourage producers to follow biosecurity practices. The commenter is correct that this final rule is not focused on disease prevention. As acknowledged in the proposed rule, the intent of the proposed rule was not to prevent disease epidemics. Rather, it would facilitate containing disease outbreaks before they can do substantial

damage to the U.S. cattle and bison industries. This final rule is specifically focused on improving our ability to trace animals accurately and rapidly in order to prevent that potential damage.

Many commenters who opposed the proposed EID tag requirement based their opposition on issues related to food safety. Commenters stated that the majority of food-borne illnesses in meat are the result of practices at the slaughterhouse and in processing and handling. Since animal identification programs end at the time of slaughter, commenters argued that requiring EID tags on cattle will not increase food safety.

Within the USDA, food safety of meat and meat food products falls under the purview of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). APHIS does not have statutory authority to regulate for food safety. The EID eartag requirement is intended to facilitate animal disease traceability, thereby improving our ability to trace outbreaks of diseases of livestock in live animals and more efficiently control or eradicate these diseases. This is consistent with our statutory authority under the AHPA.

It was further stated that, to address food safety and animal disease, APHIS should increase oversight and testing at the large meat processing plants. The commenters felt that would be more effective in preventing the spread of disease than requiring EID eartags.

As noted above, FSIS is a separate agency of USDA that regulates the slaughter and processing of meat and meat food products. APHIS does not provide oversight of the slaughter or processing operations; however, APHIS conducts surveillance for domestic animal diseases, such as brucellosis and TB, and some foreign animal diseases in certain species through slaughter surveillance. APHIS regularly evaluates its slaughter surveillance programs for efficacy; however, we disagree with the commenter that more stringent oversight of such facilities would prove more effective than requiring EID tags. Slaughter facilities are a terminal point, and cattle and bison may pass through multiple intermediate locations and commingle with animals from other premises and of other health statuses prior to slaughter. In the event of a disease outbreak, addressing this possible intermediate movement requires rapid and accurate traceability of all potentially affected livestock.

Some commenters asked us to reinstate mandatory country of origin labeling (COOL) in order to have a successful traceability program. Some commenters asked whether we intended

<sup>13</sup> See footnote 9.

to use EID tags for the purposes of COOL.

COOL pertains to the labeling of food products and is not related to APHIS' animal disease traceability program. Moreover, COOL was never under APHIS' purview, but under the purview of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).

Some commenters expressed their support for the continued exemption of cattle under 18 months of age from official identification requirements.

The regulations will continue to exempt most feeder cattle (beef cattle less than 18 months of age) from official identification requirements.

A commenter stated that ADT should only apply to breeding cattle or cattle in interstate commerce. Conversely, other commenters recommended that we apply the EID tag requirement to all cattle and/or that all cattle should be tagged at birth or before being sold, as this would improve our ability to locate diseased animals and lessen the effects of a disease outbreak. Some of these commenters added that this issue should be addressed in a separate rulemaking.

We will consider the commenters' recommendations in the future; however, changing the type of cattle needing official identification is outside the scope of this rulemaking. Should APHIS decide to change the type of cattle that require official identification in the future, this process would occur through rulemaking that would solicit public comment.

Some commenters expressed concern about APHIS expanding ADT requirements to encompass other types of cattle in the future.

This rulemaking is only intended to address the transition to EID official eartags for cattle and bison that are currently required to have official identification.

Some commenters expressed confusion regarding whether the EID tag requirement applied to their animals. Commenters provided various examples of beef cattle that do not move interstate, or that moved interstate but were less than 18 months of age. It was stated that the rule would require producers to tag their direct-to-slaughter cows and bulls. Similarly, two commenters requested that we exclude small producers from the EID eartag requirements in order to reduce burden on these entities.

This final rule does not change the types of animals to which official identification requirements apply, nor does it change the categories of animals that are exempted from official identification requirements. Under the

current regulations in § 86.4(b), which this final rule does not change, the following categories of cattle and bison are subject to official identification requirements for interstate movement: all sexually intact cattle and bison 18 months of age or over; all female dairy cattle of any age and all male dairy cattle born after March 11, 2013; cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo or recreational events; and cattle and bison of any age used for shows or exhibitions. Cattle and bison are exempted from official identification requirements if they are going directly to slaughter.

Because of these strictures, many small entities have cattle that are excluded from the requirement currently, including many of the commenters who asked whether the rule applies to them. Beef feeder cattle under 18 months of age are not subject to the identification requirements. Direct-to-slaughter cattle, including cull cattle, are not subject to the identification requirements. Cattle and bison that do not move interstate are not subject to the identification requirements, unless required by APHIS program disease regulations in 9 CFR subchapter C.

Some commenters stated that when the new EID tag requirement goes into effect, we should continue to exempt animals moved between States on pasture-to-pasture movement permits, *i.e.*, commuter herd agreements, from the requirements for official identification.

The EID tag requirement does not change the categories of animals that are subject to, or exempted from, the requirements for official identification.

Under a commuter herd agreement between a livestock owner and State or Tribal animal health officials, cattle and bison may be moved interstate between two premises, without a change of ownership in the course of normal livestock operations, subject to the conditions of the agreement. The regulations in § 86.4 provide for interstate movement of commuter herds under commuter herd agreements. See 9 CFR 86.4(b)(1)(i)(A). The EID tag requirement does not affect those regulations and, therefore, does not have any implications for the interstate movement of commuter herds.

A commenter stated that animals involved in private treaty sales for the purpose of breeding should be exempt from EID tag requirements when moved interstate.

This comment is outside the scope of this rulemaking. Per § 86.2(b), no person may move covered livestock interstate or receive livestock moved interstate unless all requirements of part 86 are

met. Private treaty sales of breeding cattle are required to meet these requirements, including official identification and an ICVI.

A commenter stated that allowing animals to move through a livestock facility to a slaughter establishment where a backtag can be applied, in accordance with § 86.4(b)(1)(ii)(B), leaves a potential gap in traceability to the premises of origin.

Section 86.4(b)(1)(ii) refers to a situation in which cattle are exempted from the requirement for official identification. Exemptions from the requirement for official identification are outside the scope of this rulemaking.

A commenter stated that finalizing this proposed rule would "invite limitless incremental regulation from other agencies."

The commenter's stated supposition for this statement is that this rulemaking represents a concerted effort by the Federal Government, as a whole, to wrest livestock management decisions from individual producers. APHIS has no intent to do so, nor is it aware of any such effort.

The same commenter opined that the rule could be used by APHIS as a basis for incremental further expansion of the ADT program, citing, as purportedly analogous examples, requirements by the Security and Exchange Commission regarding environmental, social, and governance reporting, and policies by the Food and Drug Administration regarding the use of antibiotics in livestock.

APHIS has no authority over the regulatory actions and policies of other agencies. However, as noted above, the proposed rule is a distinct action meant, primarily, to change the official eartag requirements for cattle and bison covered by the ADT regulations in order to improve its emergency response and ongoing disease control and eradication programs. The proposed rule is not intended as part of a suite of interlocking, incremental regulatory changes to the regulations, and any possible future revisions to the regulations would be through proposed rules with the opportunity for public comment.

Some commenters, while generally supporting the use of EID eartags for official identification of cattle and bison, believed that such use should be voluntary rather than a requirement.

The use of EID official eartags has been voluntary for many years. In our view, and as stated above, continuing to allow the use of EID eartags by producers on a voluntary basis will not provide the degree of enhancement to our traceability capacity that is needed

for optimal animal disease investigation and control.

We also received a number of comments regarding the public comment period and outreach efforts related to this rulemaking. A few commenters stated that more stakeholder outreach was needed. Some commenters stated that APHIS ignored previous stakeholder outreach in drafting our proposed rule. Some commenters requested an extension of the comment period, ranging from 30 days to 90 days, to allow more time for public input.

We extended the comment period for the proposed rule by 30 days, which we consider appropriate given our prior outreach efforts to stakeholders. We disagree that our outreach efforts were inadequate or that the feedback received during our outreach efforts was ignored. As stated earlier in this document, outreach included meetings with State officials and APHIS Veterinary Services field officers; nine public meetings that solicited attendance from cattle and bison industry members, as well as impacted States and Tribes; the July 2020 notice seeking public comment for 90 days; as well as the January 2023 proposed rule, which solicited comment for a total of 90 days. All input and comments received from these efforts were considered when drafting this rulemaking.

#### Effective Date and Implementation

Some commenters advocated grandfathering in existing eartags, *i.e.*, recognizing visual tags, such as National Uniform Eartagging System eartags, as official eartags for animals tagged with them prior to November 5, 2024, the effective date of the EID tag requirement.

We agree with these commenters. As we noted in the proposed rule, visual eartags applied to animals prior to November 5, 2024 will be recognized as official eartags for the life of the animal.

Some commenters expressed concern about the effective date of November 5, 2024, stating that 6 months was a relatively short amount of time to notify producers of the new requirements and for producers to meet the EID tag requirement. Other commenters expressed support for our proposed timeline.

We believe that an effective date of November 5, 2024 provides sufficient time for stakeholders to comply with the new requirements. APHIS has engaged in extensive outreach efforts regarding the use of EID eartags, as summarized earlier in this document, and it has ensured that the new requirements will

only apply to eartags applied to animals after the effective date.

Two commenters stated that implementation of the proposed rule would be difficult due to a general labor shortage.

We note that producers may apply official eartags to their animals themselves. Whether producers have tags applied to their animals at approved tagging sites, apply tags to their animals themselves, or hire labor to apply tags to their animals, we do not believe there is more labor involved in the application of EID eartags as opposed to applying eartags that are only visually readable.

Multiple commenters expressed concern about potential shortages of EID tags in light of supply chain and manufacturing challenges. Some commenters mentioned that EID tags are often backordered or that there are high wait times for EID tag orders. Some commenters recommended we create a contingency plan in the event EID tags required by this rulemaking are not available once the final rule goes into effect.

APHIS ADT staff have had frequent conversations with manufacturers of official devices and have been assured that manufacturing and shipping capacity is adequate for the projected number of cattle requiring official identification for interstate movement.

APHIS is aware of supply chain and manufacturing disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but these issues have been resolved. APHIS is also aware of long wait times due to customization or brand preferences that are desired by the producer, but the regulations do not require such customizations or that any specific brand be used. We do not believe either of these issues indicate that a current shortage exists or that a future shortage is likely, and the commenters have not provided any additional evidence of reasonably foreseeable supply chain issues.

Finally, as discussed in further detail later in this document, we believe that the streamlining changes we proposed to the approval process for new EID devices will help insulate against unforeseen supply chain disruptions.

#### Definitions (§ 86.1)

In § 86.1, we proposed to revise the definitions of *approved tagging site*, *dairy cattle*, *interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)*, and *official eartag*. We also proposed to add a new definition for *Official Animal Identification Device Standards (OAIDS)*. Comments we received for each of the revisions and addition to § 86.1 are addressed below.

#### Approved Tagging Site

The current regulations define an *approved tagging site* as “A premises, authorized by APHIS, State, or Tribal animal health officials, where livestock may be officially identified on behalf of their owner or the person in possession, care, or control of the animals when they are brought to the premises.” In order to offer greater clarity regarding the nature of an approved tagging site by specifying that such sites are where official identification tags are physically applied to animals, we proposed to revise this definition to read as follows: “A premises, authorized by APHIS, State, or Tribal animal health officials, where livestock without official identification may be transferred to have official identification applied on behalf of their owner or the person in possession, care, or control of the animals when they are brought to the premises.”

One commenter, while expressing support, suggested we also revise the definition to require the physical address of the originating premises to be recorded alongside the animal’s official identification number in order to address a purported ambiguity in the current regulations. The commenter stated that, occasionally, livestock exempt from the official identification requirements for interstate movement by § 86.4(b)(1)(i)(C) that arrive to an approved tagging site only have their official identification numbers recorded with the physical address of their originating premises if they receive their official identification at the tagging site, while, for livestock that arrive already bearing official identification and only have backtags applied at the tagging site, no record is made of their originating premises.

We are making no change in response to this comment. Cattle moving interstate, whether or not already bearing official identification, must be accompanied by an ICVI or alternative movement document. (See § 86.5(a).) These records contain the physical address of the animal’s originating premises. Therefore, in both scenarios referenced by the commenter, records correlating the animal’s official identification number to their originating premises already exist, and we do not agree that the definition of *approved tagging site* is an appropriate place to reference these records requirements.

However, if States or Tribes wish to require an approved tagging site to complete this additional recordkeeping, they could do so as part of their State or Tribal agreements for authorizing an

approved tagging site, as requirements for approved tagging sites may vary according to the relevant authority.

One commenter asked whether a ranch was considered an approved tagging site and, if so, whether this involved an approval process. Another commenter asked how a location can become an approved tagging site.

Per the definition of *approved tagging site*, approved tagging sites may be authorized by State, Federal, or Tribal animal health officials. Individual States maintain lists of the approved tagging sites in their State. The commenters are encouraged to contact the appropriate animal health official in their area<sup>14</sup> to receive a list of approved tagging sites in their State, as well as information regarding becoming an approved tagging site. Requirements for approved tagging sites may vary depending on the relevant authority.

A commenter stated that the process for becoming an approved tagging site should be consistent with the process for becoming a Secondary Tagging Site for the Agriculture Marketing Service Process Verified Program.

We are making no change in response to the comment, as approved tagging sites, as defined in § 86.1 are not related to Process Verified Programs. As mentioned above, approved tagging sites may be authorized by State, Federal, or Tribal animal health officials. Accordingly, the requirements for authorizing an approved tagging site may vary depending on the relevant authority.

One commenter asked whether all in-State general auction markets were approved tagging sites.

No. In-State general auction markets may become approved tagging sites if authorized as such by APHIS, State, or Tribal animal health officials.

#### *Dairy Cattle*

The current definition for *dairy cattle* reads, "All cattle, regardless of age or sex or current use, that are of a breed(s) used to produce milk or other dairy products for human consumption, including, but not limited to, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites." We proposed to add to this definition cattle that are reared under the same management practices as purebred dairy cattle. The definition in the proposed rule read: "All cattle, regardless of age or sex, breed, or current use, that are born on a dairy farm or are of a breed(s) used to produce

milk or other dairy products for human consumption, or cross bred calves of any breed that are born to dairy cattle including, but not limited to, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites." Commenters raised concerns that caused us to further revise this definition, which we discuss later in this document.

We also proposed changes throughout part 86 to align the regulations with this revised definition. This included revising § 86.4(b)(1)(iii)(B) to include the offspring of dairy cattle in the list of cattle subject to the official identification requirements, as well as revising § 86.5(c)(7)(ii) to require that the official identification numbers of all dairy cattle, regardless of whether the dairy cattle are sexually intact, must be recorded on ICVIs.

Multiple commenters expressed their support for the revised definition for *dairy cattle* presented in the proposed rule, stating that the revision would help eliminate confusion and ambiguity.

We agree with the commenters. Eliminating ambiguity in the definition will help ensure that all dairy cattle, which have an increased risk of disease, meet the appropriate requirements for official identification and movement documentation.

A commenter requested we clarify whether our proposed revision intends to capture beef animals "born on a dairy farm," and, if so, requested that we clarify that these animals would be required to have official identification if moved interstate. The commenter also noted that compliance challenges may present themselves in situations where an animal's farm of birth is unknown.

The increased disease risk relevant to animals born on a dairy farm that we discussed in the proposed rule applies specifically to beef/dairy cross bred cattle born on a dairy farm. We agree with the commenter that the phrase "born on a dairy farm" is unclear, as it may give the false impression that it applies to beef animals born on a dairy farm that are not beef/dairy cross bred animals. Therefore, we are revising our proposal to address this potential confusion. The revised definition of *dairy cattle* will read as follows: "All cattle, regardless of age or sex or current use, that are of a breed(s) or offspring of a breed used to produce milk or other dairy products for human consumption, including, but not limited to, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites."

Some commenters, while expressing their support for a revised definition, asked us to replace the phrase "cross

bred calves of any breed" in the revised definition presented in the proposed rule with the phrase "cross bred cattle of any breed" to further eliminate confusion regarding to which animals the definition applies.

The commenters are correct that we intended to capture cross bred cattle of any age, rather than only calves, in our proposed revised definition. We believe the modification to the proposed definition provided above addresses these commenters' concern.

One commenter asked whether the change to the *dairy cattle* definition would apply across all Federal regulations administered by APHIS. The commenter stated that consistency in definitions would prevent discrepancy and aid enforcement.

In the proposed rule, we proposed to revise definitions in 9 CFR parts 71, 77, and 78 to correspond with the changes to the definitions that we proposed for part 86. While we accounted for the definitions of *official eartag* and *interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)*, we erroneously neglected to account for the definition of *dairy cattle*, which the commenter correctly points out is also used in part 78. Therefore, we will revise the definition of *dairy cattle* in part 78 to correspond with the change to the definition made in part 86.

Some commenters disagreed with our proposed revised definition, arguing that there is no increased risk of disease transmission from cattle that are reared under the same management practices as purebred dairy cattle.

We disagree with the commenters. As stated in the proposed rule, dairy farm management practices, such as pooling colostrum from multiple cows for many calves, commingling calves at different locations during their lifetimes, and movement to many destinations, result in a higher risk of disease transmission. Beef/dairy crosses born on dairy farms are likely to be exposed to these practices, especially in early life; therefore, they are at an increased risk of disease transmission.

Two commenters stated that our revised definition would discourage producers from including beef/dairy cross bred calves as part of their operations.

The commenter provided no evidence to support this claim. We also note that APHIS' operational guidance has consistently held that beef/dairy cross bred cattle fall under the definition of *dairy cattle*, and are therefore already required to have official identification; our change to the *dairy cattle* definition codifies this longstanding guidance

<sup>14</sup> Contact information for State animal health officials (SAHOs) may be found at: <https://www.usaha.org/saha>.

regarding how to interpret the regulations.

*Interstate Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI)*

We proposed to add editorial and formatting changes to the definition of *interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)* to clarify that electronic ICVIs may be used.

A commenter stated that APHIS should require the recording of official identification on ICVIs at the most specific applicable level. The commenter opined that official individual animal identification numbers should be recorded on ICVIs even when animals are identified using a group/lot identification number (GIN).

We are making no changes in response to the comment. A GIN is used to uniquely identify a unit of animals of the same species that is managed as one group throughout the preharvest production chain. Animals identified using a GIN are not required to have the GIN, or any additional animal identification number, affixed to them. Instead, the GIN is recorded on documents accompanying the animals as they move interstate. Because these animals move as a unit, a GIN provides sufficient information to identify the animals in the event of a trace. We also note that cattle and bison typically do not move on GINs due to the current industry structure within the United States.

A commenter asked us to clarify in the definition of *ICVI* that accredited veterinarians who issue ICVIs must be licensed and accredited in the State of origin of the animal requiring documentation, as the current definition only requires that issuing veterinarians are licensed in State of origin and federally accredited.

We are making no changes in response to the commenter, as we do not agree that the definition of *ICVI* is an appropriate place to state the regulations and standards relevant to accredited veterinarians. The commenter is incorrect that the definition of *ICVI* lists licensure or accreditation requirements for veterinarians. Requirements for licensure and accreditation for veterinarians are covered in 9 CFR part 161.

*Official Animal Identification Device Standards (OAIDS)*

We proposed to add a definition of *Official Animal Identification Device Standards (OAIDS)* to replace the Animal Disease Traceability General Standards document. The proposed OAIDS, like the existing Standards

document, provides guidelines, technical standards, and specifications for tag manufacturers requesting APHIS approval of new official identification devices. As stated in the proposed rule, in addition to edits corresponding to changes proposed to the regulations, changes to the document include the following:

- Accepting EID device testing equivalent to International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) testing and allowing APHIS to consider requests, on a case-by-case basis, for approval of alternative field trials or eartags with previously generated verifiable data if equivalency to the standards is demonstrated;
- Modifying the field trial requirements by reducing timelines for the three approval statuses (trial: from 0–12 months to 0–6 months; preliminary: from 12–24 months to 6–12 months; and conditional: from 24–36 months to 12–36 months), reducing the number of required field trial locations (from at least 6 to at least 2), and reducing the number of cattle and bison required for field trials (from a minimum of 1500 to a minimum of 300); and
- Reducing the timeframe before allowing unlimited sales of devices from a minimum of 24 months to a minimum of 12 months if devices meet the required performance standards.

Numerous commenters expressed support for this addition and the changes we proposed to make to the document. These commenters noted that streamlining the approval process for EID devices will ensure availability of tags, insulate against supply chain disruptions, and help facilitate the introduction of new technologies.

We agree with the commenters. As stated in the proposed rule, our changes are meant to encourage manufacturers to seek APHIS approval of new official identification devices.

One commenter expressed concern regarding reducing the timeframe before allowing unlimited sales of a device from 24 months to 12 months, stating that this could compromise assurance of the devices' quality and longevity.

We are making no changes in response to the commenter. Tag retention, durability, safety, and efficacy are of utmost importance to APHIS. Our approval process for EID eartags continues to require testing and field trials or performance data that ensure the eartags meet the required standards. We note the benchmark of unlimited sales is conditional and does not constitute full approval. The timeframe for full approval will remain 36 months (30 for swine); prior to full approval,

manufacturers are required to have a mechanism in place to collect and report tag failure data to APHIS.

We believe that the tag standards listed in the OAIDS, including the aforementioned 12-month timeframe for unlimited sales, will maintain a high standard of quality without discouraging manufacturers from applying for official status. As we noted in the proposed rule, we determined that requiring manufacturers to wait 24 months before allowing unlimited sales of a device that met the required performance standards could have been inhibiting manufacturers from seeking APHIS approval.

One commenter stated that the proposed changes to the OAIDS under the proposed rule a major rule, as the document allows for "regulatory flexibility."

Under the Congressional Review Act (CRA), major/non-major designations occur at the final rule stage and are the purview of the Office of Management and Budget based on an assessment of expected annual costs associated with the rule. APHIS has no discretion to label the rule major or not major under the CRA. However, we note that the commenter's stated basis for considering the rule major does not align with the criteria in the CRA, which is whether the rule is likely to result in (1) an annual effect on the economy of \$100,000,000 or more; (2) a major increase in costs or prices for consumers, individual industries, Federal, State, or local government agencies, or geographic regions; or (3) significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or on the ability of United States-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises in domestic and export markets. 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

Two commenters stated we should reduce the required lifespan of a device to 3 years from 10 years. One commenter stated 3 years was sufficient because the typical lifespan for beef cattle going to slaughter is 18–24 months. The other commenter stated a 10-year requirement was a hindrance to the adoption of future technologies.

The commenters are incorrect that the requirements specify that tags should have a lifespan of 10 years. The OAIDS states that a tag is expected to remain on an animal in a physically functional state for the animal's expected lifetime, which, for cattle and bison, is up to 15 years.

We disagree with the commenters that tags should only have a lifespan of 3 years. Cattle and bison under 18 months of age and cattle and bison going

directly to slaughter are exempt from the requirements for official identification, rendering their example irrelevant. Moreover, a device that only functions for 3 years would add burdensome costs to producers, as they would need to replace tags more frequently. It would also make record retention and tracing more difficult, especially for longer-lived animals, as the animals would be associated with a different identification number every 3 years.

#### *Official Eartag*

The current definition of official eartag reads, "An identification tag approved by APHIS that bears an official identification number for individual animals. Beginning March 11, 2014, all official eartags manufactured must bear an official eartag shield. Beginning March 11, 2015, all official eartags applied to animals must bear an official eartag shield. The design, size, shape, color, and other characteristics of the official eartag will depend on the needs of the users, subject to the approval of the Administrator. The official eartag must be tamper-resistant and have a high retention rate in the animal." We proposed to revise this definition to remove language referencing the 2014 and 2015 dates, which are no longer relevant. Our proposed revised definition reads as follows: "An identification tag approved by APHIS that bears an official identification number for individual animals. The design, size, shape, color, and other characteristics of the official eartag will depend on the needs of the users, subject to the approval of the Administrator. The official eartag must be tamper-resistant and have a high retention rate in the animal."

One commenter asked that we establish a standard for a "high retention rate" to aid State officials in enforcement. Retention rates required for approved EID tags have already been established in the former Animal Disease Traceability General Standards document and are included in the QAIDS. For cattle and bison, device loss rates must not exceed 1 percent annually or 3 percent in a 3-year period.

#### *Additional Definitions*

One commenter asked us to define the term *premises*, as one of the dictionary definitions for "premises" necessitates a deed.

We are making no changes in response to the commenter, as we believe the regulations are sufficiently clear that a premises in part 86 relates

to a geographical location, not a deed. For example, the definition of a *premises identification number (PIN)* in § 86.1 describes a premises as "a geographically distinct location."

#### **Recordkeeping Requirements (§ 86.3)**

Section 86.3 addresses recordkeeping requirements for official identification. Current § 86.3(a) states that any State, Tribe, accredited veterinarian, or other person or entity who distributes official identification devices must maintain for 5 years a record of the names and addresses of anyone to whom the devices were distributed. We proposed to add a requirement to that paragraph that official identification device distribution records must be entered by the person distributing the devices into the Tribal, State, or Federal databases designated by APHIS.

We also proposed to add a new paragraph (b), which would state that records of official identification devices applied by a federally accredited veterinarian to a client's animal must be recorded in a readily accessible record system to help ensure such records are available to APHIS for traceback investigations.

Finally, we proposed to add a new paragraph (d), stating that records required under paragraphs (a) through (c) of § 86.3 must be maintained by the responsible person or entity and be of sufficient accuracy, quality, and completeness to demonstrate compliance with all conditions and requirements under part 86. The proposed new paragraph further required that APHIS be allowed access to all records during normal business hours, to include visual inspection and reproduction (e.g., photocopying, digital reproduction), and the responsible person or entity must submit to APHIS all reports and notices containing the information specified within 48 hours of receipt of request for records.

Two commenters asked us to amend § 86.3(a) to allow the person distributing EID eartags to provide records to a State official, via a spreadsheet, and the State official to enter the records into a State or Federal database.

We are making no changes in response to the commenter, as we interpret our proposed change to § 86.3(a) as written to already allow for the arrangement described by the commenter. A person who provides records to a State official to enter into a State or Federal database would fulfill the requirement of entering the official identification device distribution records into an acceptable database.

Two commenters asked us to amend § 86.3(b) (redesignated in our proposal

as § 86.3(c)) to read, "Approved livestock facilities must keep any ICVIs or alternate documentation that is required by this part for covered livestock to enter the facility through interstate movement" rather than "Approved livestock facilities must keep any ICVIs or alternate documentation that is required by this part for the interstate movement of covered livestock that enter the facility." The commenters stated that this change would clarify that this requirement is pertains to livestock moving to the market from out-of-state, rather than moving from the market to an out-of-state facility.

We are making no change in response to the commenter, as we believe the regulations as written are sufficiently clear that this paragraph refers to livestock that enter an approved livestock facility from out of state.

One commenter stated that the proposed rule was not specific enough about who was responsible for recordkeeping. The commenter asked whether the responsible party was the veterinarian, producer, or tag distributor.

We disagree that these requirements are not sufficiently specific. In our proposed rule, § 86.3(a) specifies that any State, Tribe, accredited veterinarian, or other person or entity who distributes official identification devices is responsible for maintaining records of the names and addresses of anyone to whom the devices were distributed. In other words, the recordkeeping requirements of § 86.3(a) apply to whoever distributes the official identification device in any one transaction, whether that be a State, Tribe, accredited veterinarian, or other person or entity. We also note that a producer applying official identification devices to their own animals, but not distributing the official identification devices to anyone else, does not fall under § 86.3(a).

In our proposed rule, § 86.3(c) specifies that approved livestock facilities are responsible for keeping ICVIs or alternate documentation that is required by part 86 for the interstate movement of covered livestock that enter the facility.

Two commenters stated that we should amend proposed § 86.3(d) to place the responsibility for ensuring "accuracy, quality, completeness" of an ICVI on the veterinarian who created the ICVI, not the approved livestock facility that maintains the document.

The commenters have misinterpreted the regulations. Contrary to the commenters' implication, § 86.3(d) does not specifically or exclusively place

responsibility for the accuracy, quality, and completeness of ICVIs on approved livestock facilities. Section 86.3(d) requires “the responsible person or entity” to maintain records required under § 86.3(a) through (c) and to ensure that they are accurate, of quality, and complete. Multiple persons or entities may bear this responsibility. Standards for accredited veterinarians in 9 CFR part 161 stipulate that accredited veterinarians cannot issue documents unless they have been “accurately and fully completed” (9 CFR 161.4). This standard applies to ICVIs or alternative documentation referred to in § 86.3(c). The approved livestock market maintaining ICVIs or alternative documentation as required by § 86.3(c) is responsible for providing accurate information, such as information regarding which animals have been sold and to whom, to a veterinarian creating ICVIs for animals leaving the facility. Ensuring the continued accuracy, quality, and completeness is also a part of the proper maintenance of records and is not a standard limited to their creation.

Some commenters asked us to shorten the 48-hour timeframe for entities to submit to APHIS all requested records to 24 hours, stating that 48 hours was too long. Other commenters asked us to increase this timeframe to 72 hours, as many livestock markets operate 1 day each week and may not have the staff availability to meet the 48-hour requirement and to align with the potential 72-hour national stop movement order for livestock transport.

We believe that 48 hours is a reasonable compromise. While animal traces should occur as quickly as possible, 24 hours may not be practical for some markets, due to staffing and availability constraints. The 72 hours cited by commenters refers to a potential emergency response for highly contagious disease outbreaks, in which all animal movement would be stopped for 72 hours. This potential order should not affect the ability to provide information necessary for a trace, and it would be disadvantageous to delay tracing until the order were lifted, as the delay may inhibit the speed of our response to a disease threat.

One commenter asked whether training on database use will be provided to those responsible for recordkeeping.

We are unsure to which database the commenter is referring. The proposed rule referred to three different types of recordkeeping: (1) for recordkeeping of device distribution, APHIS provides training for APHIS databases such as the Animal Identification Management

System (AIMS); (2) for recordkeeping of applying official ID, accredited veterinarians may use AIMS or various medical record systems and receive training from their vendors; (3) finally, State officials maintain records of ICVIs and tag distributions in the State’s regulatory database for which APHIS does not provide training.

One commenter asked what would happen to records if an individual, such as an accredited veterinarian, responsible for recordkeeping went out of business.

Tag distributors must maintain records in accordance with § 86.3, whether or not their business is still in service. One commenter asked us to include the specific requirements of recordkeeping in the final rule, rather than in the OAIDS, to increase compliance.

We are making no changes in response to the commenter. Apart from streamlining the approval process of new EID tags and applying changes corresponding to this rulemaking, the OAIDS contains the same information as the previous iteration of the document, titled the Animal Disease Traceability General Standards document. As we have not historically experienced problems due to the location of the information contained within the Standards document, we do not have reason to believe that the OAIDS is an unsuitable location for the information contained therein.

One commenter asked us to add a time requirement of 48 hours for entering records of distributed devices into an acceptable database.

As we have not experienced problems with the timely entrance of distribution records into a database, we disagree that specifying a time requirement in the regulations is necessary. The entry into a database should occur immediately upon distributing the tags, because the tags may be applied upon receipt to an animal for immediate movement.

One commenter asked whether a producer who applied tags to their animals themselves would be responsible for the recordkeeping requirement in § 86.3.

No. Under § 86.3(a), a person distributing tags must maintain for 5 years a record of the names and addresses of anyone to whom the devices were distributed. If a producer is applying tags to their own animals and not distributing tags to another person, this requirement does not apply to them.

One commenter stated that they would prefer if States had consistent forms for submitting recordkeeping

information regarding EID tag distribution to States.

This is outside the scope of this rulemaking. APHIS does not mandate the type of form States must use for this recordkeeping.

Finally, in reviewing the proposed rule while drafting this final rule, we noticed that our proposed § 86.3(a) incorrectly omitted mention of distribution records kept by large producer organizations that redistribute tags to their members in their own databases. In order to prevent the interpretation that this will no longer be permissible, we are amending the second sentence of this paragraph to state that identification device distribution records must be entered by the person distributing the devices into the Tribal, State, Federal, or other database acceptable to each government entity.

#### **Official Identification for Cattle and Bison (§ 86.4)**

Section 86.4 concerns official documentation required for different species. As discussed earlier in this document, we proposed to revise § 86.4(a)(1)(i) to add the requirement that, beginning November 5, 2024, all official eartags sold for or applied to cattle and bison must be readable both visually and electronically.

Some commenters stated that allowing EID tags to be visually readable will fail to reduce, or will actually increase, human error as individuals would be transcribing 15-digit, rather than 9-digit, identification numbers, thus negating the intent of the rule.

We disagree that requiring EID tags to be visually readable will increase the likelihood of human error. The 15-digit identification numbers of the AIN numbering system currently used for all approved EID eartags begin with the same 6 digits: 840003. The first 3 digits of an AIN comprise the country code, which, for the United States, is 840. The following 3 digits, 003, signal that the animal has been identified using a sequential numbering system from a start number of 003,000,000,000. As a result, an individual visually reading an EID tag would only read 9 unique characters (the characters following 840003). These characters are comprised solely of numbers, whereas the 9-digit NUES numbers are alpha-numeric. Moreover, EID eartags have readability standards, while metal tags with NUES numbers do not. These include larger font size and color contrast. Given these comparisons of AIN numbers and NUES numbers, it is our view that transcription error is not likely to significantly increase from the current

state when relying on visual read of the eartag; if anything, several factors should make it easier, not harder, to transcribe the tag number. However, the use of EID tags would allow for an electronic read of the tag if a transcription error were believed to have occurred.

Some commenters asked for clarification about whether using brands as official identification would continue to be acceptable. Others stated that EID eartags should not replace brands as a means of official identification.

We proposed no changes to the regulations pertaining to, nor did we propose to restrict the use of, other methods of official identification for cattle and bison authorized by the regulations, which include “brands registered with a recognized brand inspection authority and accompanied by an official brand inspection certificate, when agreed to by the shipping and receiving State or Tribal animal health authorities” (9 CFR 86.4(a)).

Some commenters expressed preference for brands over eartags, claiming the former to be a more effective and reliable means of identification.

As stated above, this rulemaking does not discontinue brands as an official means of animal identification for cattle and bison. Brands registered with a recognized brand inspection authority and accompanied by an official brand inspection certificate remain an official means of identification for cattle and bison, if agreed upon by the shipping and receiving State.

Some commenters expressed concern about the retention rates of EID eartags that may fall off the animal or may be relatively easy to remove.

We do not agree that tag retention is a greater issue for EID tags than metal tags. APHIS-approved official identification tags undergo rigorous testing and trials to assure a retention rate of 99 percent (a loss of no more than 1 percent per year) and are intended for the life of the animal. While data on retention rates of metal NUES tags is lacking, field experience and anecdotal observation from regulators at the State and Federal level suggest that the retention rate of these metal tags is lower than our required retention rate of EID eartags. As one commenter mentioned, metal tags are not immune from potential problems, including tag loss, illegibility, and infection.

Almost all reported retention issues with EID tags are due to user error or use of unofficial tags intended for use for a shorter duration in feedlot cattle.

Regarding removal, it is unlawful to intentionally remove any official identification under current regulations in part 86. We proposed no change to this regulation.

A commenter interested in selling alternative identification devices that use Bluetooth and GPS technology stated that RFID tags are unreliable and subject to fraudulent use.

As stated above, approved official identification tags undergo rigorous testing and field trials to ensure they meet our high standards for efficacy. The regulations prohibit the fraudulent use and recording of official identification. Sections 86.3 and 86.4(d) and (f) outline requirements regarding recordkeeping, removal, and sale or transfer of devices.

Two commenters asked for an explanation of the protocol for replacing lost EID eartags.

Procedures for replacing any lost official identification devices are outlined in § 86.4(d) and remain unchanged as a result of this rulemaking.

Two commenters asked whether tags can be applied to animals directly by producers, or whether tags must be applied at approved tagging sites. One of these commenters stated that it should be permissible for producers to apply tags themselves.

Current regulations do not stipulate that the tags can only be applied at approved tagging sites. If a producer desires, they may purchase tags directly from a vendor and apply the tags to their own animals. In this case, the producer has no recordkeeping requirement regarding tag distribution.

Some commenters expressed concern that tags produced in foreign countries may compromise national security. Commenters also expressed concern that foreign-sourced tags could increase the vulnerability of the United States to supply chain sabotage.

Commenters provided no evidence to support the contentions that tags produced in foreign countries may “compromise national security” or increase the vulnerability of the United States to “supply chain sabotage.” However, all APHIS purchasing is compliant with all Federal contracting laws and regulations and with the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 8301–8303). This has always been true of contract purchasing by APHIS for the Animal Disease Traceability Program.

One commenter stated that PINs should not be a requirement to acquire and apply EID tags as that information can be gathered on other documents, such as health certificates.

The PIN is defined in 9 CFR 86.1 as a nationally unique number assigned by a State, Tribal, and/or Federal animal health authority to a premises that is, in the judgment of the State, Tribal, and/or Federal animal health authority a geographically distinct location from other premises. All currently approved EID eartags (RFID AIN “840” eartags) are associated with a PIN or a State location identification number (LID), inasmuch as a PIN or a LID is required for purchase of the tags (as stated in the OAHDS). A PIN is the numerical equivalent of a 911 postal address or a GPS number. A LID is the State-managed equivalent for producers who prefer to have the State store their information, rather than the Federal Government.

The commenter did not explain their specific concerns regarding PINs. That being said, we note that a PIN or LID is associated with the location where cattle are tagged, rather than the location of the cattle owner. Cattle may move to new locations that may have different PINs, LIDs, or new owners at will, but the PIN or LID associated with the location where the tag was placed on the animals remains specific to that location, thus facilitating traceback of the animals to that location when needed.

Health certificates cannot substitute for a PIN number because although information on health certificates include the location where the animal was loaded for interstate movement and destination location; they do not necessarily provide the location where a tag was placed on the animal.

Multiple commenters agreed with our decision to use language in the regulations to keep EID technology-neutral. Other commenters expressed support for their various preferred identification technologies, which included UHF, biometric, Bluetooth, and satellite geolocation. Commenters also asked whether high frequency or low frequency RFID tags would be the required or recommended standard.

We are neither requiring nor recommending any one type of EID eartag over another. Maintaining technological neutrality in the regulations will allow APHIS to adapt to technological developments and conduct animal disease traceability as rapidly and accurately as possible. So long as devices meet the standards, including for retention and safety, laid out in the OAHDS, and are readable both electronically and visually, they may be approved for use by APHIS. Producers will be able to decide which approved technology works best for them, based on their individual circumstances.

Some commenters stated that EID infrastructure should also support non-ADT uses.

EID infrastructure already supports non-ADT uses. For example, many dairies use EID tags to tie individual animals to production and management records. That information is separate from and not collected by the ADT program.

One commenter asked whether, in the event of an emergency, State departments of agriculture would be able to use orange EID tags typically used for heifer calves for other animals.

States are free to distribute any color of EID tag that is available. While orange tags are typically reserved for brucellosis vaccinates, this is not a requirement in the regulations.

Two commenters expressed concern regarding the purported difficulty of applying EID eartags. The commenters mentioned the difficulty of organizing tags not packed in sequential order and applying tags in cold conditions, as well as risk of fatigue and trauma to the hands.

The OAIDS provides guidance for packaging eartags, and states that packaging must maintain the tags in sequential order. The commenters do not provide evidence to support the implication that applying EID eartags is significantly more difficult in cold conditions or prone to causing fatigue and trauma to the hands than applying metal eartags or other forms of approved official identification, such as brands.

One commenter stated that the USDA should target tag distribution to cattle newly subject to the revised definition of *dairy cattle*, as it now includes beef/dairy cross bred cattle.

As noted in the economic analysis that accompanied the proposed rule, historically, APHIS has instructed dairy cattle operations that beef/dairy cross bred cattle should follow the same traceability regulatory requirements as purebred dairy cattle. Thus, official identification requirements applied to these animals prior to the implementation of this final rule and no targeted distribution is necessary.

One commenter stated that we should maintain the current use of AIN Device Managers to distribute official identification.

This final rule makes no changes to the current use of AIN Device Managers. Individuals may continue to distribute AIN devices by becoming AIN Device Managers. More information regarding this process can be found in the OAIDS.

One commenter volunteered to be a tag distributor for bison producers.

The commenter may reference the OAIDS document for further

information on how to become an AIN Device Manager and distribute tags.

Several commenters stated that the regulations should specify that only 840-series, and not 900-series, EID tags may be used as official identification on domestic cattle because 900-series tags are not unique in their official identification. 840-series tags refer to EID eartags that begin with the prefix "840" and are manufactured using the AIN numbering system for the official identification of individual animals born in the United States. 900-series tags refer to eartags that begin with the prefix "900," and are not manufactured for the official identification of individual animals in the United States, but are sometimes used by producers for individual livestock management purposes.

We believe the regulations already address the commenters' concern about the need for nationally unique numbers. Per the definition of official eartag, an official eartag is an identification tag that bears an official identification number. The regulations state that an official identification number is a nationally unique number that is permanently associated with an animal and adheres to the NUES system, AIN system, location-based number system, flock-based number system, or any other numbering system approved by the Administrator for the official identification of animals.

Currently, all APHIS-approved EID eartags available for domestic animals are manufactured using the 840-series AIN numbering system. 900-series tags do not meet the definition of an official eartag, as they do not bear an official identification number. Although 900-series tags may be suitable for non-ADT uses, they are not approved for use as official ID for animals born in the United States.

We disagree that the regulations should require the use of any specific numbering system. As stated in the proposed rule, this flexibility will allow for the possibility that different numbering systems may be developed and used in the future on EID eartags. Additionally, situations may arise that require the use of official ID that is not an 840-series tag. For example, cattle not born in the United States may have official identification from the country of origin or an alternate official ID approved by APHIS to designate a non-U.S. born animal. The NUES numbering system is also allowed under the regulations for official tags. Because NUES eartags applied to animals before November 5, 2024 will still be recognized as official for the lifetime of those animals, the NUES numbering

format will still be in use for some time after that.

Several commenters encouraged the USDA to allow the use of all currently used EID tags as official identification for ADT purposes. Two commenters specifically asked that we allow 900-series tags to be used for official identification, as these tags are already used by some producers.

We disagree with the commenters. Nine hundred-series EID eartags currently used by producers for livestock management purposes do not fulfil the requirements of EID eartags approved by APHIS for official identification purposes. APHIS approves the use of EID eartags for official identification that meet certain standards for durability, efficacy, and safety. These standards are essential to ensuring that methods of official identification meet industry needs and are retained and effective for the purpose of traceability.

A 900-series tag could provide traceability for a single movement; however, because the tag is not associated with an official identification number, the initial distribution location and additional movements would not be tracked or readily available for officials performing disease traces. Additionally, other characteristics of the 900-series tags make them unsuitable for traceability. For example, it is illegal to remove 840-series tags, while there is no regulation preventing the removal, replacement, or reuse of 900-series tags.

One commenter asked whether official ID tags can be reused after the death of an animal.

Tags cannot be reused. A requirement of official identification tags is that they are unique and not reusable. This prohibition prevents an animal in a disease trace from being confused with another animal that should not be included in the trace.

One commenter stated that the proposed rule did not address the problem of retiring eartags of dead livestock and asked about protocol in such situations.

The commenter is correct that this proposal does not address tag retirement protocols. Expired cattle generally do not pose a high disease threat, although a lack of tag retirement data can pose challenges in disease traces if the final disposition of the animal is unknown. Retiring tags may become more feasible once EID is more commonly used for official identification. As this rulemaking would increase the use of EID, it may allow us to address this issue in the future.

Some commenters stated that electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) emitted by

RFID technology have the potential to harm humans and animals.

We do not agree with this comment. RFID tags are passive devices and do not emit EMFs. The Food and Drug Administration is not aware of any adverse health effects associated with RFID technology.

Several commenters asked us to require a specific placement and color for EID eartags for the sake of simplicity and uniformity.

The commenters do not provide evidence of the potential benefits of adding such a requirement. APHIS-approved official identification eartags are available in multiple colors from several manufacturers and vendors. The color orange is typically reserved by manufacturers for official EID tags to be used in official calfhood vaccines for brucellosis, although the regulations do not require this. Otherwise, the color of the tags is at the owner's discretion. The placement of official RFID tags is recommended in the left ear, but there is no such regulatory requirement, and the tags may be placed in either ear at the owner's discretion.

One commenter stated that they have encountered problems finding the identity of cattle with EID eartags, as they were unable to obtain identifying information from the State about a stray bull found on a ranch that had an 840-series eartag for identification.

Producer data confidentiality is highly valued and protected. Availability of identifying information is limited to regulatory officials for the purpose of disease tracing activities and not available to the general public.

Several commenters asked that we address the issue of imported cattle that have lost their eartags. One of these commenters stated that they have encountered difficulties due to being unable to apply an 840-series tag to imported cattle that have lost their eartags.

It is not possible to tag animals born outside of the United States with 840-series tags as 840 is the country code for the United States. We recognize this is an issue and are working to provide an acceptable EID alternative for imported cattle that lose their official identification. However, this is outside the scope of this rulemaking.

Some commenters stated that branding as a method of official identification should be phased out, citing animal welfare concerns. One commenter stated that brands should not be used for animal disease traceability, but rather restricted to use for proof of ownership.

The scope of this rulemaking is limited to official eartags for cattle and

bison. Other authorized forms of official identification, including branding, are outside the scope of this rulemaking.

One commenter stated that "male" parts of RFID tags should be more readily available from manufacturers, as these parts can fail.

APHIS is not aware of issues specific to "male" ends of RFID tags. APHIS recommends that anyone encountering such issues contact the relevant tag distributor or manufacturers, as manufacturers are required to report tag issues to APHIS.

#### Movement Within Slaughter Channels

The existing regulations in § 86.4(b)(1)(ii) allow cattle to move interstate to an approved livestock market and then to slaughter or directly to slaughter without official identification. Current § 86.4(b)(1)(ii)(C) stipulates that the cattle or bison must be identified if held for more than 3 days. The existing regulations are silent on identification requirements for slaughter cattle or bison that are not held at slaughter or held at slaughter for 3 or fewer days and then move to a new location.

To address this potential gap in traceability, we proposed to add paragraph (b)(1)(ii)(D) to § 86.4 to read as follows: "Cattle and bison leaving a slaughter establishment may only be moved to another recognized slaughter establishment or approved feedlot and can only be sold/re-sold as slaughter cattle and must be accompanied by an owner-shipper statement in accordance with § 86.5(c)(1). Information listed on the owner-shipper statement must include the name and address of the slaughter establishment from which the animals left, the official identification numbers, as defined in § 86.1, correlated with the USDA backtag number (if available), the name of the destination slaughter establishment, or approved feedlot (as defined in 9 CFR 77.5) to which the animals are being shipped."

This paragraph clarifies that the animals must stay within the intended terminal slaughter channels but may be moved to an additional slaughter plant or approved feedlot with appropriate documentation and identification.

Two commenters expressed their support for this proposed change, noting that it would expedite disease tracking.

Two commenters recommended improvements to the proposed new language in § 86.4(b)(1)(ii)(D) to allow cattle and bison leaving a slaughter establishment to be moved to a USDA-approved livestock auction (in addition to another slaughter establishment or feedlot).

We disagree with the commenters. Proposed paragraph § 86.4 (b)(1)(ii)(D) clarifies that animals may only move to another slaughter establishment or approved feedlot, with appropriate documentation and identification, and must remain in a terminal market. If animals were allowed to move from a slaughter facility to a livestock market for resale outside of the slaughter channel without official identification, they could circumvent the traceability regulations required for animals that would otherwise move interstate to a market, and thus become untraceable.

Multiple commenters asked us to add a definition of *slaughter channels* in order to provide clear regulations about other movements of cattle, including slaughter channel cattle not moving from points of sale to slaughter facilities in a timely manner; slaughter channel cattle being diverted from slaughter channels; and slaughter cattle moving to unapproved feed yards and holding pens. One commenter asked us to replace the phrase "slaughter facility" in § 86.4 with the term "slaughter channel" to clarify that livestock located anywhere in a slaughter channel are subject to the additional health and traceability requirements of the proposed rule.

We disagree with the commenters that a definition of *slaughter channel*, or a replacement of the term "slaughter facility" with the term "slaughter channel," is needed, because any movement not specifically described as an exemption in § 86.4 requires the animals to meet all requirements for official identification. This includes the examples provided by the commenter if the cattle involved do not meet the requirements for the exemptions.

#### EID in Use of More Than One Official Eartag

Section 86.4(c) concerns situations in which the use of more than one official eartag is allowed. We proposed to remove references to visual-only eartags in this section.

Specifically, current paragraph (c)(3) of § 86.4 allows the application of a radio frequency identification or visual-only tag eartag with an animal identification number (AIN) having an 840 prefix to animals already tagged with NUES tags and/or brucellosis vaccination eartags. Because visual-only eartags will no longer be allowed as official identification under part 86, we proposed to revise this paragraph to state that a visually and electronically readable official eartag may be applied to animals currently identified with non-EID official eartags or vaccination tags.

We also proposed to remove § 86.4(c)(4), which states that a brucellosis vaccination visual eartag with a NUES number may be applied to an animal that is already officially identified with one or more official eartags. As a result of this rulemaking, the visual, *i.e.*, non-EID, brucellosis NUES tag would no longer be allowed as official identification under part 86, which eliminates the need for the paragraph.

A commenter expressed confusion about whether and why it was possible for an animal to have multiple forms of official identification.

Section 86.4(c) allows for the use of more than one official eartag in certain situations when the need to maintain the identity of an animal is intensified, such as for export shipments, quarantined herds, field trials, experiments, or disease surveys. Multiple forms of official identification are also allowed if an individual wishes to apply a visually and electronically readable official eartag to an animal that is currently identified with non-EID official eartags or vaccination tags. Our proposed rule did not include changes to the situations in which an animal is allowed multiple forms of official identification. To mitigate identification challenges associated with these situations, additional recordkeeping is required in these instances to ensure that adequate traceability is maintained.

#### Data Security

Many commenters expressed concerns related to data security and confidentiality. Commenters sought clarity about what data APHIS would collect when the requirement is implemented, where the data would be stored, and with whom it would be shared.

Commenters did not elaborate on their specific data concerns in great detail. APHIS takes care to protect personally identifiable information (PII) and proprietary business information in its recordkeeping, in compliance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a).<sup>15</sup> Moreover, an EID tag is encoded with a number but no owner-specific information (*e.g.*, a number that identifies the animal, such as 840 001 018 932 052 or 42CXP9965).

We also note that APHIS and State animal disease traceability databases are not public databases. They are accessible only to Federal and State officials who meet strict permissions

and security requirements; therefore, proprietary information will not be available to competitors or unauthorized individuals.

Some commenters expressed the view that producer information should be exempt from Freedom of Information Act (FOIA; 5 U.S.C. 552) requirements, in order to preserve the confidentiality of that information for producers.

We are making no change in response to the comments, as APHIS does not have the authority to define or redefine exemptions to FOIA. We can only apply FOIA consistent with the statute and caselaw.

That being said, we believe that there are adequate provisions in the law for the protection of confidential producer data. Some commenters appear to have the misconception that all information in Federal databases is available on request; however, FOIA and the Privacy Act each provide substantial protections for producer information, including the protection of financial and personal identifying information. Under FOIA, Exemption 4 protects trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is confidential or privileged; and Exemption 6 protects information that, if disclosed, would invade another individual's personal privacy. The Privacy Act protects personal information held by the Federal Government by preventing unauthorized disclosures of such information. Individuals also have the right to review such information, request corrections, and be informed of any disclosures. FOIA facilitates these processes.

Some commenters stated that the proposed rule does not adequately protect producers' data from potential cyberattacks or security breaches.

The commenters did not provide details regarding their specific concerns regarding these hypothetical threats. Both State and Federal databases undergo extensive security testing, restrictions, and permission for access to assure that only authorized individuals may access data. Both APHIS and States employ substantial teams of security and information technology experts to assure data security and integrity.

Commenters expressed differing views regarding where to keep animal identification data collected as a result of this rulemaking. Some commenters stated that a "government" or "national" database was needed, others stated that data should be held in State databases and shared with Federal officials when needed, while others stated that data should be kept in

private databases to protect confidentiality.

Animal traceability data and disease information are kept in various Federal as well as State databases, with as-needed access restricted to the State and Federal officials responsible for managing high-impact diseases of the cattle industry. Device distribution records may also be stored in databases kept by producer organizations redistributing tags. As noted earlier, State and Federal databases undergo extensive security testing, restrictions, and permission for access, and both APHIS and State agencies employ teams of security and information technology experts to ensure data integrity and security.

One commenter stated that producers should have access to records of the animals produced on their farm after the animals leave the farm.

We disagree with the commenter, as this would compromise producer data confidentiality. Availability of information stored in APHIS and State animal disease traceability databases is limited to regulatory officials for the purpose of disease tracing activities.

One commenter stated that data integrity needs to be maintained when tags are retired and then reused.

Tags used for official identification are not reused.

One commenter stated that RFID technology can elicit and transmit information from clothing, appliances, and vehicles, placing personal information at risk.

The commenter provides no evidence to support this claim. RFID tags that are currently approved for official use by APHIS are passive tags. A passive tag is powered only by the reader emitting a radio signal, which allows the antenna within the tag to emit a signal back to the reader. There is no active power source within the tag, and the tag is unable to emit any signal without first being exposed to an RFID reader. There are no batteries associated with passive RFID tags.

Some commenters stated that data collection should be minimal, and access to it should be limited to animal disease traceability purposes.

APHIS agrees. Data collection required by this final rule is limited to the necessary information for adequate animal disease traceability. Access to animal traceability data and disease information kept in Federal and State databases is restricted to the State and Federal officials responsible for managing high-impact diseases of the cattle industry.

One commenter recommended APHIS make improvements to information

<sup>15</sup> See the systems of records notice for the animal disease traceability program, found at <https://www.regulations.gov/document/APHIS-2011-0057-0001>.

database systems to facilitate sharing of data between agencies.

The commenter did not detail specific improvements they believe should be made. Enhanced sharing of electronic information with appropriate permissions is one of the ADT program's goals. In the past, we have supported this goal by efforts such as funding electronic databases through cooperative agreements, and we intend to continue doing so as funding allows.

One commenter stated that the software available from APHIS is not user-friendly and asked us to provide software that will better meet the requirements of this rule.

We are unsure to what software the commenter is referring.

#### Legal Issues

A commenter stated that APHIS lacks authority to require the use of EID eartags, as the requirement does not directly and actively detect, control, or eradicate pests or diseases, nor is it an operation or measure such as "drawing of blood and diagnostic testing" authorized by 7 U.S.C. 8308.

The legal basis for this rulemaking is the AHPA, under 7 U.S.C. 8305, by which the Secretary of Agriculture may restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any animal, article, or means of conveyance if the Secretary determines that the restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction into or dissemination within the United States of any pest or disease of livestock. This authority is not limited to, as the commenter implies, the examples of "drawing of blood and diagnostic testing of animals" under 7 U.S.C. 8308. Moreover, 7 U.S.C. 8308 supports, rather than undercuts, this rulemaking; it provides the agency authority to "carry out operations and measures to detect, control, or eradicate any pest or disease of livestock," including but not limited to diagnostic testing. Tracking via EID eartags is plainly a measure for these activities; it inherently facilitates them by allowing APHIS to quickly and easily identify livestock for the detection, control, or eradication of any livestock pest or disease.

One of these commenters further stated that APHIS lacked the authority to require EID tags because this requirement is not a valid prohibition or restriction in interstate commerce authorized by 7 U.S.C. 8305.

We disagree with the commenter. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized by 7 U.S.C. 8305 to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any animal, article, or means of conveyance if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is

necessary to prevent the introduction or dissemination of any pest or disease of livestock. The ADT program helps prevent the dissemination of disease by helping minimize the effects of disease outbreaks through restrictions, such as the EID eartag requirement, that the agency has determined are necessary for efficient livestock tracing.

We also note that this final rule does not require producers to purchase and affix EID eartags to their cattle as the only acceptable official identification device or method to meet the official identification requirements for interstate movement; the regulations continue to list eartags as one of several forms of authorized official identification, which also include tattoos and brands when accepted by State officials in the sending and receiving States.

Several commenters stated that the proposed rule violates the Tenth Amendment as certain States have codified into State law their own options for animal identification.

The Tenth Amendment provides that "powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." Regulating interstate commerce, which includes the interstate movement of animals, is a power delegated to Congress as an enumerated power under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution. Exercising this enumerated power through the AHPA, Congress has delegated to the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any animal or article necessary to prevent the introduction into or dissemination within the United States of any pest or disease of livestock. The Tenth Amendment does not refute APHIS' authority to restrict the interstate movement of animals for this purpose and, in turn, displace a State's exercise of its regulatory power.

Two commenters stated that this rulemaking violated the intent of Article 1, Section 8, of the Constitution. One of these commenters stated that the USDA was falsely asserting that Congress has delegated and granted it broad powers which are implied, plenary, and inherent. The commenter noted that Congress has not mandated an electronic animal identification scheme, and therefore APHIS lacks the authority to impose one.

We did not assert that Congress has granted the USDA "broad powers which are implied, plenary and inherent." Under the AHPA, Congress has delegated authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to promulgate regulations to prevent the introduction into the United

States and the dissemination within the United States of any pest or disease of livestock. This rulemaking is consistent with Congress's clear, intelligible directive to protect animal health because it is intended to prevent the introduction and dissemination of livestock pests or diseases by improving the existing ADT program. USDA has issued this rulemaking based on Congress's grant of clear authority to it, not based on some implied or vague powers. Additionally, electronic animal identification represents a logical, modest update to the ADT program that is within USDA's mandate to implement.

Two commenters stated that this rulemaking violates the Fourth Amendment. One of these commenters stated that this was because requiring EID eartags constituted "unconstitutionally seizing the cattle producers [sic] value-added information without compensation." The commenter also alleged that the rulemaking violates the Fifth Amendment because the "value-added information associated with the mandatory EID eartags further constitutes the private property of the owner of the cattle."

The requirement for official EID tags does not involve seizing a producer's value-added information. Some producers use EID eartags to participate in value-added verification programs overseen by the AMS. Producers may, but are not required, to use official EID eartags to participate in these verification programs and, alternatively, may also use 900-series tags. The premiums producers are paid for cattle participating in these verification programs are a result of the specific management practices required by said programs. While information regarding such management practices may be correlated with an animal's EID number, this information is kept in the hands of the producer: the producer's possession or use of the information is not interfered with at all, and, in any event, this information is not the same as the information collected for animal disease traceability purposes that is kept in State and Federal databases. Information correlated with an animal's EID number kept in State and Federal databases is limited to information necessary for disease tracing.

A commenter stated that this rulemaking violated Executive Orders 14005 and 14017 by requiring producers to purchase EID eartags manufactured in China. Another commenter stated that this rulemaking should adhere to Executive Order 14005 and be made in the United States.

Executive Orders 14005 and 14017 apply only to Federal Government purchases. APHIS abides by the Executive Orders and complies with the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 8301–8303).

We also note that this rulemaking does not stipulate that producers must purchase eartags made in a foreign country. APHIS approves official EID tags by any manufacturer, foreign or domestic, that fulfils the rigorous criteria listed in the OAHIS. Additionally, as noted earlier, eartags are one of several forms of authorized official identification. Producers who do not wish to use eartags may use another form of authorized official identification, such as tattoos and brands when accepted by State officials in the sending and receiving States.

#### Cost and Fairness

Many commenters opposed the proposed rule because of their belief that the cost of purchasing EID tags placed an undue financial burden on producers, particularly small farmers and ranchers. Commenters also claimed that these costs to producers would fuel consolidation in the livestock industry.

We do not agree with these comments regarding the magnitude of costs to the domestic cattle and bison industry, and do not think this rulemaking will result in further consolidation of the cattle industry. The commenters who raised these concerns often based them on the belief that official identification would be required for all or most cattle and bison regardless of whether they enter interstate commerce. Official identification is not required for all cattle or bison. Under the current regulations in § 86.4(b), which this final rule does not change, the following categories of cattle and bison are subject to official identification requirements for interstate movement: all sexually intact cattle and bison 18 months of age or over; all female dairy cattle of any age and all male dairy cattle born after March 11, 2013; cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo or recreational events; and cattle and bison of any age used for shows or exhibitions. Cattle and bison are exempted from official identification requirements if they are going directly to slaughter. Thus, large categories of cattle, such as feeder cattle or cull cattle going to slaughter, are not subject to the identification requirements. In addition, cattle and bison only require official identification under the regulations if they move interstate or are in Federal or State disease programs. Accordingly, many small producers will be exempted because they never move cattle

interstate, so their cattle do not require official identification.

While we acknowledge the commenters' concern over consolidation of the cattle industry, we disagree that an EID tag requirement would cause consolidation. Data from USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service reflect consolidation as a broader trend in the cattle industry that is present in both States that have and States that have not implemented a State-specific EID tag requirement.

That being said, we acknowledge that producers may at some point have to assume costs associated with purchasing EID tags as a result of this rulemaking. Accordingly, we have prepared a regulatory impact analysis (RIA) that estimates aggregate annual costs to the domestic cattle and bison industry as a result of the rule. The analysis estimates, conservatively, that 11 million cattle and bison are tagged with visual official identification per year to fulfill official identification requirements under the regulations. This number represents approximately 11 percent to 12 percent of the cattle and bison in the domestic inventory. We estimate that these are the average percentages of cattle that would be required to have EID tags instead of visual-only tags each year under this rule. The cost is estimated to be approximately \$26.1 million, assuming no Federal funding is provided. (APHIS has historically provided funding for EID eartags and intends to continue doing so as long as funding is available. Funding is discussed in greater detail later in this document.) This equates to an average cost of \$30.45 per cattle or bison operation each year; or based on total industry cash receipts from 2021, approximately 2.5 cents per \$100 (0.025 percent).

The RIA also articulates the benefits of increased traceability that were previously identified in the economic analysis that accompanied the 2013 final rule establishing the regulations, particularly the foregone liabilities when traceability is not quick or accurate, and delineates how EID furthers the aims of efficient and accurate traceability that undergird the regulations. The RIA for this final rule is available on *Regulations.gov* as a supporting document for this final rule, as well as by contacting the individual listed below. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For reasons discussed in the 2013 economic analysis and the RIA that accompanies this final rule, it has been and continues to be APHIS' position that the benefits associated with timely and accurate animal

traceability significantly outweigh costs to regulated entities.

Many commenters stated that the rule unfairly favors large corporations over small producers. It was stated that small producers would have to pay more to comply with the regulations than large operations due to bulk discounts offered by EID tag manufacturers. Other commenters stated that large corporations were favored because they are allowed to use GINs to officially identify their animals.

The commenters are correct that many EID tag manufacturers currently offer lower rates for EID tags bought in bulk. The calculations for the average price of an EID tag in the RIA factor in these price differences. As noted previously, most small producers will not be affected by this rulemaking because they do not move their cattle interstate. Small producers that are affected by this rulemaking may consider creative ways to capitalize on bulk discounts for EID tags, such as cooperative buying. These would be individual business decisions based on producer's unique circumstances. We also note that, while APHIS cannot commit to long-term funding for EID tags because the availability of Federal funding in future fiscal years is dependent on annual Congressional appropriations and USDA–APHIS budgetary priorities, APHIS has provided these tags free of charge since 2020. Funding for EID eartags is discussed in greater detail later in this document.

This rulemaking does not change the regulations regarding the use of GINs. Methods of official identification other than official eartags are outside the scope of this rulemaking.

Some commenters stated that this rulemaking would force small operations out of the livestock market and thus undermine the resiliency of the nation's food system.

We disagree that an EID requirement undermines efforts to build and maintain a resilient food supply. For the reasons discussed earlier in this document, many small producers will not be affected by this rulemaking. A resilient food supply relies on the health and wellbeing of our nation's livestock, which is the intended outcome of an effective and efficient ADT system.

Some commenters stated that this rulemaking is designed to benefit export markets by making it easier for companies to "ship products around the world" or by protecting international trade markets, at the expense of small producers who will bear the cost of the rulemaking.

We acknowledge possible benefits to export markets and trade associated

with domestic animal disease traceability and EID—these are referenced in the RIA that accompanies this final rule. We disagree, however, that this final rule is intended to directly benefit cattle and bison exporters. This final rule pertains to interstate movement of cattle and bison, not the export of cattle and bison, and foreign markets are free to set their own import requirements. While it is true that many of these requirements currently include EID, that is not within APHIS' purview. Furthermore, options already exist for exporters to meet any such requirements; many exporters currently use third-party verification programs under the purview of AMS to comply with traceability requirements of export markets.

Commenters stated that costs to producers extended beyond the cost of EID tags, and included infrastructure such as EID readers, software, and labor. A commenter stated that this rulemaking would require additional labor for accredited veterinarians to enter data into a database, the cost of which would be passed on to producers. It was stated that our RIA was flawed because it did not take these costs into account.

We disagree with the commenters. The official identification requirement does not require the producer to have hardware (readers) or software (computer systems). Readers and software are not required because each EID tag also has a visual component. The tag number is imprinted on the plastic shell containing the EID portion of the tag. The tags can thus be used in the same manner as visual tags by producers who do not wish to invest in tag-reading hardware and software.

We disagree that this final rule requires producers to incur additional labor costs related to application of tags because the regulations already require the placement of official identification. The EID requirement only changes the type of eartag that must be used for cattle that require official identification and that are officially identified using eartags. The labor involved in applying a metal NUES eartag should not be any more burdensome than the labor involved in applying an EID eartag.

Likewise, this final rule imposes no new requirement for accredited veterinarians to enter data into a database. Accredited veterinarians may continue collecting the information already required by the regulations in their medical records in the same way they currently do, so long as the records are retrievable when a disease outbreak occurs. Costs passed on to the producer should only reflect the difference in the

cost of tags because this final rule does not require any additional labor.

Some commenters stated that APHIS should acknowledge that EID tags are meant to be read electronically and update the RIA to account for the cost of readers.

APHIS disagrees that EID tags are meant to be read only electronically. As explained above, EID tags must be readable both electronically and visually. To ensure the visual readability of eartags, the OAHIS requires that EID tags be readable from 30 inches with 20/20 vision, while there was no readability standard for metal NUES tags.

Two commenters stated that mandatory EID may increase corporate control over the livestock industry by giving packers more information about how animals are produced.

APHIS-approved official eartags only encode the 15-digit animal identification number. They do not encode any producer information.

Many commenters noted that APHIS has provided funding for EID eartags in the past and stated that the agency should commit to continuing this funding. Some commenters specified that funding should be provided for at least the first 2 years after the final rule's implementation. Commenters also stated that APHIS should provide funding for necessary equipment and related costs, such as readers, data management systems, and labor.

Since 2020, APHIS has provided funding for EID eartags, as well as readers and ear taggers. Since the availability of Federal funding in future fiscal years is dependent on annual Congressional appropriations and USDA-APHIS budgetary priorities, a long-term commitment to this funding is not possible. We intend to continue to provide assistance as long as funding is available. However, in the absence of Federal funding, producers would have to assume costs associated with purchasing EID tags. For this reason, we have prepared an assessment that estimates annual aggregate costs to the domestic cattle and bison industry associated with this rule.

As noted earlier, this final rule does not require producers or livestock markets to have electronic reading equipment or additional data management systems, because the official EID tags must be readable visually as well as electronically. Producers may continue using EID eartags the same way they currently use non-EID, visual-only eartags.

Finally, for the reasons discussed earlier in this document, we disagree that this rulemaking will cause

producers to incur additional labor costs. The application of an EID eartag should not result in more labor costs than the application of a non-EID eartag.

Two commenters stated that the USDA should continue funding States via cooperative agreements. A commenter stated that funding for States to support ADT infrastructure should be increased.

This final rule does not impact the ADT annual cooperative agreements with States, Territories, or Tribes. We note that this funding is separate from the additional funding that APHIS has provided since 2020 to support EID tags and infrastructure. APHIS intends to provide funding for EID eartags and infrastructure for as long as funding is available, but we are unable to commit to multi-year funding for the reasons discussed above.

Two commenters stated that the RIA was inaccurate in its statement that the cost of tags would increase from \$3.3 million annually (the estimated cost of metal NUES tags) to \$29.3 million annually (the estimated cost of EID tags), as APHIS has been providing metal NUES tags to producers at no cost.

The commenter is correct that APHIS has provided NUES eartags at no cost to producers. The commenter fails to acknowledge, however, that APHIS has also been providing EID tags at no cost to producers since 2020. The estimates in the RIA take into account that funding for neither type of tag has been guaranteed in the past, nor can funding for EID tags be guaranteed in the future, as this funding depends on each year's Agency budget and competing disease priorities.

Two commenters stated that the estimates for the annual cost of EID eartags in the RIA were flawed because they only accounted for costs to animals currently being identified by non-EID tags. The commenters stated that the estimated number of affected animals did not consider animals currently tagged with EID tags, or animals that are required to have official identification but are not in compliance with the regulations.

Cattle and bison already identified with official EID eartags are already in compliance with this final rule, and therefore would not incur new expenses as a result of it. While we recognize that some people may not comply with the current regulations regarding official identification, we have no means of estimating their number. We also note that people currently not in compliance with the regulations are unlikely to begin complying as a result of this rulemaking, and therefore would not

increase demand for official identification tags.

A commenter stated that the RIA does not include information about the estimated economic impact for individual operations.

The commenter is incorrect. The RIA states that, assuming the Federal Government does not provide tags free of charge in the future, the average cost per operation to purchase EID eartags would range from \$26.24 to \$29.45 for FDX eartags, and from \$31.13 to \$34.73 for HDX eartags.

A commenter stated that our cost estimates did not consider costs incurred for livestock moved interstate after purchased at an in-State general auction market. The commenter asked whether the buyer would be charged for the cost of eartags or be required to place official eartags on the animals they purchased.

Under the current regulations in § 86.4(b), which this final rule does not change, cattle and bison that are required to have official identification must be officially identified prior to interstate movement unless they are exempted from the requirement for official identification. Animal classes and movements that currently require official identification will continue to require official identification, while animal classes and movements exempted from the official identification requirements will continue to be exempted.

A commenter stated that we should adjust the estimate of impacted cattle in the RIA to account for the expanded definition of dairy cattle.

We disagree with the commenter. APHIS has not expanded the definition of dairy cattle. The change to the definition of *dairy cattle* is a codification of guidance that APHIS has consistently given to producers and State animal health officials, and not a change in policy. Beef/dairy cross breeds should already be officially identified. We have no indication of noncompliance or controversy surrounding this policy. Assuming regulated parties are in compliance, beef/dairy crosses are already accounted for in our estimate of 11 million impacted cattle.

We acknowledge the possibility that there may be cattle producers that did not consider their beef/dairy cross breeds to be dairy cattle, and were alerted to our interpretation of the definition of dairy cattle to encompass beef/dairy cross breeds by this rulemaking. However, as we have no indicators of widespread noncompliance, we expect this scenario to be rare and expect the number of

cattle to be affected by it to be de minimis.

A commenter asked why the RIA did not report on tracing exercises using branded cattle.

While the regulations allow the use of brands to fulfil the requirements for official identification if agreed upon by sending and receiving States, brands do not uniquely identify an animal and are not intended for animal traceability. Brands are not unique outside of local areas, are currently only used in 14 States, and are not systematically recorded in national databases. For these reasons, tracing exercises are restricted to animals identified with AIN 840-numbered tags and NUES tags. A commenter suggested further cost-benefit analysis to assess the impact on cattle and bison producers while ensuring maximum expansion of ADT capability.

The commenter did not specify what they believe our analysis is lacking. We believe the RIA comprehensively assesses the costs and benefits of this rule.

Some commenters disagreed with our estimation that the number of impacted cattle would be 11 million. A commenter stated that, previously, the USDA estimated that the final rule would impact 30 million cattle that cross State lines annually. Another commenter stated that many State identification programs are tied to the Federal system, and therefore even cattle that do not cross State lines would be impacted by this rulemaking.

The commenter is mistaken that we previously estimated this rulemaking would impact 30 million cattle, and the commenter provides no source for this figure. Our estimate of 11 million cattle is based on the number of official identification tags that have been used in previous years. Many animals that move interstate are exempt from official identification requirements, such as beef cattle under 18 months of age, and animals going to slaughter or to an approved livestock market.

Regarding the concern about State identification programs, APHIS is unaware of any intrastate movement requirements that may mimic Federal regulations. Moreover, intrastate movement regulations are beyond our jurisdiction.

A commenter stated that the RIA uses outdated 15-year-old data to determine that many small entities would not be affected because most small entities market through local auctions. The commenter stated that this is no longer necessarily the case, as small entities have increased their use of online livestock video auctions and alternative

livestock marketing channels that would require the use of an EID tag. The commenter also stated that market consolidation has reduced the available number of livestock auctions, forcing some small producers to market outside their state.

The RIA uses NAHMS data from 2008 as well as from 2017 to determine that small operations are less likely to move cattle interstate. Data from the 2008 NAHMS report indicated that 82 percent to 88 percent of beef cattle were marketed through general auction markets. These markets tend to be in-state auctions or out-of-state APHIS approved markets, for which official identification is not required. Data from the 2017 NAHMS report further indicated that small operations were most likely to use auction markets, while larger producers used auctions as well as other marketing channels. Although the published literature on small sized farms moving cattle interstate is scarce, we believe the data from these reports are still applicable and relevant. We are not aware of any significant change in marketing practices for small producers.

Furthermore, we disagree with the commenter that small producers are forced to market out of State due to market consolidation, as the number of APHIS-approved livestock markets has increased steadily each year. In 2013, when the ADT rule was implemented, there were 703 active APHIS-approved markets; today there are 1,310.

A commenter stated that a calculated benefit of \$30 million per year is inaccurate, as the calculation is based on incorrect assumptions that EID eartags will reduce the time to detect an outbreak, reduce herd surveillance costs, improve practices that identify diseased cattle, and reduce the probability of countries imposing trade restrictions because of a disease outbreak in cattle.

APHIS would like to clarify the commentor's misunderstanding. Thirty million dollars was our estimate of the additional cost of EID tags; we assessed, but did not quantify, expected benefits.

Although use of EID would not reduce the time it takes to initially detect a disease or conduct surveillance, EID reduces the time to find diseased and exposed animals. APHIS disease investigations are often concluded through quarantine and testing or depopulation of cattle herds when the animal of interest is not identifiable, which incurs costs for livestock producers as well as APHIS. As explained in the RIA, when outbreaks of livestock diseases occur, the use of EID eartags can help limit their size and

scope, thus reducing the number of animals that are depopulated, the impact to producers and communities, and the probability that trade restrictions are imposed. Additionally, rapid containment of foreign animal diseases and identification of affected, exposed, and vaccinated animals will expedite the return of export markets, should they close in the event of a disease outbreak.

A commenter stated that, because only approximately eight manufacturers have had their EID eartags approved for official use by APHIS, this rulemaking creates an oligopoly of eartag manufacturers on which producers are forced to rely.

This rulemaking does not in any way restrict new manufacturers from applying for approval of their eartags for use as official identification. In fact, changes proposed in this rulemaking streamline the approval process for new EID devices in order to encourage new manufacturers to enter the market. APHIS will continue to approve official identification tags from new companies that are in compliance with our regulations.

A commenter stated that producers need assurance that eartags and related infrastructure will be available at a reasonable price.

APHIS will continue to approve eartags for official identification. As noted earlier, this final rule does not require the use of infrastructure, such as readers, because tags are required to have a visual component.

A commenter asked us to include an assessment of biometric tools for official identification that have the potential to reduce costs per head of cattle.

The RIA includes in its assessment the types of EID eartags that are currently approved for use, which include FDX and HDX RFID tags. APHIS would consider any type of alternate EID methods that are supported by credible research.

Two commenters stated that future new EID technologies mentioned in the proposed rule could result in higher costs for producers.

The RIA estimated costs to producers based on EID technology available and approved for use today, which is currently limited to RFID. In the proposed rule, we stated that we refer to EID, rather than RFID, tags in the regulations in order to allow for other electronically readable technology, should it become available in the future. Just as referring to EID would not limit official eartags to the technology available today, it would also not limit official eartags to a hypothetical higher-cost technology available in the future.

Maintaining technological neutrality in the regulations provides flexibility for the regulated community to choose the technology that best meets their individual needs, cost being one consideration.

Some commenters stated that ADT raises fear of market manipulation by multinational packing corporations or the government.

The commenters did not elaborate on their specific concerns regarding market manipulation and provided no supporting evidence of this hypothetical situation. As discussed earlier in this document, APHIS protects personally identifiable information (PII) and proprietary business information in its recordkeeping.

A commenter stated that the requirement for ICVIs is an added expense.

The commenter is incorrect. Cattle and bison to which official identification requirements apply are already required to be accompanied by an ICVI or alternate movement document before moving interstate. We did not propose to substantively change any regulations pertaining to ICVIs. Rather, we proposed to make an editorial change to the definition of ICVIs to account for the use of electronic ICVIs in addition to paper ones.

A commenter stated that this rulemaking will result in the elimination of incentive programs that encourage producers to adopt EID, which may have been the only way some producers could afford the technology.

We believe that the “incentive programs” to which the commenter is referring are the verification programs overseen by AMS. We disagree that this rulemaking will necessarily eliminate these verification programs. Verification programs can fulfill trading partners’ requirements for traceability from birth to slaughter as well as additional recordkeeping requirements for exported cattle. Because the current regulations and this rulemaking do not fulfill these requirements, we expect continued need for verification programs.

#### Miscellaneous

There were a number of comments that did not fall into any of the categories listed above.

A commenter asked for clarification on the meaning of preemption language in § 86.8 and the preemption language mentioned in the proposed rule relevant to Executive Order 12899 (sic).

Section 86.8 provides that States and Tribes may not specify an official identification device or method for

interstate movement if the regulations allow for multiple devices or methods, nor may a receiving State or Tribe impose requirements that would require the shipping State or Tribe to develop a particular type of system or alter an existing system in order to meet the requirements. There was no Executive Order 12899 language in the proposed rule; however, we believe the commenter is referring to Executive Order 12988, which was referenced, and transposed the numbers. The 12988 language in the preamble of the proposed rule, in contrast, has the effect of stating that, if finalized, State laws that conflict with the specific provisions of this rulemaking would be preempted. For example, a State’s animal identification regulations could not continue to allow for non-EID forms of official identification of cattle and bison that are subject to the ADT regulations.

We emphasize that the regulations in part 86 apply only to interstate movement; States may develop their own official identification requirements for intrastate movement that apply after an animal arrives from a shipping State or may otherwise impose in-State requirements for the cattle once the movement has occurred.

The same commenter asked whether a State could impose official identification importation requirements for classes of animals otherwise exempt in the ADT rule.

The final rule<sup>16</sup> that established § 86.8 indicated that States may require the official identification of classes of animals that are exempt under our regulations, provided that the receiving State’s requirement does not require the shipping State to develop a particular type of system or alter an existing system.

The same commenter asked whether a State could restrict the types of official identification devices required for imported animals when the ADT rule permits additional approved methods of identification for the species, such as restricting the use of GINs for the movement of pigs and instead requiring individual animal IDs. The commenter asked us to amend the regulations to allow a State to impose these additional requirements if they are not currently permissible.

Because the current regulations allow for group or lot identification as a means of official identification, restricting the use of GINs and requiring individual animal ID for pigs, or cattle or bison as applicable to this rulemaking, is prohibited under § 86.8.

<sup>16</sup> See footnote 1.

Amending § 86.8 as requested is outside the scope of this rulemaking, and one of the amendments requested by the commenter goes against the stated aims of the ADT program.

Finally, the same commenter asked us to explain the enabling legislation for § 86.8.

The enabling legislation for § 86.8 is the AHPA.

Two commenters stated that this rulemaking would reduce the speed of commerce. Conversely, another commenter stated that EID allows for the collection of animal movement data at the speed of commerce.

We disagree with the commenters who stated the rule would reduce the speed of commerce. EID and electronic records have the potential to increase the efficiency and speed of routine operations in the cattle and bison industry. EID tags allow staff to read animals' identification numbers without having to restrain or handle the cattle or bison. For cattle or bison requiring ICVIs, electronic tags also allow veterinarians to rapidly and accurately complete health certificates and movement documentation without slowing the speed of commerce.

One commenter asked that we amend § 86.5(c)(7)(i) to require that the official identification numbers of cattle and bison are recorded during the transfer from an approved livestock facility directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment.

We will consider the commenters' suggestion; however, this is outside the scope of this rulemaking.

One commenter asked us to state that forms used for interstate poultry movement must meet the same accuracy and clarity criteria that pertain to ICVIs for poultry and other species.

We will consider the commenters' suggestion; however, this is outside the scope of this rulemaking.

One commenter asked us to create a standardized ICVI form.

This is outside the scope of this rulemaking. We note that all ICVI forms are required to contain the same information, which is listed under the definition of *interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)* in § 86.1.

One commenter stated that this rulemaking could reduce the use of the brucellosis vaccine because the use of EID tags would double the cost of brucellosis vaccination.

APHIS requires brucellosis vaccination for cattle in the Greater Yellowstone Area. Cattle that are vaccinated for brucellosis are required to have official identification and currently use metal official NUES tags. While we acknowledge that EID tags are

more expensive than metal NUES tags, and discuss these differences in cost in the RIA, we disagree with, and the commenter provides no evidence to support, the speculation that these costs would discourage compliance with the requirement for brucellosis vaccination.

Some commenters asked us to remove the requirement to tattoo animals that receive the brucellosis vaccine because correct placement of an EID eartag makes tattoo placement difficult.

We disagree with the commenters that EID tag placement interferes with brucellosis tattoo placement. While official EID tags may be placed in either ear, the recommended placement is the left ear to avoid interference with the brucellosis tattoo, which is required on the right ear.

One commenter stated that additional education regarding proper tag application and retention for veterinarians and producers is necessary.

APHIS agrees that education assists in proper tag application and increased tag retention. We support education through efforts such as cooperative agreements and outreach and intend to continue such efforts as funding allows.

One commenter asked for guidance stating that exports from the United States to Canada will clearly state requirements for use of an approved indicator with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 11784.

The final rule does not pertain to the export of livestock. Requirements for exported livestock are found in 9 CFR part 91.

One commenter asked us to establish performance standards for the retention of backtags referenced in § 86.4(b)(1)(i)(C).

Backtags are not methods of official identification but are mentioned in § 86.4(b)(1)(i)(C), in the context of an exemption for cattle and bison that are moved interstate from the requirement of official identification if certain conditions are met. The existing regulations require that backtags used to fulfill this exemption must "ensure that the identity of the animal is accurately maintained until tagging." We believe this adequately addresses the required performance of backtags used in this context.

Two commenters stated that the use of alternative movement records should be increased, and that these alternative movement records could be created by a veterinarian or their designee, but APHIS should not require an inspection or attestation of health by a veterinarian.

The existing regulations in § 86.5(a) already provide for alternatives to the

ICVI for animals moving interstate. Alternate documentation requires an agreement between both shipping and receiving States to be considered official movement documentation. The current regulations do not specify that an alternative movement document requires an inspection or attestation of health by a veterinarian.

Two commenters stated that the USDA and States should target enforcement of ADT requirements beyond fixed-facility livestock auction markets to avoid incentivizing direct selling outside of markets.

We do not believe this rulemaking will incentivize direct selling outside of markets. Compliance with the regulations in 9 CFR part 86 is required for animals subject to these regulations, regardless of whether the animal is sold through a livestock market or a private sale. Accredited veterinarians responsible for inspection and interstate movement of animals are subject to the same requirements and face the same sanctions for noncompliance, regardless of whether they work for or from a market or private treaty sale. Accredited veterinarians must submit copies of the documentation (ICVI or alternate movement documents) to the origin and destination State official within 7 days of inspecting the animal, and they must complete this documentation accurately and completely. Accredited veterinarians that are non-compliant are subject to sanctions including monetary penalties, loss of accreditation, and, in some cases, criminal penalties.

A commenter asked whether there will be civil or criminal penalties for not adhering to the requirements of the final rule.

The AHPA lists criminal and civil penalties relevant to violating the requirements of the regulations in section 8313. Changes to the regulations do not impact the Act.

Some commenters stated that this rulemaking could subject cattle producers to liability, should the animal bearing their EID eartag contract a disease after the animal is sold or should food safety issues arise in meatpacking plants.

Under this rulemaking, producers are not liable for disease infection after an animal leaves their premises. The EID requirement thus has no known implications for producer liability.

One commenter claimed that the reason behind requiring EID for eartags is the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef.

The commenter provided no evidence to support this claim. As explained in the proposed rule and earlier in this document, the purpose of this action is

to improve our animal disease traceability program's ability to trace animals accurately and rapidly in order to aid us in disease response.

Several commenters requested that APHIS seek equivalency from trading partners by requiring imported cattle to have EID.

The scope of this rulemaking is limited to requirements for domestic cattle in interstate commerce. New requirements for imported cattle would require a separate rulemaking.

Some commenters stated that the ADT program needs to be compatible with the general traceability principles of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH).

We are unsure of what specific principles the commenters are referring to. However, we note that, as a WOAH member country, the United States contributes to development of, and complies with, the guidelines that the member countries develop.

Finally, we note that we are making non-substantive editorial changes to the OAHDS to improve clarity, readability, and accuracy. This includes changes such as reordering information, removing duplicative information, and removing broken links. It also includes editing to a paragraph explaining which criteria manufacturers must meet for low-frequency devices. The edits remove a sentence stating that substantial sales data or approval in another country may be considered in lieu of International Committee on Animal Recording's (ICAR) materials/environmental testing. We are making this edit because sales data or approval in another country may not be an adequate substitute for ICAR testing, and we do not have a standard for what "substantial sales data" means. The revised OAHDS is published alongside this final rule.

Therefore, for the reasons given in the proposed rule and in this document, we are adopting the proposed rule as a final rule, with the changes discussed in this document.

#### **Executive Orders 12866, 13563, and Regulatory Flexibility Act**

This final rule has been determined to be significant for the purposes of Executive Order 12866, as amended by Executive Order 14094, "Modernizing Regulatory Review," and, therefore, has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

We have prepared an economic analysis for this final rule. The economic analysis provides a cost-benefit analysis, as required by Executive Orders 12866 and 13563, which direct agencies to assess all costs

and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. The economic analysis also examines the potential economic effects of this final rule on small entities, as required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act. The economic analysis is summarized below. Copies of the full analysis are available on the *Regulations.gov* website (see footnote 6 in this document for a link to *Regulations.gov*) or by contacting the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

We are amending the animal disease traceability regulations to recognize only eartags that are both visually and electronically readable as official eartags for use for interstate movement of cattle and bison that are covered under the regulations. We are also clarifying certain record retention and record access requirements. These changes will enhance the ability of State, Federal, and private veterinarians, and livestock producers, to quickly respond to high-impact diseases currently existing in the United States, as well as foreign animal diseases that threaten the viability of the U.S. cattle and bison industries. The benefits of animal disease traceability include enhancing the ability of the United States to regionalize and compartmentalize animal health issues, minimizing the costs of disease outbreaks, and enabling the reestablishment of foreign and domestic market access with minimum delay following an animal disease event.

APHIS conducted a cost-benefit analysis to determine how the transition to electronic identification (EID) tags will affect the cattle and bison industries. Our analysis suggests that approximately 11 million cattle are currently tagged with official non-EID eartags per year. The rule will not change the number of cattle tagged, but it will increase the estimated average annual cost of purchasing tags by approximately \$26.1 million dollars per year, or \$30.39 per cattle or bison operation. As noted in APHIS' cost-benefit analysis, the cost of purchasing new tags is the only additional costs APHIS has determined will be imposed on producers, regardless of whether they currently own electronic reading equipment.

We began soliciting comments concerning the proposal for 60 days,

ending March 20, 2023. In response to several requests by commenters, we extended the comment period by 30 days, to April 19, 2023. We received 2,006 comments from industry groups, producers, veterinarians, State departments of agriculture, and individuals. While many of these comments were in support of the proposed rule, we did receive concerns regarding the economic impacts of this rule. Comments included concerns regarding the potential additional costs of having to adhere to the new EID technology, beyond the cost of the EID tags, along with concerns that this rulemaking will disproportionately impact small businesses. We have evaluated these concerns carefully and, while the new EID tags will increase the costs of identifying certain cattle and bison as outlined in this analysis, we have found the other concerns to be unsubstantiated, which we discuss in the cost section of this analysis.

Radio frequency identification (RFID) technology, a type of electronic identification, has been available in the livestock industry for many years. APHIS has evaluated the cost structure of current RFID technologies, commonly known as FDX and HDX. Both technologies work well and have similar qualities. This report describes the cost structure of these EID eartags. We provide 10 years of historic population levels for cattle and bison in order to provide the reader with a range of cost estimates based upon a fluctuating cattle and bison population.

EID eartags are a vital component to efficient and accurate traceability of cattle and bison. It benefits stakeholders by significantly reducing the numbers of animals and response time involved in a disease investigation.

One of the most significant benefits of the rule will be the enhanced ability of the United States to regionalize and compartmentalize animal disease outbreaks. Regionalization is the concept of separating subpopulations of animals to maintain a specific health status in one or more disease-free regions or zones. This risk-based process can help to mitigate the adverse economic effects of a disease outbreak. Traceability of animals is necessary to form these zones that facilitate reestablishment of foreign and domestic market access with minimum delay in the wake of an animal disease event. The use of EID eartags can significantly reduce the amount of time it takes animal health officials to complete a trace investigation, which involves knowing where diseased and potentially exposed animals are, and where they have been. Animals that may have come

in contact with an affected animal can number in the thousands or tens of thousands. Transitioning from visual to electronic identification devices may significantly reduce the time it takes animal health officials conducting a trace to scan animals in a herd during a disease response. The more efficiently and effectively animal health officials can complete a trace, the faster we can regionalize and compartmentalize animal disease outbreaks in order to mitigate adverse economic impacts. Having an EID system in place will, therefore, minimize not only the spread of disease but also the trade impacts an outbreak may have.

#### Executive Order 12372

This program/activity is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.025 and is subject to Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. (See 2 CFR chapter IV.)

#### Executive Order 12988

This final rule has been reviewed under Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform. This rule: (1) Preempts all State and local laws and regulations that are in conflict with this rule; (2) has no retroactive effect; and (3) does not require administrative proceedings before parties may file suit in court challenging this rule.

#### Executive Order 13175

This final rule has been reviewed in accordance with the requirements of Executive Order 13175, "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments." Executive Order 13175 requires Federal agencies to consult and coordinate with Tribes on a government-to-government basis on policies that have tribal implications, including regulations, legislative comments or proposed legislation, and other policy statements or actions that have substantial direct effects on one or more Indian Tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian Tribes. APHIS has determined that Executive Order 13175 is applicable to this rulemaking and that therefore consultation is required, as this final rule may affect one or more Tribes and the cost associated with managing cattle and bison herds. To raise awareness of this rulemaking, APHIS hosted an informational webinar to Tribal nations on October 27, 2021, to notify Tribes of this rulemaking and solicit consultation. On May 18, 2022, the APHIS Office of

National Tribal Liaison sent letters to all 574 Tribal Leaders inviting them to attend an upcoming Tribal listening session. The listening session was held on June 23, 2022. Sixteen individuals attended, and we did not receive feedback that substantively affected the development of this rulemaking. APHIS will work with the Office of Tribal Relations to ensure that additional outreach occurs in 2024. If a Tribe requests consultation, APHIS will coordinate with the Office of Tribal Relations to ensure that meaningful consultation occurs.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with section 3507(d) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the reporting, recordkeeping, and third-party disclosure requirements described in this final rule are currently approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB control number 0579-0327. The categories of burden and numbers haven't changed as a result of this rule. The last approval from 2021 (<https://www.regulations.gov/document/APHIS-2021-0056-0001>) is still accurate.

#### E-Government Act Compliance

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is committed to compliance with the E-Government Act to promote the use of the internet and other information technologies, to provide increased opportunities for citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes. For information pertinent to E-Government Act compliance related to this final rule, please contact Mr. Joseph Moxey, APHIS' Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at (301) 851-2533.

#### Congressional Review Act

Pursuant to subtitle E of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (also known as the Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S.C. 801 *et seq.*) OIRA has determined that this rule does not meet the criteria set forth in 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

#### Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

Title II of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), Public Law 104.4, establishes requirements for Federal agencies to assess the effects of their regulatory actions on State, local, tribal governments, and the private sector. Under section 101 of the UMRA, APHIS generally must prepare a written statement, including a cost-benefit analysis, for proposed and final rules with "Federal mandates" that may

result in expenditures by State, local, or tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any one year. When such a statement is needed for a rule, section 205 of the UMRA generally requires APHIS to identify and consider a reasonable number of regulatory alternatives and adopt the least costly, more cost-effective, or least burdensome alternative that achieves the objectives of the rule.

This rule contains no Federal mandates (under the regulatory provisions of title II of the UMRA) that may result in expenditures by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any one year. Thus, this rule is not subject to the requirements of sections 202 and 205 of the UMRA.

#### List of Subjects

##### 9 CFR Part 71

Animal diseases, Livestock, Poultry and poultry products, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation.

##### 9 CFR Part 77

Animal diseases, Bison, Cattle, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation, Tuberculosis.

##### 9 CFR Part 78

Animal diseases, Bison, Cattle, Quarantine, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Swine, Transportation.

##### 9 CFR Part 86

Animal diseases, Bison, Cattle, Livestock, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, APHIS amends 9 CFR parts 71, 77, 78, and 86 as follows:

#### PART 71—GENERAL PROVISIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 8301–8317; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

■ 2. Amend § 71.1 by revising the definition of "Official eartag" to read as follows:

##### § 71.1 Definitions.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Official eartag.** An identification tag approved by APHIS that bears an official identification number for individual animals. The design, size, shape, color, and other characteristics of the official eartag will depend on the needs of the users, subject to the

approval of the Administrator. The official eartag must be tamper-resistant and have a high retention rate in the animal.

\* \* \* \* \*

**PART 77—TUBERCULOSIS**

■ 3. The authority citation for part 77 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 8301–8317; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

■ 4. Amend § 77.2, by revising the definitions of “Interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)” and “Official eartag” to read as follows:

**§ 77.2 Definitions.**

\* \* \* \* \*

*Interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI).* An official document issued by a Federal, State, Tribal, or accredited veterinarian certifying the inspection of animals in preparation for interstate movement.

- (1) The ICVI must show:
  - (i) The species of animals covered by the ICVI;
  - (ii) The number of animals covered by the ICVI;
  - (iii) The purpose for which the animals are to be moved;
  - (iv) The address at which the animals were loaded for interstate movement;
  - (v) The address to which the animals are destined; and
  - (vi) The names of the consignor and the consignee, and their addresses if different from the address at which the animals were loaded or the address to which the animals are destined.

(vii) Additionally, unless the species-specific requirements for ICVIs provide an exception, the ICVI must list the official identification number of each animal, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this definition, or group of animals moved that is required to be officially identified, or, if an alternative form of identification has been agreed upon by the sending and receiving States, the ICVI must include a record of that identification. If animals moving under a GIN also have individual official identification, only the GIN must be listed on the ICVI. An ICVI may not be issued for any animal that is not officially identified, if official identification is required. If the animals are not required by the regulations to be officially identified, the ICVI must state the exemption that applies (e.g., the cattle and bison do not belong to one of the classes of cattle and bison to which the official identification requirements of this part apply). If the animals are required to be officially identified but the identification number does not have to be recorded on the ICVI, the ICVI

must state that all animals to be moved under the ICVI are officially identified.

(2) As an alternative to recording individual animal identification on an ICVI, if agreed to by the receiving State or Tribe, another document may be attached to provide this information, but only under the following conditions:

- (i) The document must be a State form or APHIS form that requires individual identification of animals, or a printout of official identification numbers generated by computer or other means;
- (ii) A legible copy of the document must be attached to the original and each copy of the ICVI;
- (iii) Each copy of the document must identify each animal to be moved with the ICVI. The document must not contain any information pertaining to other animals; and
- (iv) The following information must be included in the identification column on the original and each copy of the ICVI:
  - (A) The name of the document; and
  - (B) Either the unique serial number on the document or both the name of the person who prepared the document and the date the document was signed.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Official eartag.* An identification tag approved by APHIS that bears an official identification number for individual animals. The design, size, shape, color, and other characteristics of the official eartag will depend on the needs of the users, subject to the approval of the Administrator. The official eartag must be tamper-resistant and have a high retention rate in the animal.

\* \* \* \* \*

**PART 78—BRUCELLOSIS**

■ 5. The authority citation for part 78 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 7 U.S.C. 8301–8317; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

■ 6. Amend § 78.1 by revising the definitions of “Dairy cattle”, “Interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)”, and “Official eartag” to read as follows:

**§ 78.1 Definitions.**

\* \* \* \* \*

*Dairy cattle.* All cattle, regardless of age or sex or current use, that are of a breed(s) or offspring of a breed used to produce milk or other dairy products for human consumption, including, but not limited to, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI).* An official document

issued by a Federal, State, Tribal, or accredited veterinarian certifying the inspection of animals in preparation for interstate movement.

- (1) The ICVI must show:
  - (i) The species of animals covered by the ICVI;
  - (ii) The number of animals covered by the ICVI;
  - (iii) The purpose for which the animals are to be moved;
  - (iv) The address at which the animals were loaded for interstate movement;
  - (v) The address to which the animals are destined; and
  - (vi) The names of the consignor and the consignee and their addresses if different from the address at which the animals were loaded or the address to which the animals are destined.

(vii) Additionally, unless the species-specific requirements for ICVIs provide an exception, the ICVI must list the official identification number of each animal, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this definition, or group of animals moved that is required to be officially identified, or, if an alternative form of identification has been agreed upon by the sending and receiving States, the ICVI must include a record of that identification. If animals moving under a GIN also have individual official identification, only the GIN must be listed on the ICVI. An ICVI may not be issued for any animal that is not officially identified, if official identification is required. If the animals are not required by the regulations to be officially identified, the ICVI must state the exemption that applies (e.g., the cattle and bison do not belong to one of the classes of cattle and bison to which the official identification requirements of this part apply). If the animals are required to be officially identified but the identification number does not have to be recorded on the ICVI, the ICVI must state that all animals to be moved under the ICVI are officially identified.

(2) As an alternative to recording individual animal identification on an ICVI, if agreed to by the receiving State or Tribe, another document may be attached to provide this information, but only under the following conditions:

- (i) The document must be a Tribal or State form or APHIS form that requires individual identification of animals, or a printout of official identification numbers generated by computer or other means;
- (ii) A legible copy of the document must be attached to the original and each copy of the ICVI;
- (iii) Each copy of the document must identify each animal to be moved with the ICVI. The document must not

contain any information pertaining to other animals; and (iv) The following information must be included in the identification column on the original and each copy of the ICVI:

- (A) The name of the document; and (B) Either the unique serial number on the document or both the name of the person who prepared the document and the date the document was signed.

Official eartag. An identification tag approved by APHIS that bears an official identification number for individual animals. The design, size, shape, color, and other characteristics of the official eartag will depend on the needs of the users, subject to the approval of the Administrator. The official eartag must be tamper-resistant and have a high retention rate in the animal.

PART 86—ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY

7. The authority citation for part 86 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 8301–8317; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

8. Amend § 86.1 by:

a. Revising the definitions of “Approved tagging site”, “Dairy cattle”, and “Interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI)”;

b. Adding in alphabetical order the definition for “Official Animal Identification Device Standards (OAIDS)”;

c. Revising the definition of “Official eartag”; and

d. Adding an OMB citation at the end of the section.

The revisions and additions read as follows:

§ 86.1 Definitions.

Approved tagging site. A premises, authorized by APHIS, State, or Tribal animal health officials, where livestock without official identification may be transferred to have official identification applied on behalf of their owner or the person in possession, care, or control of the animals when they are brought to the premises.

Dairy cattle. All cattle, regardless of age or sex or current use, that are of a breed(s) or offspring of a breed used to produce milk or other dairy products for human consumption, including, but not limited to, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites.

Interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI). An official document issued by a Federal, State, or Tribal government, or an accredited veterinarian, certifying the inspection of animals in preparation for interstate movement.

(1) The ICVI must show:

(i) The species of animals covered by the ICVI;

(ii) The number of animals covered by the ICVI;

(iii) The purpose for which the animals are to be moved;

(iv) The address at which the animals were loaded for interstate movement;

(v) The address to which the animals are destined; and

(vi) The names of the consignor and the consignee and their addresses if different from the address at which the animals were loaded or the address to which the animals are destined.

(vii) Additionally, unless the species-specific requirements for ICVIs provide an exception, the ICVI must list the official identification number of each animal, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this definition, or group of animals moved that is required to be officially identified, or, if an alternative form of identification has been agreed upon by the sending and receiving States, the ICVI must include a record of that identification. If animals moving under a GIN also have individual official identification, only the GIN must be listed on the ICVI. An ICVI may not be issued for any animal that is not officially identified if official identification is required. If the animals are not required by the regulations to be officially identified, the ICVI must state the exemption that applies (e.g., the cattle and bison do not belong to one of the classes of cattle and bison to which the official identification requirements of this part apply). If the animals are required to be officially identified but the identification number does not have to be recorded on the ICVI, the ICVI must state that all animals to be moved under the ICVI are officially identified.

(2) As an alternative to recording individual animal identification on an ICVI, if agreed to by the receiving State or Tribe, another document may be attached to provide this information, but only under the following conditions:

(i) The document must be a State form or APHIS form that requires individual identification of animals, or a printout of official identification numbers generated by computer or other means;

(ii) A legible copy of the document must be attached to the original and each copy of the ICVI;

(iii) Each copy of the document must identify each animal to be moved with

the ICVI. The document must not contain any information pertaining to other animals; and

(iv) The following information must be included in the identification column on the original and each copy of the ICVI:

(A) The name of the document; and

(B) Either the unique serial number on the document or both the name of the person who prepared the document and the date the document was signed.

Official Animal Identification Device Standards (OAIDS). A document providing further information regarding the official identification device recordkeeping requirements of this part, and technical descriptions, specifications, and details under which APHIS would approve identification devices for official use. Updates or modifications to the Standards document will be announced to the public by means of a notice published in the Federal Register.

Official eartag. An identification tag approved by APHIS that bears an official identification number for individual animals. The design, size, shape, color, and other characteristics of the official eartag will depend on the needs of the users, subject to the approval of the Administrator. The official eartag must be tamper-resistant and have a high retention rate in the animal.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579–0327)

9. Revise § 86.2 to add an OMB citation at the end of the section to read as follows:

§ 86.2 General requirements for traceability.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579–0327)

10. Revise § 86.3 to read as follows:

§ 86.3 Recordkeeping requirements.

(a) Any State, Tribe, accredited veterinarian, or other person or entity who distributes official identification devices must maintain for 5 years a record of the names and addresses of anyone to whom the devices were distributed. Official identification device distribution records must be entered by the person distributing the devices into the Tribal, State, Federal, or other database acceptable to each government entity. Additional guidance on meeting these recordkeeping requirements is found in the OAIDS.

(b) Records of official identification devices applied by a federally

accredited veterinarian to a client animal must be kept in a readily accessible record system.

(c) Approved livestock facilities must keep any ICVIs or alternate documentation that is required by this part for the interstate movement of covered livestock that enter the facility on or after March 11, 2013. For poultry and swine, such documents must be kept for at least 2 years, and for cattle and bison, sheep and goats, cervids, and equids, 5 years.

(d) Records required under paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section must be maintained by the responsible person or entity and must be of sufficient accuracy, quality, and completeness to demonstrate compliance with all conditions and requirements under this part. During normal business hours, APHIS must be allowed access to all records, to include visual inspection and reproduction (e.g., photocopying, digital reproduction). The responsible person or entity must submit to APHIS all reports and notices containing the information specified within 48 hours of receipt of request, or earlier if warranted by an emergency disease response.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579-0327)

- 11. Amend § 86.4 by:
  - a. Revising paragraphs (a) introductory text and (a)(1)(i);
  - b. In paragraphs (a)(2)(i) and (iv), removing the word “equine” and adding in its place the word “equid” wherever it appears;
  - c. In paragraph (a)(2)(iii), removing the words “to the equine” and adding in their place the words “into the equid”;
  - d. In paragraph (a)(2)(v), removing the word “equines” and adding in its place the word “equids”;
  - e. Adding paragraph (b)(1)(ii)(D);
  - f. Revising paragraphs (b)(1)(iii)(B), (b)(4) introductory text, and (c)(3);
  - g. Removing paragraph (c)(4);
  - h. Revising paragraphs (e)(1)(iii) and (iv);
  - i. Adding in paragraph (e)(2)(iv) the words “or other EID” between the words “RFID” and “eartag”; and
  - j. Adding an OMB citation at the end of the section.

The additions and revisions read as follows:

**§ 86.4 Official identification.**

(a) *Official identification devices and methods.* The Administrator has approved the following official identification devices or methods for the species listed. The Administrator may authorize the use of additional devices

or methods for a specific species if he or she determines that such additional devices or methods will provide for adequate traceability. Additional guidance on official identification devices, methods, and the approval process is found in the Official Animal Identification Device Standards (OAIDS) document.

(i) For an official eartag, beginning November 5, 2024, all official eartags sold for or applied to cattle and bison must be readable both visually and electronically (EID);

(b) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(ii) \* \* \*

(D) Cattle and bison leaving a slaughter establishment may only be moved to another recognized slaughter establishment or approved feedlot and can only be sold/re-sold as slaughter cattle, and they must be accompanied by an owner-shipper statement in accordance with § 86.5(c)(1). Information listed on the document must include the name and address of the slaughter establishment from which the animals left, the official identification numbers, as defined in § 86.1, correlated with the USDA backtag number (if available), the name of the destination slaughter establishment, or approved feedlot (as defined in § 77.5 of this subchapter) to which the animals are being shipped.

(iii) \* \* \*

(B) All dairy cattle;

\* \* \* \* \*

(4) *Horses and other equids.* Horses and other equids moving interstate must be officially identified prior to the interstate movement, using an official identification device or method listed in paragraph (a)(2) of this section unless:

(c) \* \* \*

(3) A visually and electronically readable eartag may be applied to an animal that is already officially identified with one or more non-EID official eartags and/or a non-EID official vaccination eartag used for brucellosis. The person applying the new visually and electronically readable eartag must record the date the eartag is applied to the animal and the official identification numbers of both official eartags and must maintain those records for 5 years.

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(iii) Malfunction of the electronic component of an electronically readable (EID) device; or

(iv) Incompatibility or inoperability of the electronic component of an EID

device with the management system or unacceptable functionality of the management system due to use of an EID device.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579-0327)

■ 12. Revise § 86.5 to read as follows:

**§ 86.5 Documentation requirements for interstate movement of covered livestock.**

(a) *Responsible persons and required documentation.* The persons responsible for animals leaving a premises for interstate movement must ensure that the animals are accompanied by an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection (ICVI) or other document required by this part for the interstate movement of animals.

(b) *Forwarding of documents.* (1) The APHIS representative, State or Tribal representative, or accredited veterinarian issuing an ICVI or other document required for the interstate movement of animals under this part, must forward a copy of the ICVI or other document to the State or Tribal animal health official of the State or Tribe of origin within 7 calendar days from the date on which the ICVI or other document is issued. The State or Tribal animal health official in the State or Tribe of origin must forward a copy of the ICVI or other document to the State or Tribal animal health official in the State or Tribe of destination within 7 calendar days from date on which the ICVI or other document is received.

(2) The animal health official or accredited veterinarian issuing or receiving an ICVI or other interstate movement document in accordance with paragraph (b)(1) of this section must keep a copy of the ICVI or alternate documentation. For poultry and swine, such documents must be kept for at least 2 years, and for cattle and bison, sheep and goats, cervids, and equine species, 5 years.

(c) *Cattle and bison.* Cattle and bison moved interstate must be accompanied by an ICVI unless:

(1) They are moved directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment, or directly to an approved livestock facility and then directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment, and they are accompanied by an owner-shipper statement.

(2) They are moved directly to an approved livestock facility with an owner-shipper statement and do not move interstate from the facility unless accompanied by an ICVI.

(3) They are moved from the farm of origin for veterinary medical examination or treatment and returned

to the farm of origin without change in ownership.

(4) They are moved directly from one State through another State and back to the original State.

(5) They are moved as a commuter herd with a copy of the commuter herd agreement or other document, as agreed to by the States or Tribes involved in the movement.

(6) Additionally, cattle and bison may be moved between shipping and receiving States or Tribes with documentation other than an ICVI, *e.g.*, a brand inspection certificate, as agreed upon by animal health officials in the shipping and receiving States or Tribes.

(7) The official identification number of cattle or bison must be recorded on the ICVI or alternate documentation unless:

(i) The cattle or bison are moved from an approved livestock facility directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment; or

(ii) The cattle and bison are sexually intact cattle or bison under 18 months of age or steers or spayed heifers; except that this paragraph (c)(7)(ii) does not apply to dairy cattle of any age or to cattle or bison used for rodeo, exhibition, or recreational purposes.

(d) *Horses and other equine species.* Horses and other equine species moved interstate must be accompanied by an ICVI unless:

(1) They are used as the mode of transportation (horseback, horse and buggy) for travel to another location and then return direct to the original location; or

(2) They are moved from the farm or stable for veterinary medical examination or treatment and returned to the same location without change in ownership; or

(3) They are moved directly from a location in one State through another State to a second location in the original State.

(4) Additionally, equids may be moved between shipping and receiving States or Tribes with documentation other than an ICVI, *e.g.*, an equine infectious anemia test chart, as agreed to by the shipping and receiving States or Tribes involved in the movement.

(5) Equids moving commercially to slaughter must be accompanied by documentation in accordance with part 88 of this subchapter. Equine infectious anemia reactors moving interstate must be accompanied by documentation as required by part 75 of this subchapter.

(c) *Poultry.* Poultry moved interstate must be accompanied by an ICVI unless:

(1) They are from a flock participating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) and are accompanied by the

documentation required under the NPIP regulations (parts 145 through 147 of this chapter) for participation in that program; or

(2) They are moved directly to a recognized slaughtering or rendering establishment; or

(3) They are moved from the farm of origin for veterinary medical examination, treatment, or diagnostic purposes and either returned to the farm of origin without change in ownership or euthanized and disposed of at the veterinary facility; or

(4) They are moved directly from one State through another State and back to the original State; or

(5) They are moved between shipping and receiving States or Tribes with a VS Form 9–3 or documentation other than an ICVI, as agreed upon by animal health officials in the shipping and receiving States or Tribes; or

(6) They are moved under permit in accordance with part 82 of this subchapter.

(f) *Sheep and goats.* Sheep and goats moved interstate must be accompanied by documentation as required by part 79 of this subchapter.

(g) *Swine.* Swine moved interstate must be accompanied by documentation in accordance with § 71.19 of this subchapter or, if applicable, with part 85 of this subchapter.

(h) *Captive cervids.* Captive cervids moved interstate must be accompanied by documentation as required by part 77 of this subchapter.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579–0327)

Done in Washington, DC, this 26th day of April 2024.

**Jennifer Moffitt,**

*Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2024–09717 Filed 5–8–24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410–34–P**

## ATTACHMENT 2

[<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA%20Beef%20Industry%20Plan%20White%20Paper.pdf>]



**USDA Plan to Fortify the American Beef Industry: Strengthening Ranches, Rebuilding Capacity, and Lowering Costs for Consumers**

*Challenge*

Since 2017, the U.S. has lost over 17% of cattle ranches, more than 150,000 operations. The national herd is at a 75-year low, while consumer demand for beef has grown ~9% over the past decade. Because herd rebuilding takes time, USDA is investing during the downturn so that the next upswing is less volatile for ranchers and more affordable for consumers.

*Plan*

This plan to fortify the American Beef Industry focuses on three coordinated priorities:

*Protecting and Improving the Business of Ranching*

Strengthening the foundation of U.S. cattle production through endangered species reforms, enhanced disaster relief, increased grazing access, increased access to capital, and affordable risk management tools.




*Expanding Processing, Consumer Transparency, and Market Access*

Lowering long-term costs, increasing marketing options, and ensuring consumers have clear, truthful information about American beef.

*Building Demand Alongside Domestic Supply*

Growing the domestic herd while boosting domestic and international demand so that ranchers are not trapped in the boom/bust cycle that has defined past cattle markets.

[USDA Plan for American Ranchers and Consumers]

| Protecting and Improving the Business of Ranching   | Expanding Processing, Consumer Transparency, and Market Access  | Building Demand Alongside Domestic Supply   |
|---|---|---|
|  <p>Strengthen U.S. cattle production through increased grazing access for ~5 million acres, endangered species reforms, enhanced disaster relief, increased access to capital, and reducing costs for new and young ranchers.</p> |  <p>Lower long-term costs by cutting inspection costs by up to 75% for small processors, increasing market options for consumers with "Product of USA" labeling, ensuring consumers know they're eating great American beef.</p> |  <p>Grow the domestic herd while boosting long term demand to reduce prices for consumers while growing markets for ranchers through significant farm-to-school grants and protein-focused Dietary Guidelines.</p> |

**Protecting and Improving the Business of Ranching**

*Strengthen U.S. cattle production through endangered species reforms, enhanced disaster relief, increased grazing access, increased access to capital, and affordable risk management tools.*

**A. USDA-DOI Grazing Action Plan**

Grazing and rangeland management are central to the multiple-use missions of both the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Together, the agencies administer approximately 240 million acres of rangelands across 28 states, supporting over 23,000 permittees and lessees. There are roughly 29,000 grazing allotments nationwide—about 10% (24 million acres) are currently vacant. Grazing on Federal lands sustains rural economies, supporting 14,200 jobs and \$645 million in GDP on USFS lands, and 35,000 jobs and \$2.7 billion in output on BLM lands.

The plan will be launched via a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between USDA and DOI (anticipated announcement in November 2025), which will streamline and expand grazing on federal lands, elevate grazing as an Administration priority, and provide direct relief and support to America’s ranchers.

The USDA-DOI Grazing Action Plan positions grazing as a central element of Federal land management by expanding access, reducing barriers, modernizing processes, and elevating producer voices. These coordinated efforts will strengthen rancher resilience, support herd rebuilding, and maintain working rangelands as a vital part of America’s agricultural and environmental fabric.



**Expanding Access: Prioritizing Vacant Allotments**



- i. **USDA Action:** USFS and BLM will jointly assess the viability of vacant grazing allotments and prioritize reopening them for permitted use, with a commitment to ensure no net loss of Animal Unit Months (AUMs) nationwide.
- ii. **Implementation:** Conduct a comprehensive inventory of vacant allotments, access through expedited environmental and administrative review.
- iii. **Result:** Increases rangeland availability, helps offset feed shortages, and expands opportunities for ranchers to rebuild herds without compromising resource stewardship.

**Eliminating Delays: Streamlining Permitting and Authorizations**



- i. **USDA Action:** USFS and BLM will align regulations, modernize permitting guidance, and use new and existing authorities to reduce backlogs for permit renewals and annual operating instructions (AOIs).
- ii. **Implementation:** Develop a unified permitting framework that minimizes duplicative documentation. Create expedited pathways for renewals under categorical exclusions. Activate emergency authorities to provide relief following droughts, fires, or other natural disasters.
- iii. **Result:** Reduces administrative burdens on producers, accelerates access to forage, and ensures ranchers have operational certainty during times of crisis.

**Elevating Rural Americans: Giving Ranchers a Voice**



- i. **USDA and DOI Action:** Strengthen engagement and mutual understanding between federal agencies and grazing communities through structured listening, learning, and on-the-ground collaboration.
- ii. **Implementation:** Host regional meetings to identify producer priorities and locally led rangeland health solutions. Train line officers and range staff on practical ranch operations to bridge the gap between policy and field realities. Establish a liaison for every wildfire incident that may affect permitted grazing to ensure timely coordination and recovery.
- iii. **Result:** Builds trust between agencies and producers, embeds local expertise in policy execution, and ensures grazing interests are represented during emergency response and land-use planning.

**Maximizing Flexibilities: Keeping Working Lands Working**

- i. **USDA and DOI Action:** Promote innovative grazing management tools and outcome-based practices to sustain ecological health while reducing costs for ranchers.
- ii. **Implementation:** Expand targeted grazing as a vegetation management tool to control invasive species and reduce wildfire risk. Allow outcome-based grazing agreements to tailor stocking rates and timing to local conditions. Pilot and scale virtual fencing and other precision-management technologies to lower labor costs and improve herd distribution.
- [iii.] **Result:** Enhances rangeland resilience, increases operational flexibility, and lowers production costs, keeping federal working lands in productive use.

**Improving Coordination: Aligning Agencies to Better Serve Ranchers**

- i. **USDA Action:** Establish formal inter-agency coordination through the upcoming USDA–DOI MOU to align policies, procedures, and communication for ranchers who operate across administrative boundaries.
- ii. **Implementation:** Create a joint customer interface for grazing permit holders with unified contact points, guidance, and forms. Develop shared staffing models and communication protocols to ensure consistent policy interpretation.
- iii. **Result:** Provides ranchers with a one-stop experience when engaging with federal agencies, reduces bureaucratic friction, and strengthens cross-boundary management consistency.

**B. Predator Management and ESA Reform**

- i. **USDA and DOI Action:** DOI will collaborate with USDA to develop new standards of evidence for compensating ranchers for predations by wolves, bears, coyotes, and other species that prey on livestock in Arizona, New Mexico, and other states.
- ii. **Implementation:** USDA APHIS and DOI FWS will collaborate and work with relevant state agencies to develop new standards of evidence for predations of livestock.
- iii. **Result:** Increased coordination across government that allows for a complete and timely response after predations to livestock.



*C. Enhanced Disaster and Predation Support*

- i. **USDA Action:** FSA is enacting OBBBA provisions that better protect ranchers from the devastating economic impacts of natural disasters and protected species predation.
- ii. **Implementation:** Improving the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and Livestock Forage Program (LFP) to offer higher and earlier payment rates to producers. Including coverage for unborn livestock in the LIP program and increasing the coverage to 100% of the market value for livestock that are killed by predation.
- iii. **Result:** Disaster frequency and intensity raise income volatility; timely indemnities help prevent forced liquidation in drought and fire years and in areas of high predation.



*D. Making Risk Protection Tools More Affordable and Prioritizing New and Beginning Ranchers*

- i. **USDA Action:** RMA has expanded the beginning farmer definition from 5 years to 10 years. USDA has also enhanced the premium subsidy of 15 percentage points, additional subsidy for the first two years, 13 percentage points for the third year, 11 percentage points for the fourth year, and 10 percentage points for years five through ten.
- ii. **Implementation:** Producers benefit from this enhancement right now when buying new policies. USDA is currently identifying producers who may fall into this expanded category and is working directly with agents to ensure those policyholders receive maximum benefits.
- iii. **Result:** Decreased overhead and decreased risk for the population of producers who are most inclined to invest in their herd. Increased participation in risk management products reduces financial volatility in cattle markets, allowing all ranchers to better manage their business.



*E. Increasing Veteran Owned and Operated Ranches*

- i. **USDA Action:** NIFA will prioritize grant applications in the Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans (AgVets) program that support veterans interested in entering ranching.
- ii. **Implementation:** Starting with the Request for Applications (RFA) for AgVets in FY 2026, NIFA will include language encouraging applicants to promote outreach and education focused on ranching.
- iii. **Result:** The AgVets program is designed to increase the number of military veterans gaining knowledge and skills through comprehensive, hands-on and immersive model farm and ranch programs offered regionally that lead to successful careers in the food and agricultural sector. By prioritizing ranching, USDA will work to increase the number of veteran owned and operated ranches.



### **Expanding Processing, Consumer Transparency, and Markets For Ranchers**

*These investments will put American beef producers and processors first, expand marketing choices for ranchers, and ensure clear, truthful labeling for consumers.*

#### **A. Protect and Promote American Beef Through Transparent Labeling**

- i. **USDA Action:** FSIS will begin enforcing compliance of labeling claims for meat and poultry products bearing “Product of USA” claims and will provide guidance and outreach to states to support state-based labeling programs.
- ii. **Implementation:** Effective January 1, 2026, FSIS inspection personnel will begin enforcing compliance on FSIS-regulated products that bear voluntary “Product of USA,” “Made in the USA,” and other U.S.-origin claims before they may enter commerce. FSIS will conduct regional webinars and issue guidance in late 2025, in partnership with states and farm groups, to support state and local labeling claims related to FSIS regulations.
- iii. **Result:** Only products that have been born, raised, and slaughtered in the United States will be eligible to make U.S.-origin labeling claims, ensuring any premiums derived from those claims only benefit producers and proc-

processors utilizing American beef. Further adoption of state and local labeling claims could lead to additional premiums for those producers and processors providing high-quality, local beef products to American consumers.



*B. Promote Fair and Transparent Beef Markets*

- i. **USDA Action:** USDA collects and publishes information on the marketing of cattle and beef products to provide a more transparent and resilient marketing system that benefits all stakeholders. This unbiased, free information supports producers in making informed marketing decisions to compete more effectively in the marketplace. USDA continues to seek out emerging technologies to maximize the efficiency of its service to ensure producers of all sizes can continue to easily find the information they require. USDA will continue to regularly monitor industry activities and conduct regulatory compliance to ensure that cattle markets remain open, transparent, and fair for all participants. USDA will work with DOJ as necessary.
- ii. **Implementation:** USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will continue to make public cattle and beef market information under the Livestock Mandatory Reporting program and will make available the Cattle Contract Library and other reporting tools to ensure producers have clear, timely market information.
- iii. **Result:** These coordinated actions help ensure that producers can competitively market products to support stable, affordable beef prices for consumers.



*C. Promoting Innovation and Reducing Costs for Small Processors*

- i. **USDA Action:** AMS will expand its remote grading program for beef, targeting small and medium processors that supply local and regional markets. AMS will also expand its Instrument Enhanced Grading program, which leverages camera technology to improve the consistency and accuracy of the AMS grading program and reduce staffing needs, bringing costs down for meat processors of all sizes.
- ii. **Implementation:** These actions are ongoing, but USDA will begin to target messaging and announcements around new processing plants participating in either program.
- iii. **Result:** Adds further efficiencies to the beef grading system and allows producers and processors of all sizes to access the USDA Grades, such as USDA Prime and USDA Choice, which consumers in the U.S. and around the world recognize as symbols of quality American beef.



*D. Reduce Overtime and Holiday Inspection Fees for Small Processors*

- i. **USDA Action:** FSIS will reduce the costs of overtime and holiday inspection for small and very small meat, poultry, and egg product establishments.
- ii. **Implementation:** For FY 2026, FSIS will temporarily reduce overtime and holiday inspection fees by 75% for very small processors and 30% for small processors, utilizing \$20 million in de-obligated funds from the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program. FSIS will begin implementing fee reductions in early 2026, which can be retroactive to October 1, 2025.
- iii. **Result:** By incentivizing small processors to operate longer hours and expand their processing capacity, these establishments can help address the backlog that producers often face in bringing their livestock to slaughter, particularly in regions without large-scale processing establishments.



*E. Enhance Local Processing, Increasing Marketing Options for Ranchers and Consumers*

- i. **USDA Action:** RBCS will announce a fourth round of grant funding through the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program (MPPEP) to support small processors, with a focus on promoting local supply chains. Grants would total up to \$2 million per award.
- ii. **USDA Action:** RBCS will prioritize beef processor applications within USDA's Guaranteed Business and Industry Loan Program to allow up to a \$25 million guaranteed loan to increase local beef processing capacity.
- iii. **SBA Action:** SBA will prioritize small, low-interest loans to new small meat and poultry processors to help offset start-up costs and bring new processing capacity to the marketplace.
- iv. **Implementation:** RBCS will publish a NOFO in late 2025 creating a grant application window for a fourth round of MPPEP. Eligible processors would apply for the program in early 2026. Grant applicants would be reviewed by RBCS, with grant funds announced in Q2 of 2026.
- v. **Result:** As many as 50 small meat processors across the country could receive funding to diversify the beef supply chain and open local market opportunities. USDA will strategically direct funding to areas that have a lack of local processing but have a demand for these smaller processors.



*F. Enhancing Access to Feeder Cattle Data*

- i. **USDA Action:** AMS will pilot new technology that will assess feeder cattle against USDA standards using LiDAR technology.
- ii. **Implementation:** Using vision and AI-based technologies, pilots will begin in early 2026. USDA AMS will partner with livestock auction markets to ensure the technology works in real life settings and accurately applies USDA's standards, which serve as the industry's common language of trade.
- iii. **Result:** Expands the availability of market and price information on feeder cattle at auction barns, feeding more data into existing USDA information systems to improve transparency and ultimately help producers realize the maximum value of their cattle.



*G. Advancing Deregulatory Reforms Under the Clean Water Act to Strengthen the U.S. Beef Supply and U.S. Processing*

- i. **EPA Action:** The EPA is promoting regulatory certainty and clarity for America’s ranchers by ensuring a clear, consistent, and durable definition of “Waters for the United States” (WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act. In addition to that action, the EPA has withdrawn a 2024 proposed rule that would have imposed costly new wastewater discharge requirements for meat and poultry processing facilities.
- ii. **Implementation:** EPA has already taken action on the WOTUS definition and has withdrawn the Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards (ELG) rule.
- iii. **Results:** This action will prevent \$1.1 B to \$7.8 B in future compliance costs, allowing more meat and poultry processing facilities to be built in America.

**Build Demand Alongside Domestic Supply**

*By increasing domestic and international demand in tandem with domestic supply, the Trump Administration will lessen the volatility of the boom/bust cycle.*

**A. Expand Access to Locally Raised Beef for American Students**

- i. **USDA Action:** USDA FNS is encouraging schools, sponsors, and institutions participating in any USDA Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) to source and serve locally grown foods, including beef, in program meals. FNS is also accepting applications for the FY 2026 Patrick Leahy Farm to School Grant Program to support planning, developing, and implementing farm to school programs.
- ii. **Implementation:** FNS issued a memo on May 6, 2025, to encourage CNP operators to purchase locally grown and locally raised agricultural products to the maximum extent practicable. Beginning September 10, FNS has accepted applications to fund innovative farm to school projects ranging from \$100,000 to \$500,000, for a total of up to \$18 million. These applications will be accepted until December 5, and awards are expected within 3–6 months afterward.
- iii. **Result:** These efforts will improve access to local foods, including high-quality meat, for American students, and will improve child health and nutrition and reinvigorate American livestock producers by better connecting them with USDA's Child Nutrition Programs.



**B. Ensure Science-Based *Dietary Guidelines for Americans***

- i. **USDA Action:** Together with HHS, ensure the *2025–2030 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* (DGA) reflect sound science and practical advice for the American family, including encouraging protein as the foundation for every meal.
- ii. **Implementation:** The DGA will be released no later than December 31, 2025.
- iii. **Result:** The DGA will serve as the foundation to multiple feeding programs, including school breakfast and lunch, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), as well as what is served to U.S. servicemen and women, and as to how agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) label packaged foods.



The CHAIRMAN. Well, Congresswoman, thank you. Thank you for your leadership, part of the team getting Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization Act of 2025 (Pub. L. 119–58) across the floor last night. That is a great victory for those of us, like yourself and myself, that have school districts within National Forests that have been living over a shadow of just, what, 75 percent—or 70 percent decrease in funding. So, thank you for that.

Yes, CRP is the longest—I appreciate your perspectives on CRP modernization. It is the longest operating or existing conservation program, but it has never been modernized, and it has slipped towards incentivizing taking productive farmland out of production. And that is not what the conservation programs are all about, so we look forward to addressing that in Farm Bill 2.0. And we do need some accountability with that EID program.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. The problem many times is in the implementation, and this in certain states seems like it has been out of control. So, look forward to doing more oversight on that than what we have done in the past, so.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Chairman Thompson, I look forward to working with you on all of these issues.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes, I look forward to it, too. Any questions for Congresswoman Hageman? Go ahead.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you, Representative. I appreciate your expertise and sharing that. Can you just elaborate a little bit more on some of the changes you would like to see as it relates to the EID program and its implementation? Like, is it more administrative funds, because it sounds like, from the Chairman's perspective, we don't have enough to properly implement the program, so could you touch on that for me please?

Ms. HAGEMAN. So, the program was under-funded from the very beginning. So, the estimate was that it would apply to 11 percent of the cattle in the United States, and it was designed to do that because I think it was an incremental program, and it was intended to be. It is an astronomically expensive program, and, in fact, ultimately, it will cost over \$2 billion if the state vets are successful enforcing all livestock producers to use EID on all cattle, regardless of whether they cross state lines. So, it is an unfunded mandate on our cattle industry that is potentially going to cost upwards of \$2 billion, so that is one of the challenges associated with it. Anytime that the government mandates something, you create shortages and skyrocket the price. That is exactly what has happened here.

The other reality is that I see the challenges of how it could be used in the long run to control our cattle industry and our cattle producers, and actually vertically integrate the industry much more than it already is, the way that we have vertically integrated our poultry and our pork industries. So, from the standpoint of implementation, we need to make sure that it is implemented pursuant to the clear language of the rule as it exists right now. And that is one of the problems. It is not because there is a lot of confusion as to which livestock it ought to apply to. As I indicated, it is sexually intact, over 18 months of age, that cross state lines, but if I have a replacement heifer that I keep for 8 or 9 years or 10

years on my own ranch, I may sell it as a cull cow eventually, but at that point, you could put any EID ear tag on it. But right now, I need to have bangs testing done for brucellosis, and I need to make sure that I can put a tag on there, but the manufacturers are saying their understanding is they can only manufacture the EIDs. They can't manufacture the metal bang tags.

We need to clarify that if you are going to have a replacement heifer, again, as an example, that stays in state rather than moving interstate, that they could continue to use the historical metal bangs tags that we could then have manufacturers to produce at a much lower cost.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you so much for that, and then have you heard anything from your cattle ranchers with regards to the \$40 billion as it relates to Argentina and the United States?

Ms. HAGEMAN. There have been concerns about the trade deals, so I went immediately to the Trade Office to find exactly what the situation was. I think there has been an awful lot of misinformation about the arrangement and the deal that was being negotiated between the Administration and Argentina. It shouldn't have impacted our cattle market the way that it did. In fact, no live cattle were being considered for importation. We were looking at lean trim for mixing with hamburger, no premium cuts. So, I think there was a lot of hysteria around that when there was discussion about the trade deal being put in place, but, again, I think it was more misinformation than truth. The problem is it really did, in real time, hit our cattle market, despite the fact that it wasn't targeted to live cattle at all.

Ms. BROWN. Great. Thank you. I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. All right. Thank you very much. I am now pleased to recognize another outstanding Member of the all-powerful Agriculture Committee, Congresswoman Hayes from Connecticut for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. JAHANA HAYES, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM CONNECTICUT**

Mrs. HAYES. Thank you. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before this Committee as part of Member Day to discuss my top priority as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Nutrition and Foreign Agriculture, and that would be cuts to SNAP.

Today, I would like to discuss my legislation, the Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025 (H.R. 6088). This legislation would repeal the devastating cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, otherwise known as SNAP, that were included in H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill. I was joined by nearly 200 House Democrats, including House Agriculture Committee Ranking Member, Angie Craig, to introduce this critical legislation. Companion legislation has also been introduced in the Senate by Senator Ben Ray Luján (S. 3281, Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025). This bill also has the support of more than 1,400 organizations nationwide.

SNAP is the most effective anti-hunger program in our country, serving nearly 42 million Americans, including children, seniors, and veterans. Also, the loss of SNAP by so many people would affect categorical eligibility, which impacts programs like WIC, school

meals, heating assistance, and other programs. This is very important. Approximately 360,000 people in Connecticut utilize the SNAP program.

Despite serving as a lifeline to keep families fed, we have seen repeated attempts to defund SNAP and keep those in need from accessing benefits. In July, the Majority advanced H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which included the largest cuts in the history of the program. H.R. 1 cuts \$187 billion from nutrition programs and creates administrative barriers designed to make it harder for people to get assistance. Equally as damaging are the cost-share provisions that will force states to either cover the costs or opt out completely, as we have heard from other Members on this panel.

During the government shutdown, we witnessed just how disastrous it will be for states to shore up benefits without support from the Federal Government. As the Administration withheld contingency reserve dollars to cover SNAP benefits for November, states scrambled to come up with plans to cover the costs. Every state, every Congressional district, every community—rural, urban, suburban—were panicked about how they would feed people in their community. This is only a microcosm of what will be on the horizon for states if the cost-share provisions included in the One Big Beautiful Bill go into effect. My bill would repeal these unfunded mandates to ensure that states do not have to make tough decisions about which programs will be lost as a result of Federal funding cuts.

The bill also helps to mitigate the negative impact SNAP cuts would have on farmers, ranchers, producers, and the nearly 250,000 grocers authorized to accept SNAP dollars. In the year 2025 in the United States of America, we have the ability to feed our people. I strongly urge this Committee to reverse course on the cuts to SNAP, stop weaponizing hunger, and let's have some real discussion about what this looks like and bring this bill to the floor.

I also would encourage—we have heard a lot from different Members about the interpretation of things, and the Member before me just talked about misinformation and how people are interpreting things like the tariffs or some of the actions by the USDA and this Administration incorrectly. The best way to address that is with transparency. The Secretary of Agriculture should be before this Committee explaining to us the motives behind many of the actions, letting this Committee work with her to decide what next steps are. States should not be left scrambling for a tweet or an email about guidelines about how they should proceed. This Committee must begin to exercise our constitutional authority as a separate and co-equal branch, and bring Secretaries and Administration officials before this body to share with the American people how these plans will be implemented, how they will roll out, what they will look like by the time they get to the ground, and governors should not be left to wonder what is happening.

I don't care if you are in a red state, a blue state, people on the ground don't care. They want to know how these programs will work. And if this Administration and this Secretary have such a wonderful plan that the American people will be happy with the changes, then they should be coming here before this Committee

and sharing those changes, not only with us, but with the American people. And with that, I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Mrs. Hayes follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. JAHANA HAYES, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM CONNECTICUT

Thank you.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before the Committee to discuss my priorities as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Nutrition and Foreign Agriculture and share the priorities of my constituents in the Fifth District of Connecticut.

Today, I would like to discuss my legislation, the *Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025*.

This legislation would repeal the devastating cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) that were included in *H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill*.

I was joined by nearly 200 House Democrats, including House Agriculture Committee Ranking Member Angie Craig to introduce this critical legislation. Companion legislation has been introduced in the Senate by Senator Ben Ray Lujan.

The bill also has the support of more than 1,440 organizations nationwide.

SNAP is the most effective anti-hunger program in our country, serving nearly 42 million Americans, including children, seniors, and veterans.

Approximately 360,000 people utilize the program in Connecticut.

Despite serving as a lifeline to keep families fed, we have seen repeated attempts to defund SNAP and keep those in need from accessing benefits.

In July, the Majority advanced *H.R. 1, the one Big Beautiful Bill Act* which included the largest cuts to SNAP in program history.

H.R. 1 rips \$187 billion from nutrition programs and creates administrative barriers designed to make it harder for people to get assistance.

Equally as damaging are the cost-share provisions that will force states to cover the costs of benefits for the first time in history.

During the government shutdown we witnessed just how disastrous it will be for states to shore up benefits without support from the Federal Government.

As the Administration illegally withheld contingency reserve dollars to cover SNAP benefits for November, states scrambled to come up with plans to cover partial benefits.

Every state, every Congressional district, every community—rural, urban, suburban—were panicked by how they would feed their community.

This is only a microcosm of what may be on the horizon for states if the cost-share provisions included in the One Big Beautiful bill go into effect.

My bill would repeal this unfunded mandate to ensure that states do not have to make tough choices about what programs would be lost as a result of Federal funding cuts.

My bill will also help to mitigate the negative impact SNAP cuts would have on farmers, ranchers, producers, and the 250,000 grocers authorized to accept SNAP dollars.

In the year 2025, in the United States of America, we have the ability to feed our people.

I strongly urge my colleagues on this Committee to reverse course on cuts to SNAP and stop weaponizing hunger.

The time to hold a vote on the *Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025* and advance the legislation to the House floor is now.

Thank you. I yield back.

SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 6088, Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr6088ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr6088ih.pdf> (See p. 418).
2. **S. 3281, Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119s3281is/pdf/BILLS-119s3281is.pdf> (See p. 477).
3. **Pub. L. 119-21, To provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-119publ21/pdf/PLAW-119publ21.pdf> (See p. 479).

The CHAIRMAN. I thank the gentlelady. Any questions for Congresswoman Hayes? Ms. Brown.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Connecticut is considered a donor state. Can you elaborate on that and how the federally-mandated expectation for states to pay into the program would impact not only a donor state, but a state like mine that does not have the resources?

Mrs. HAYES. Well, you are absolutely right. Connecticut is a donor state, which means the residents of the State of Connecticut through their taxes, send more money to the Federal Government than we receive as a state to help support these programs. We actually might be much better off if we just kept our SNAP dollars at home and took care of our own people. And our governor has made the decision in Connecticut that we would use reserve funds or shift from other programs because it is a priority for us in the State of Connecticut to feed people.

So, I just wonder, and this is why it would be really important for us to hold hearings or for the Secretary to come before this body because in many states that rely heavily on the Federal Government that send less than they—I mean, get back more than they send to the Federal Government, they will be left with just not being able to come up with the funds and completely eliminating a program like SNAP.

This idea that the state should have to pay for it, I would argue that in my State of Connecticut, we already pay for it because we send more to the Federal Government to help fill in the gap for some of the other states. And if you look at the map of where benefits are accessed, it is not just in Democratic states or urban communities. It is our rural communities. It is our bright red states. It is our suburban communities. It is everywhere across this country, and I think one of the things that was amplified during the shutdown is the fragility of our food security networks. It wasn't just pockets around the country. It was every Congressional district, every community, so it really is difficult for me to understand or wrap my head around how states who already rely so heavily on the Federal Government are going to be able to fund these programs with even less help and support from the government.

Ms. BROWN. Thank you, and, Mr. Chairman, with that, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. I thank the gentlelady for yielding back. Mrs. Hayes, I agree with you. I am looking forward to having individuals from the Administration before the Committee, so I think that is a really important thing. I went through 4 years in the last Administration, we got very little of that. That frustrated me, so I don't want any of us to be frustrated. We need to have those communications, and I would like to take it one step forward, actually, and I have talked about this for some time. I would like to request certain governors to come and sit before us to be able to share how they are implementing their programs, and given the fact they have 3 years in order to do the state share that is—with an error rate of 6 percent, how are they working towards getting that error rate down. I know in the State of Pennsylvania, ours is coming down, I have heard, and that is wonderful because errors only hurt

the beneficiaries, the people that are struggling financially. So, thank you for your passion—

Mrs. HAYES. Well, I would just say that, I mean, as the Chairman of the Committee, respectfully, when you know better, you do better. And on this Committee, I don't care what state it is, what Secretary it is, we should be calling people before this Committee, and we could call a hearing next week and have governors come in and talk about those things. We actually have the ability to do that.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes. We would have probably had someone before the Committee if we wouldn't have been shut down for a month and a half. That delayed everything, so.

Mrs. HAYES. Well, when you put a bill in front of us that asks us to either feed people or accept some of the unreasonable cuts, which were an impossible choice, that is really not the premise that we should be operating from.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, we just—

Mrs. HAYES. But the fact that this Committee and every committee tries to throw that out at every turn as if the reasonable choice would have been to accept \$187 billion in cuts or get November benefits out on time, I would argue that it required a lot more negotiation, which is what we attempted to do.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mrs. HAYES. And had we had more than one Committee hearing in the preceding year, I think we could have addressed some of these things.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mrs. HAYES. One Committee hearing on this topic in the preceding year, we could have addressed some of these things.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I think how we portray that is really important, too. There is—a lot of the savings came from folks who are not truly eligible for SNAP, non-citizens and a whole host—

Mrs. HAYES. That still hasn't been—

[Cross talking.]

Mrs. HAYES. And again, if we had hearings, we would have been able to demonstrate that because that has not been demonstrated, and the savings didn't go back into the Treasury. They went to fund the tax cuts. And when we look at how the data is being collected or disaggregated, one of the things I have heard at home is we have a lot of mixed-status families where the children may have status and one of the parents does not. Those children are still eligible for benefits, so that doesn't—but if this was truly about fraud or ineligibility, we would be having hearings on fraud and ineligibility and rooting out those things, and preserving and protecting the parts of the program that works. That is not what this Committee has done, and any characterization other than that as just not true.

The CHAIRMAN. I appreciate your opinions and your testimony before the Committee.

Mrs. HAYES. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. So, thank you, and now I am pleased recognize the Resident Commissioner from the great Territory of Puerto Rico, Pablo Hernández, for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. PABLO JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ, A RESIDENT  
COMMISSIONER FROM PUERTO RICO**

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, esteemed colleagues. I come here today with a single simple bipartisan ask: SNAP for Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico has been excluded from the SNAP program since 1982, and we have submitted a bipartisan bill that has the support of nine Democrats and six Republicans to ensure that Puerto Rico gets to transition from its current block grant NAP program to the national SNAP program.

Now, this bill has been presented in the past, and Members have raised concerns, which we have addressed in this newer version. First, we are providing for a longer transition that addresses the concerns about having the state government be ready for the implementation and administration of the SNAP program. We have also requested a CBO score, which should help address some of the concerns, and I urge you to view this as an investment, not as an expense. It is an investment because it would just be \$1 billion more for the program for an island that trades over \$7 billion with the mainland in agricultural products. So, if we get more money under SNAP as opposed to NAP, we would be buying more products from the mainland, from your districts for our people, thus strengthening our economies.

Moreover, do not view this as additional welfare. View this as economic development and empowerment. By having SNAP in Puerto Rico, we would be able to raise the income levels that allow people to work and keep their benefits, thus driving more people into the workforce. And finally, I urge you to view this as an investment in justice. During my time in the district, I have spoken to students who, because they do not have SNAP and do not have the level of benefits that they would have under SNAP, have had to decide whether to buy a chemistry manual or to buy food to feed themselves. This is a low-effort initiative with a high impact. When you look at the fact that you have families of three that have an average benefit of \$315 a month in an island where food stuffs are more expensive because of shipping, and on their SNAP they would have \$535, you are doing something to end hunger.

So, I urge you all to support this initiative. As I said, this unites Democrats and Republicans. This has the support of your former colleague and current Republican Governor of Puerto Rico, Jenniffer González-Colón, and in the island, this unites people who support continuing its commonwealth status, transitioning to become a state, or even to become independent. So, this crosses party lines, this is a matter of justice, but this is also an economic opportunity for Puerto Rico and for the United States. Thank you, and I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Hernández follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. PABLO JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ, A RESIDENT COMMISSIONER  
IN CONGRESS FROM PUERTO RICO

I want to thank Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Craig, and the entire Committee for their time today and for the opportunity to discuss critical issues impacting Puerto Rico and the nation.

Puerto Rico faces several critical opportunities to strengthen its agricultural sector, rural economy, and overall resilience. Transitioning from NAP to SNAP, investing in core rural business and energy programs, supporting research facilities focused on tropical environments, and expanding housing programs will help secure a more sustainable and competitive future for Puerto Rico.

As many of you know, Puerto Rico is the only U.S. jurisdiction excluded from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, and instead receives a capped block grant under NAP. A family of three on average receives a maximum monthly benefit of \$315 under NAP as opposed to \$535 under SNAP. That structure also limits our ability to respond to disasters, economic shocks, and rising food costs. It keeps hundreds of thousands of families from receiving the same Federal protections and benefits available in every state.

That is why earlier this year, I introduced the bipartisan Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act, H.R. 5168, which finally puts Puerto Rico on the path to full SNAP participation. This is not just a policy change, it is about dignity, equity, and ensuring that families on the island are treated the same as families everywhere else in the United States.

I'm proud that this bill is gaining national momentum. It is endorsed by the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, which recognizes the historic significance of achieving nutritional parity for our people. And it also has the support of Congressman Tony Gonzales, the Republican Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Conference. His support underscores that this is not a partisan issue, it is a fairness issue, and one that Republicans and Democrats can solve together.

Last Friday, I formally sent a letter to the Congressional Budget Office requesting a score for H.R. 5168. A CBO score is essential for advancing this legislation in the farm bill and other legislative vehicles, and I am committed to moving this forward as quickly as possible.

My message today is simple: Food insecurity is not a theoretical problem, it is a daily reality that affects children, seniors, people with disabilities, and working families. Congress has the power to fix this, and the blueprint is already written in H.R. 5168.

Thank you.

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 5168, Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5168ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5168ih.pdf> (See p. 369).

The CHAIRMAN. Commissioner, thank you very much. Any Members have some questions? Go ahead, please.

Ms. CRAIG. I just want to thank you, Mr. Hernández, for your work on this issue. I am a strong supporter of extending SNAP benefits to those Americans living in Puerto Rico, and I commend your efforts. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. If not, Commissioner, thank you so much. I appreciate your service, and I know this certainly is a bipartisan issue, as you mentioned, for yourself and Governor González-Colón, so I appreciate it. Thank you.

I am now pleased to recognize the gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Moore, for 5 minutes.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. TIM MOORE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. MOORE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee. It is great to be with you, and let me first start off by thanking this Committee and its work to deal with a lot of issues, I know, from what I hear, probably one of the biggest issues facing agriculture right now are input costs. I hear that, particularly from row crop farmers, but I also hear it from folks who are dealing with animals. And so, I applaud this Committee's work, Mr. Chairman, your leadership on that to do what we can to help the agriculture industry. In my home state agriculture is the leading industry in

the state, full stop, so very proud of where we are in North Carolina, but understand the issues facing our country, and I wanted to thank this Committee for its work on that.

I did want to address something that happened, and this was something that was a gift from our friends in the Senate. As you recall, as a part of the government funding package that ended the shutdown, the bill included some major changes to the Federal hemp policy without industry input and really without any stakeholder involvement. Specifically, it changed the Federal definition and regulation of *hemp-derived products*. These changes were made completely outside of regular order. There were no hearings, no stakeholder engagement, and no meaningful debate. As enacted, this new law would effectively eliminate over 95 percent of North Carolina's hemp industry and put more than 220,000 American jobs at risk. It would have major consequences for small businesses and farmers in North Carolina and across the country.

This very Committee was at the heart of enacting the hemp provisions in the 2018 Farm Bill that this one provision, just whole cloth, essentially eliminated. I can tell you that farmers in North Carolina have relied on this framework for the past several years. They have invested in land, capital, *et cetera*, as well as retail operations. They entered this industry in good faith, followed the rules and guidance sent out in the farm bill, and, Mr. Chairman, I submit, it simply isn't right to change the rules of the game overnight and certainly not without going through the proper legislative process.

I can tell you that we as House Republicans are doing a lot to restore the American Dream in rural America, and I would submit to you that this provision that was put in, that provision, it does not help our rural hemp farmers around the country. Small businesses and farms across this industry are already being forced to consider laying off employees and pulling long-term investments, and this change is set to go into effect next year unless Congress acts to stop it.

In the months ahead, Mr. Chairman, my ask is that this Committee use regular order to thoroughly examine the issue and to develop legislation that addresses these changes that were made. The Agriculture Committee is the appropriate venue to evaluate the full scope and impact, to hear directly from our farmers, and determine the best path forward. These hardworking folks deserve the opportunity to have their voices heard. They deserve a clear regulatory framework that reflects real-world conditions and ensures fair competition. I look forward to working with this Committee and stand ready to serve as a resource and a partner as you take up this issue.

I do believe, Mr. Chairman, there are ways to address any of the criticisms that are out there and to do so in a more effective way than what was put upon us in that provision. Like everyone here—it was put into a bill to reopen the government—I voted for it because we needed to reopen the government, but that doesn't mean we can't go back and fix this. This Committee did a lot of work on the farm bill in 2018, and it has opened up a lot of opportunities and agriculture not only in my home State of North Carolina, but across the country. And I can tell you that it is something that has

created jobs, and we need to do all we can to make sure those jobs remain in place and to allow this as a viable industry for our friends in agriculture.

With that, with time left over, something very rare for a former lawyer to do, I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Moore follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. TIM MOORE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM  
NORTH CAROLINA

Thank you, Chairman Thompson.

As part of the government funding package that ended the shutdown, the bill included major changes to Federal hemp policy without industry input.

Specifically, it changed the Federal definition and regulation of hemp-derived products.

These changes were made completely outside of regular order. There were no hearings, no stakeholder engagement, and no meaningful debate.

As enacted, this new law would effectively eliminate **over 95% of North Carolina's hemp industry** and put more than **220,000 American jobs** at risk.

This would have major consequences for small businesses and farmers in North Carolina and across the U.S.—it could destroy entire rural economies.

This very Committee was at the heart of enacting the hemp provisions in the 2018 Farm Bill.

Farmers in North Carolina have relied on that framework for the past several years. They have invested in land, seeds, equipment, processing facilities, and retail operations.

They entered this industry in good faith, following the rules and guidance set forth in the farm bill.

It is simply not right to change the rules of the game overnight, and certainly not without going through the proper legislative process.

House Republicans talk a lot about restoring the American Dream in rural America—so why are we ripping it away from hemp farmers who have done everything right?

Small businesses and farms across this industry are already being forced to consider laying off employees and pulling long-term investments.

This sweeping change is set to take effect next year unless Congress acts to stop it.

In the months ahead, I strongly encourage this Committee to use regular order to thoroughly examine the issue and to develop legislation that addresses the mess being made by these changes.

The Agriculture Committee is the appropriate venue to evaluate the full scope of impact, hear directly from our farmers, and determine the best path forward.

These hardworking folks deserve the opportunity to have their voices heard. They deserve a clear regulatory framework that reflects real-world conditions and ensures fair competition.

I look forward to working with this Committee and stand ready to serve as a resource and partner as you take up this issue.

With careful consideration and stakeholder engagement, we can protect American farmers and correct the missteps that occurred when these changes were enacted outside of regular order.

Thank you for your attention and leadership on this matter.

SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **Pub. L. 119-37, Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-119publ37/pdf/PLAW-119publ37.pdf> (See p. 499).

The CHAIRMAN. Well, thank you, Mr. Moore. I will open this up. Any questions from any Members? Go ahead, please.

Ms. CRAIG. Representative Moore, thank you for your testimony, and I just want to say from Minnesota hemp growers, we are in complete agreement. We have spent a lot of time back home creating a regulatory structure for hemp that I would sure hate to see

completely wiped away, so we will be joining you in this fight to make sure we fix this over the next year. Thank you.

Mr. MOORE. Thank you.

Mr. BAIRD. Yes. Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Baird.

Mr. BAIRD. I would like to add my appreciation for you bringing this issue before the Committee, and we have some of the same concerns in Indiana. Thank you.

Mr. MOORE. Thank you, sir.

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. Very good. Mr. Moore, thank you so much for your testimony and representing your constituents back home.

Mr. MOORE. Thank you. Always great to be with you, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Yes, sir. I am now pleased to recognize Representative Scholten for 5 minutes.

**STATEMENT OF HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN, A  
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM MICHIGAN**

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Thank you so much, Mr. Chairman and Madam Ranking Member, for holding this hearing, giving us an opportunity to weigh in on the important agricultural issues facing our districts.

I want to use my time very briefly just to highlight an important bipartisan bill that I am working on called the CATCH IT Act, which stands for Community Access to Treatment and Care for Health through Increased Testing Act (H.R. 5858). This is a bill that would help rural communities better screen for diseases and certain cancers, like breast cancer. Whether our constituents live in a major city or a small town, everyone deserves access to lifesaving early detection services. Our bill would build on the Department of Agriculture's Community Facilities Grant Program by boosting the Federal cost-share by 25 percent for rural projects involving preventative health equipment, like mammogram machines, mobile health units, and early detection tools. I introduced this legislation with my good friend and colleague from Iowa, Congresswoman Ashley Hinson, because rural health is top of mind for both of us as it is for many individuals on this Committee.

Our CATCH IT Act helps small communities afford the equipment that they need to keep people healthy. Catching diseases earlier avoids costly increase in healthcare costs by allowing the disease to be treated earlier and not progressing to a later stage, which, again, becomes more costly and deadlier to treat. This commonsense legislation would expand affordable, accessible care in our smallest communities, too many of which have been overlooked for far too long.

We appreciate the Committee's attention to this bill. Thank you, and I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Scholten follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM MICHIGAN

Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for holding this hearing.

I want to use this time to highlight my bipartisan *Community Access to Treatment and Care for Health through Increased Testing Act*, or the *CATCH IT Act*.

Whether our constituents live in a major city or a small town, everyone deserves access to life-saving early detection services. Our bill would build on the Department of Agriculture's Community Facilities Grant Program, would boost the Federal cost-share by 25 percent for rural projects involving preventative health equipment like mammogram machines, mobile health units, and early-detection tools.

I introduced this legislation with my friend and colleague from Iowa, Congresswoman Hinson, because rural health is top of mind for both of us, as it is for many of you on this Committee. Our *CATCH IT Act* helps small communities afford the equipment they need to keep people healthy.

This is commonsense legislation that would expand affordable, accessible care in our smallest communities, too many of which have been overlooked for too long.

Thank you, I yield back.

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 5858, Community Access to Treatment and Care for Health through Increased Testing Act (CATCH IT Act):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5858ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5858ih.pdf> (See p. 402).

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I thank the gentlelady. Rural Development and what it does, the impact it can have on rural health is significant and the impact is big. I think the awareness is low, and certainly an investment from a preventive perspective, as someone who practiced healthcare for 28 years, that is some of the best dollars we can spend, better for outcomes, quality of life, and, quite frankly, economically, in terms of saving that the burden of things that are not caught early. I recognize the Ranking Member.

Ms. CRAIG. I just thank you so much for your testimony, Representative Scholten, and we will continue to work toward good partnership to get your legislation across the finish line. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Very good. Well, thank you so much. I am now pleased to recognize the gentleman from California, Mr. Takano, for 5 minutes.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. MARK TAKANO, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM CALIFORNIA

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Chairman and Ms. Ranking Member, thank you for hosting this Member Day hearing. As we sit here, we must acknowledge that veterans, their families, and caregivers across the country are facing a higher cost of living. Veterans are not immune to the economic realities facing the general population. VA programs can only mitigate, not shield veterans from the impacts of larger economic trends.

I have to tell you, I am incredibly frustrated that this Congress and this Committee delivered devastating SNAP cuts earlier this year. Under what I call the "Big Ugly Bill," veterans will now be subject to work requirements, and what that really means is paperwork requirements, and these paperwork requirements do not help people find jobs. They just cut people off of food. In my district, over 35,000 households and nearly 116,000 people rely on SNAP. One constituent told me, "I am a low-income senior citizen. I only receive \$40 from the SNAP program, and I can barely make it each month after my rent and bills are paid. I use all the rest of my money on food, and usually by the end of the month, I am out of food. It is very distressing to think about them cutting off the \$40 I get. I know that is not much to a lot of people, but it is to me."

Mr. Chairman, your Committee's markup of the reconciliation package, during that markup, you stated, "Our veterans are exempt from the SNAP work requirement, which is the law, and we are not changing it," yet here we are. I ask you to hold joint hearings with the VA Committee and to hear directly from veterans and families regarding the impacts hunger is having on their lives. Today, we see a heavy use of food pantries at VA facilities, on military bases, and in military communities across the country. We know the need is there. Kicking people off SNAP doesn't reduce poverty. It just exacerbates it, makes it worse. As the wealthiest country on Earth, we have no excuse for this.

I would also like to take a moment to highlight the over 300,000 veteran farmers. Knowing that farm bankruptcies are rising and veteran producers tend to run smaller farms with thinner margins, I worry about how the Trump tariffs are damaging veteran farmers' livelihoods, and I am not confident that USDA and VA are postured to help these veterans and families as they face foreclosures. We know that early intervention and prevention is much more cost effective than addressing needs once in crisis. It holds true for housing, it holds true for hunger, it holds true for employment, and it holds true for mental health. Every dollar you are taking away from hungry veterans through SNAP cuts or every dollar a veteran farmer loses in Trump's trade war, we are going to have to spend 2 or 3 or 10 times over at VA.

VA's resources are already thin. As we stare down over \$1 trillion in Medicaid cuts, more veterans will turn to VA and the Indian Health Service for care, but accessing care is difficult for rural veterans and families because they must travel such long distances to medical facilities. What this does is disincentivizes and reduces preventative care. It negatively impacts rural veterans' physical health, which is inextricably tied to their ability to earn a living and, in turn, their mental health. It affects their mental health. Again, Congress cannot gut essential social safety net programs without impacting veterans.

My predecessor on the VA Committee, who also served as a distinguished Member of your Committee, Governor Walz of Minnesota, constantly reminded us that we show our true priorities through how we spend the VA budgets and the Committee's time. I am sure he said the same thing to you all on in this very room as well. He was right, and I challenge every Member of this Committee to put their money where their mouth is. I am sure every one of us will give eloquent speeches on Memorial Day and Veterans Day thanking our military members for their service, but will this Committee vote to restore exemptions to SNAP work requirements for veterans?

I tried to do that in the Rules Committee when they were moving the reconciliation bill through this body. And I was told, "No, we have to keep the work requirements for veterans in the bill," or will you vote to prevent a \$1 billion bailout of Argentina while veteran farmers right here in the United States are on the brink of bankruptcy, or will this Committee rubber stamp continued cuts that undermine rural healthcare, bankrupt veteran farmers, and cause veterans and their families and their survivors to go hungry? We here in Congress must do better. Mr. Chairman, I ask you to

lead us in that regard with the power of your gavel, and I yield back.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Takano follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. MARK TAKANO, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM CALIFORNIA

Mr. Chairman and Ms. Ranking Member, Members of the Committee on Agriculture, thank you for hosting this Member Day hearing and providing me the opportunity to testify before you. Today, I am appearing as the Representative of California's 39th Congressional District, but also as the Ranking Member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

As we sit here, we must acknowledge that veterans, their families, and caregivers across the country are facing higher costs of living, leading to greater risks of food insecurity, housing insecurity, and other negative outcomes. Veterans are not immune to the economic realities facing the general population. When it is too expensive to rent a house, the cost of health insurance is rising, and food prices are increasing, VA programs can only mitigate, not shield veterans from, the impacts of larger economic trends.

I am incredibly frustrated that this Congress and this Committee delivered devastating cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) earlier this year through the budget reconciliation process. Under the "Big Beautiful Bill", veterans and those experiencing homelessness will now be subject to work requirements.

When you hear "work requirements," you should know that means "paperwork requirements." Let's be clear about what these so-called "work requirements" actually do. They don't help people find jobs or create employment opportunities. They just cut people off from food. And when you take away veterans' food assistance, you are forcing them to choose between keeping a roof over their heads, keeping the lights on, or keeping food on the table.

My constituents know all too well the impact of SNAP. Over 35,000 households and nearly 116,000 people in my district rely on these funds to keep food on the table, and these paperwork requirements threaten their benefits as they try to make ends meet.

One constituent recently reached out to say the following:

"I'm a low-income senior citizen. I only receive \$40 from the SNAP program, but it helps to buy bottled water. Where I live, the water out of the faucet smells and tastes terrible. I barely make it each month; after my rent and bills are paid, I use all the rest of my money on food, and usually by the end of the month I am out of food. It is very distressing to think about them cutting off the \$40 I get. It's like cutting off my water supply and taking \$40 of food away from me each month. I know that is not much to a lot of people, but it is to me."

You must understand that each dollar cut from SNAP is a missed meal for an American that needed our help.

Mr. Chairman, during your Committee's mark-up of the reconciliation package, you stated, "Our veterans are exempt from the SNAP work requirement, which is the law . . . and we're not changing it." Yet here we are.

I ask you to hold joint hearings with the VA Committee so that you can hear directly from servicemembers, veterans, and their families regarding the impact hunger is having on their lives. Today, we see heavy use of food pantries at VA facilities, on military bases, and in military communities across the country. We know the need is there. Kicking people off SNAP doesn't reduce poverty—it exacerbates it. As the wealthiest country on Earth, we have no excuse to tolerate this.

Our two Committees should be working to strengthen the social safety net for our veterans. We should be celebrating, protecting, and improving America's most effective basic needs food assistance program that has helped countless veterans and their families get through hard times, not gutting SNAP at a time when Americans are struggling with the high cost of food.

I would also like to take a moment to highlight over 300,000 veteran farmers, who account for about nine percent of the agricultural producers in the United States. From Census data, we know that veteran farmers tend to be older, run smaller farms, and harvest a smaller total value from their crops than the average producer. They are not running large corporate farms, but smaller operations with thinner margins, and I am concerned about the damage the Trump Tariffs are doing to their livelihoods.

While veteran farmers are not specifically identified in the data set, we know that farm bankruptcies were up 57 percent year over year for the first half of 2025. With 13 percent of veteran farmers growing oilseeds and grains, and 30 percent raising cattle or dairy, I am concerned about the impacts of Trump's trade war on soybean producers and Trump's tweets on cattle markets. Knowing that veteran producers tend to run smaller farms with thinner margins, I worry that veterans may be over-represented in this growing number of bankruptcies. With that, I am not confident that USDA and the VA are postured to help these veterans and their families as they face bankruptcies and subsequent foreclosures.

In the veteran space, we have seen time and time again that early intervention and prevention is much more cost effective than addressing needs in crisis. It holds true for housing, it holds true for hunger, it holds true for employment, and it holds true for mental health. Every dollar you are taking away from hungry veterans through SNAP cuts, or every dollar a veteran farmer loses due to Trump's Trade War, we are going to have to spend two, three, or ten times over at VA to provide support for veterans, their families, and their survivors.

VA's resources are already strained and stretched thin. Just last week, our Committee heard a proposal from Chairman Bost and Representative Barrett to cut from one set of disabled veterans' benefits to pay for other disabled veteran and survivor benefits. I clearly oppose any such measure, and I hope every single one of our colleagues will as well, but you can take from their willingness to even discuss something so extreme that our Committee is not funded to construct a social safety net specific to veterans. We must address the issues holistically for all Americans.

Healthcare is no different. In rural California, in Indian Country, and across America, we have lost more and more doctors, nurses, and hospitals. As we stare down the looming impacts of over \$1 trillion in Medicaid cuts and the ripping away of ACA tax credits, the loss of healthcare workers and hospitals in rural areas will only get worse, and more veterans will turn to VA and the Indian Health Service for care. But accessing care is difficult for rural veterans, their families, and veteran farmers because they must travel long distances to medical facilities, and their options for care in their community shrink as the number of rural healthcare professionals shrinks. This increases their time away from work, results in deferred medical care, and reduces preventive care, which all impacts rural veterans and veteran farmers' physical health. Their physical health is inextricably tied to their economic outlook and, in turn, their mental health. Again, we here in Congress cannot gut essential social safety net programs for the general population and not expect an impact on our veterans.

My predecessor as Ranking Member on the VA Committee also served as a distinguished Member of your panel. Governor Walz constantly reminded us that we show our true priorities through how we spend the VA budget and the Committee's time. I'm sure he said the same thing to you all in this very room as well.

He was right. And I challenge every Member of this Committee to put their money where their mouth is. I'm sure every one of us will give eloquent speeches on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. I'm sure we will all thank our military members for their service. I'm sure we will all cheer at the military flyover at the next sporting event we attend. But will this Committee vote to restore exemptions to work requirements for veterans and those experiencing homelessness? Will this Committee vote to prevent \$1 billion bailout of Argentina while veteran farmers right here in the United States are on the brink of bankruptcy? Will this Committee rein in an out-of-control executive that is unilaterally raising taxes on Americans and crushing farmers with poorly thought-out tariffs?

Or will this Congress put party over country by rubber stamping continued cuts that undermine rural healthcare, bankrupt veteran farmers, and cause veterans, their families, and their survivors to go hungry?

We here in Congress must do better, and Mr. Chairman, I ask you to lead us in that with the power of your gavel.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, I thank the gentleman. I have been very pleased with the past number, including the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026 (S. 2296) that passed yesterday—it was 3.8 percent—the wage increase for soldiers. As someone who is in an active duty military family, just very pleased how the success of years of significant increases because we had a lot of families, especially those members of the military that joined a little older, so they came with a spouse and kids. And quite frankly, I always say that what we pay a private is probably pretty ade-

quate because we also house them and feed them. But if you come in a little older, in your 30s maybe or late 20s, and you come with a family, it is it is challenging because you are usually using off-base housing. And I just really appreciate what the NDAAs have been doing of recognizing the importance of our military, and Congress as a whole with these increases that we have provided to make sure, which I think they use that for a lot of purposes, but including their own food security.

I assure you, we have significant programs already in existence in terms of, for our returning veterans, in terms of the agriculture field as well. We recognize the value of that, the importance of it as well, and the commitment to that. So, any additional—go ahead.

Ms. CRAIG. Yes. Ranking Member Takano, I want to thank you for standing up for hungry veterans in our country and in our community. I also would like to extend a very happy birthday publicly to you.

Mr. TAKANO. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Ms. CRAIG. Happy birthday to you, and I just have one question.

Mr. TAKANO. Sure.

Ms. CRAIG. What are the unique needs of the veteran population that cause you the greatest concern as it relates to what the Republican-led Congress has done in the SNAP program, which, of course, was to put work requirements on our nation's veterans?

Mr. TAKANO. Well,  $\frac{1}{3}$  of our veterans choose to live in non-urban areas. They like the quiet and the peace they get living in more rural areas, and it is directly related to their service history. They don't like noise and bangs and all of that. That puts them in a greater challenge in terms of access to healthcare. The more rural they get, they often are very far away from medical centers, but, significant numbers of our veterans face food insecurity. And notwithstanding what the Chairman said about what the NDAA has done to improve pay, we have a number of active duty military service members and their families that were qualifying for SNAP. And to subject our veterans to the work requirement, which is really a very insidious way to make it difficult for them to get food benefits.

Our veterans who served our country and their families, they are going hungry. This is inexcusable. It is wrong, and I thought it was very heartless when I couldn't even get an exemption for our veterans to this requirement that this Committee, the Agriculture Committee, that they put it into the agriculture bill, the SNAP cuts that would affect our veterans. That, to me, was a shameful, shameful day.

Ms. CRAIG. Thank you so much, Representative Takano, and Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

The CHAIRMAN. I thank the gentleman. Quite frankly, as a father of a wounded warrior serving active duty, I will tell you what is not fair is when your middle child retires before you do. February hits his 20 years of service to this great nation, earning a Purple Heart, which he was quick to tell me that, "Dad, you know how you get a Purple Heart, right?" He says, "You are in the wrong place at the wrong time."

[Laughter.]

The CHAIRMAN. And I will say that any of our veterans who are beyond the designated age are going to be exempt. Any veteran that has a disability, and I think the VA has done a better job than perhaps years ago of working and doing those disability ratings because it takes a wear and tear on the body serving in the military, depending on your MOS and what it is that you perform every day. And honestly, if you are coming out of the military and you don't have a disability, and I don't know. I mean, I just find that someone who is going from active duty status to veterans, they want to work, and what we have done is now we are investing dollars to help them with education and continuing education. We are investing in those veterans for them to be able to maybe get a different skill set or maybe just to refine the skill set that they have worked on and they performed bravely while they are part of the military.

I appreciate your passion for the military and our veterans specifically, and I appreciate bringing those perspectives and those of your constituents before the Committee.

Mr. TAKANO. Well, can I just say with regard to those veterans who don't have disabilities, who don't have an actual disability rating, that could be for many, many reasons. And we have homeless veterans that and it is going to be more difficult to serve their needs if they have to go through these onerous work requirements. And, may be for a lot of reasons why that veteran never got connected with the VA, and for us to address this shameful problem of having veterans on the streets, living without shelter, and now facing a more difficult challenge of being able to have a sustainable path to self-sufficiency, these work requirements are simply not helpful. So, that is my response. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. You are welcome. Seeing no other Members before the Committee, I will just make it clear that any Members that would like to submit for the record, and we have some statements have been submitted already, the Committee would welcome those in terms of their input. And now I would recognize the Ranking Member for any closing comments.

Ms. CRAIG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just close with great thanks to those Members throughout both of our parties who came today to express what their priorities are in this country as it relates to the jurisdiction of this Committee, and we appreciate the opportunity to listen and your work on behalf of your constituents. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. I thank the gentlelady. I want to thank all of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle for sharing their priorities before the Committee. Many of these issues presented have been long-held priorities for our agriculture stakeholder community and have been championed by both Republicans and Democrats. We heard from Members on the vital role of USDA trade promotion programs, including our Democratic colleague from Washington on the need for more funding for the Market Access Program. We heard from our colleague about the vital need for greater investment in agricultural research programs. We heard from our colleagues about the need for greater investment in conservation programs, among other priorities. And what some were unaware of and others failed to acknowledge or intentionally omitted is the historic investments accomplished in H.R. 1.

And I know budget reconciliation is all always partisan. I think we had that discussion long before we—actually that train left the station. I have been on both sides of budget reconciliation as—but the fact is we were able to accomplish a historic increase in baseline funding for our popular locally-led conservation programs with total funding for EQIP, CSP, ACEP, and RCPP increasing by 54 percent in total by 2031. That is now in law as part of the H.R. 1, or the One Big Beautiful Bill. Historic increase in funding for the Market Access Program and for the Foreign Market Development Program. Those were both doubled in funding by the Big Beautiful Bill. A historic investment in the Specialty Crop Research Initiative and Specialty Crop Block Grants to support our specialty crop industry, it is now law as a part of H.R. 1.

A hundred twenty-five million dollars per year, the first mandatory funding in history for the Agriculture Research Facilities Act, and it is in the Big, Beautiful Bill. Historic \$1.5 billion over the next decade in livestock biosecurity, supporting more large animal veterinarians, USDA laboratories, vaccination developments, APHIS, and assistance for farmers impacted by animal disease, and, yes, we also secured that in H.R. 1. It is now law, and a historic investment in our farm safety net in at least a generation, part of H.R. 1.

My hope going forward is that there are some things in bills, right, in past years that, overall, I was not able to support for whatever reasons, although I did take the opportunity to celebrate some of the individual wins for the people that I was serving and working for. And I am hoping that—whatever the feelings are with budget reconciliation, that as we look at the agriculture title of that, the biggest investment in putting the farm back in the farm bill, well, probably over at least 25 years, so, and those ideas that I just named were all bipartisan, ones that we worked on together as we listened to the key constituency of agriculture as we traveled the nation, so very pleased that we were able to serve and provide that.

And so, with that, I think that concludes our business with our Member Day. I would encourage Members to submit any additional comments to the Committee, their priorities, issues, wishes they might have as we move forward and prepare to finish the farm bill process with Farm Bill 2.0.

So, with that, this hearing is now adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12:01 p.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

[Material submitted for inclusion in the record follows:]



SUBMITTED ARTICLE BY HON. AUSTIN SCOTT, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM GEORGIA



[<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/us-profited-argentina-currency-swap-deal-treasury-chief-bessent-says-2025-11-11/>]

**US profited from Argentina currency swap deal, Treasury chief Bessent says**

By Reuters

November 11, 2025, 10:27 AM EST; Updated November 11, 2025



U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent looks on as he speaks to the media, following the trade talks between the U.S. and China, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia October 26, 2025.

*Reuters/Hasnoor Hussain.*

Nov. 11 (*Reuters*)—The U.S. Government “made money” by giving support to the Argentine central bank ahead of last month’s *midterm election*<sup>1</sup> in the South American country, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said on Tuesday.

“We used our financial balance sheet to stabilize the government, one of our great allies in Latin America, during an election,” Bessent said in an interview on MSNBC. “The President there won in a landslide, the government is going to make money.”

The Treasury Department did not immediately respond to a request for clarification on Bessent’s comments.

Bessent was asked about the \$20 billion swap line that the Trump Administration readied in support of right-wing Argentine President Javier Milei ahead of the election in which Milei’s party widely outperformed expectations. Officials have stopped short of calling it a bailout, referring to it as support via the Treasury’s Exchange Stabilization Fund.

“In most bailouts you don’t make money,” Bessent said. “The U.S. Government made money.”

Bessent said there is a “generational opportunity” to create allies in Latin America, citing upcoming elections in Chile and Colombia.

“By stabilizing the economy there (in Argentina) and making a profit, then that is a very good deal for the American people,” Bessent said.

<sup>1</sup><https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/argentines-vote-high-stakes-test-mileis-libertarian-vision-2025-10-26/>.

Reporting by Rodrigo Campos in New York and David Lawder in Washington;  
Editing by Paul Simao.

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SUBMITTED LETTER BY HON. ANDY BARR, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM  
KENTUCKY

December 20, 2025

Hon. GLENN THOMPSON,  
*Chairman,*  
House Committee on Agriculture  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chairman Thompson,

Thank you for offering the opportunity to present to your Committee my priorities that are vital to my district. As you likely know, Kentucky's Sixth District is home to several signature industries in agriculture that greatly benefit from the policies instituted in the farm bill. Below are the priorities that I believe will benefit both Kentucky's Sixth District and the nation as a whole.

**H.R. 2405, The White Oak Resilience Act**

White oak is a keystone tree species in eastern American forests covering over 104 million acres. Not only is this tree important to wildlife, biodiversity and industry, but it is imperative in the process for crafting America's native spirit, Kentucky bourbon. White oak is threatened by changing markets, pests and invasives, and inadequate management. Research shows that while the existing white oak stocks are sufficient for estimated near future demand (10–20 years), there are clear indications of long-term sustainability problems.

The answer is H.R. 2405, The White Oak Resilience Act introduced by me, Rep. Bera, Rep. DesJarlais, Rep. Cohen and others. This bill has already passed this Committee, as it was added to last year's farm bill in the manager's amendment which passed by voice vote. It has also already passed the House of Representatives twice through its inclusion in Chairman Westerman's Fix Our Forest Act. Importantly, the bill has no new programs and no score. To protect and enhance American white oak, we need to work together to prevent a crisis. Starting today, we must help landowners and forest managers actively manage our oak forests to restore their health by removing competing tree species, prevent diseases and invasives, and create openings for this species to flourish. I am once again asking this Committee to pass my bill under suspension of the rules.

**White Oak Sustainability Research**

I also ask that we encourage the forest service to partner with land-grant research universities that have demonstrated scientific expertise, the ability to transfer technologies to the stove industry rapidly, geographic proximity to concentrated areas of white oak, and support for regional economic development. With an appropriation of \$5 million over five years towards white oak sustainability, the forest service should prioritize research that will facilitate our understanding of the white oak's ability to withstand stresses like disease, insects, heat, and drought. In my district, the University of Kentucky, in partnership with others, has sequenced the genome of the American white oak, collected samples of its natural range, and planted 300 white oak families. These initial efforts have provided valuable resources that can be capitalized on with funding and new partnerships.

**Equine Center of Excellence**

As the Member of Congress representing the Horse Capital of the World, I will always fight to protect the future of the equine industry as well as agricultural sectors impacted by the equine industry. I ask this Committee to ensure that horses are better represented in the Federal agriculture research portfolio. According to the American Horse Council, the total direct and indirect impact of the horse industry in the United States is \$177 billion and 2.2 million jobs. Horses are vital to American agriculture, and equine support an array of commodities, products, and the agricultural workforce.

Despite its immense economic value, the equine industry faces relatively scarce research funding from Federal agencies focused largely on food-animal production. I ask that you direct the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to fund equine research and provide equal consideration compared to other large-animal research programs. Focused, collaborative research through the establishment of a National Equine Center of Excellence will advance priorities related to equine welfare,

health, and safety. To ensure the long-term success and resiliency of the species, we request the national center be supported by \$10 million to include research areas such as:

- Health, Safety, and Regulatory considerations for equines;
- Implementation of equine genomics program to monitor equine health and identify at-risk equines;
- Racetrack and Surface Safety protocols;
- Reproductive health research;
- Epidemiology, Molecular Diagnostics, and Bioinformatics related to equine diseases;
- Investigation into infectious diseases affecting equines.

An investment of \$10 million for a National Equine Center of Excellence will be a significant step in the strategy to ensure the long-term health and welfare of a critical species in American agriculture.


#### **Lumber Exports and Relief**

Contributing more than any other individual agricultural commodity in the state, the forestry sector adds more than \$19 billion annually to Kentucky's economy. A large portion of that sector is hardwood lumber, which is vital not only to Kentucky's economy but to rural communities across America. Due to retaliatory tariffs and restrictive trade policies in foreign nations, hardwood companies and exporters in Kentucky are struggling. As Chairman Thompson stated in his letter dated November 21, 2025 to Secretary Rollins, unfair trade practices have cost hardwood exporters \$9.88 billion in sales to China since 2018. Due to this decline in exports and contraction of the domestic hardwood sector, I would like to work with Chairman Thompson, the Committee, and the Trump Administration on finding new markets for our domestic hardwood through expanding trade deals with international partners.

Earlier this month, the USDA announced a \$12 billion relief package for farmers and agriculture industry workers who have been negatively impacted by global trade disruptions and retaliatory tariffs. \$1 billion of the overall package is specifically set aside for specialized commodities not covered in the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program. The hardwood lumber industry should be considered when deciding who receives funding, specifically due to the fact that annual exports have fallen nearly \$800 million compared to 2017 levels. I ask that the Committee keep this priority in mind when having discussions with USDA.

Thank you for your consideration of these priorities as the Committee crafts a farm bill that works for American agriculture. If your staff has any questions or would like to discuss these issues further, please contact Jack Reineke on my staff at [Redacted].

Sincerely,



Hon. ANDY BARR,  
Member of Congress.

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 2405, The White Oak Resilience Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/contest/pkg/BILLS-119hr2405ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr2405ih.pdf> (**See p. 302**).

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#### SUBMITTED STATEMENT BY HON. STEVE COHEN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM TENNESSEE

Thank you, Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for the opportunity to submit my priorities for the House Committee on Agriculture.

My top priorities for the Committee include:

1. Strengthening nutrition assistance programs to reduce hunger and improve public health;
2. Supporting successful reentry and reducing recidivism through access to basic needs;
3. Expanding summer nutrition for children; and

4. Protecting vulnerable families from nutrition assistance disruptions caused by shutdowns and partisan gridlock.

#### **Strengthening Nutrition Assistance and Reducing Hunger**

Nutrition assistance programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and child nutrition programs are among the most effective anti-poverty and public health tools we have. These programs support children, seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, and working families, while also sustaining farmers, grocers, and local economies.

That commitment has been severely undermined by the largest cuts to SNAP in our nation's history through Trump's One Big Ugly Bill. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that these cuts will eliminate \$187 billion in food assistance over the next decade, taking meals away from millions of Americans at a time when food prices remain high. These cuts also impose massive unfunded mandates on states, threatening the stability of SNAP itself and forcing states to consider reductions that will harm families and local economies alike.

I am a cosponsor of the Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act, which would fully repeal these devastating SNAP cuts and reaffirm our national promise that no family should go hungry. SNAP is a lifeline for over 42 million Americans, including 16 million children and more than one million veterans. Restoring this program is not only a moral imperative, but an economic one.

#### **Supporting Reentry and Reducing Recidivism Through Nutrition Access**

Access to food is foundational to successful reentry. Thousands of people leave state and Federal prisons each year facing steep barriers to employment, housing, and basic necessities. Denying food assistance to people with prior drug felony convictions increases the likelihood of recidivism and undermines public safety.

That is why I have reintroduced the bipartisan Re-Entry Support Through Opportunities for Resources and Essentials (RESTORE) Act with Congressman John Rutherford. This legislation would repeal the outdated 1996 lifetime ban on SNAP eligibility for people with drug felony convictions and allow them to apply for benefits prior to release, ensuring they can meet basic needs on day one of their release. The RESTORE Act is a common-sense reform that promotes stability, dignity, and safer communities, and it is endorsed by reentry and nutrition advocacy organizations across the country. I encourage its inclusion in the next reauthorization of the farm bill.

#### **Expanding Summer Nutrition for Children**

Unlike the school year, hunger does not take a break. When school is out, millions of low-income children lose access to free or reduced-price meals. The Summer EBT Program helps fill this gap by providing families \$120 per child over the summer months, but participation is optional for states.

Tennessee is one of the states that has not opted into this program, leaving families and children without critical nutrition support during the summer. I am proud to cosponsor the Bridge to Summer Nutrition Act, which would reduce the state administrative cost share to incentivize participation in Summer EBT. By opting in, states would save money on SNAP administrative costs while ensuring that all eligible children receive nutrition assistance during the summer months. I am hopeful this bill's passage would finally incentivize Tennessee to fully re-enroll in this critical program, which would feed approximately 700,00 children in the state each year.

#### **Protecting WIC and Nutrition Programs During Government Shutdowns**

WIC is one of our nation's most effective and trusted nutrition programs, supporting nearly seven million women, infants, and children, including almost 40 percent of all infants in the United States. Despite its proven success, WIC remains vulnerable to lapses in funding during government shutdowns caused by partisan dysfunction.

I am proud to support the WIC Benefits Protection Act, which would make funding for WIC mandatory and ensure that eligible families continue to receive benefits regardless of shutdowns or delays in appropriations. Pregnant women, infants, and young children should never be used as leverage in political standoffs. The consequences of poor nutrition during infancy are lifelong and irreversible.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit my priorities for the House Committee on Agriculture. I look forward to working with you and the Committee to strengthen nutrition assistance, reduce hunger, support reentry, and uphold our nation's long-standing commitment to food security for all.

## SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 5223, Re-Entry Support Through Opportunities for Resources and Essentials Act of 2025 (RESTORE Act of 2025):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5223ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5223ih.pdf> (See p. 377).
2. **H.R. 5740, WIC Benefits Protection Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5740ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5740ih.pdf> (See p. 387).
3. **H.R. 6088, Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr6088ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr6088ih.pdf> (See p. 418).
4. **H.R. 6819, Bridge to Summer Nutrition Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr6819ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr6819ih.pdf> (See p. 447).

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SUBMITTED STATEMENT BY HON. TROY DOWNING, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM MONTANA

Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Craig, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am grateful for the chance to advocate for my district and the people of Eastern Montana and come before you today to discuss the importance of supporting the domestic cattle industry as well as ensuring our farmers are shielded from mounting costs associated with natural disasters.

Montana ranchers have worked for generations to build a reputation for high-quality, safe, and sustainably raised beef. U.S. cattle ranchers and producers operate in one of the most transparent markets in the world, maintaining the gold-standard for food safety and animal health. For too long, high input prices and market fluctuations have discouraged cattle retention and reduced the size of the herd.

The cattle industry is experiencing a long overdue economic boom, catalyzed by rising consumer demand for high-quality beef products, leading to dependable economic returns for our farmers. I do not believe it is a coincidence that this market boom coincided with President Trump's inauguration, and I thank him for his interest in supporting the American beef industry.

The combination of pro-producer policies and rising consumer demand is leading to record profits for our ranchers. Rather than squandering this opportunity, ranchers are paying it back, reinvesting in their operations and their herds to ensure prosperity lasts.

Secretary Brooke Rollins recently unveiled a plan to fortify the American beef industry, aiming to increase access to grazing on public lands, expand transparency, and bolster domestic demand. I commend Secretary Rollins for her interest in the beef industry and look forward to working with the USDA moving forward.

One issue that my constituents are particularly interested in is market volatility. As previously stated, margins in the livestock industry have historically been razor thin, meaning a dip in the market can put these essential ranchers back in financial turmoil. Consistency and transparency are integral to any deal, affecting not only the livestock industry, but others as well.

As a proponent of free markets, I understand the interest and aspirations of this Administration to strengthen America's trade relationships. Furthermore, I recognize how strong international partnerships and diverse markets protect us against market manipulation from foreign actors. Today, I request that we contemplate how these trade relationships could threaten the integrity of our domestic producers before making any trade deals. We must ensure the U.S. beef market and the many Americans it supports is insulated from any potential ramifications from trade deals.

I would now like to discuss disaster relief issues. To begin, I would like to thank the Committee for its work in improving the standing of livestock disaster programs included in the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*.

These policies cover livestock losses from wolves and coyotes, provide indemnities for the value of unborn livestock, increase assistance for forage losses during drought, and increase the death tax exemption.

While my constituents, the livestock industry, and I remain grateful for the improvements made, there is more work to be done.

A historic drought is currently affecting the West, and Montana is not exempt. Counties across my state are experiencing pain, leading to decreases in water availability from this persisting natural disaster. Specific to row crops, such as wheat,

lentils, corn, barley, and chickpeas, drought could lead to reduced crop yields, increased costs from increased irrigation, or crop failure.

Consider this year's drought in tandem with high input prices from equipment and fertilizer and a volatile commodity market. An industry with historically tight margins is being squeezed from every direction. Failure for these farms will not only affect the farmers but also the everyday Americans that it serves to feed. We must ensure that farmers are shielded from disasters like the one we are currently facing. Investments in rural communities supporting farmland are investments in food security and the economic foundation of states like Montana.

Here's the good news. On Monday, the USDA announced a \$12 billion Farmer Bridge Assistance program: \$11 billion is specifically for row crop farmers—including those growing wheat, lentils, corn, and soybeans. This recognizes that farmers have been caught in circumstances beyond their control: inflation, natural disaster, increased production costs, and trade disruptions. For Montana producers, this is a critical lifeline. Let me be clear though, it is only that, a lifeline.

To the Members on this Committee, I request that we work collaboratively to build on the necessary provisions included in the *One Big Beautiful Bill*, ensuring farmers supporting our wheat, hay, corn, and other industries are financially shielded from the atrocities of drought and other disasters.

Thank you all for allowing me to speak to you today and I look forward to working with each of you on these issues in the future.

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **Pub. L. 119–21, To provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-119publ21/pdf/PLAW-119publ21.pdf> (See p. 479).

#### SUBMITTED STATEMENT BY HON. RANDY FINE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM FLORIDA

Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, thank you for holding this Member Day and offering the opportunity for comment on legislative issues before the Agriculture Committee. I write in support of H.R. 5017 the Greyhound Protection Act, legislation that will end the cruelty of greyhound racing in the United States.

Greyhound racing is not entertainment, it is exploitation. A humane nation does not allow dogs to live and die in cages for gambling profits.

I believe I offer a unique perspective on this legislation having worked extensively in the gaming industry prior to my foray into politics. Commercial greyhound racing is a practice built on gambling and on the suffering of the very dogs it depends on. Fortunately, greyhound racing is a dying pastime, and it only exists in America today because it continues to be propped up by government. This decline is the result of increased public awareness that dog racing is cruel and inhumane, coupled with competition from other, faster forms of gambling.

Since 2001, 46 U.S. tracks have ended dog racing. Only two tracks remain in the United States. Both are in West Virginia and both are required by law to continue to host dog races and subsidize the practice with millions of dollars raised from unrelated forms of gambling or they risk losing the gaming licenses for their more profitable and humane gaming options.

While overall gambling on dog racing is declining, a trend toward off-track gambling continues. In 2022, over 96% of all wagers on dog races were made by simulcast or advance deposit wagering. This form of greyhound betting allows wagers to be placed on remote greyhound races taking place in other states or even in other countries. Indeed, simulcasting and advanced deposit wagering use American bettors to prop up greyhound racing in countries with little to no animal protection laws and in many cases racing ventures tied to criminal enterprises.

While the number of active racetracks has sharply declined, the cruelty has not. Greyhounds are still bred, bought, transported, and raced under conditions that would shock most Americans. From 2015 through 2024, a total of 7,999 greyhound injuries have been documented. The most commonly reported injury was a broken leg, other injuries included head trauma, electrocution, and broken backs.

Worse still, greyhounds are confined 20–23 hours per day. Housed perpetually in metal cages with two exceptions for competition and when they are “turned out” in large groups and allowed to relieve themselves.

The Greyhound Protection Act finally closes these loopholes and ends the cycle of cruelty.

It creates a comprehensive Federal standard that protects greyhounds from abuse, exploitation, and neglect—no matter the state, no matter the track, and no matter whether the race occurs down the street or across the world.

The bill will:

- Prohibit commercial greyhound racing nationwide.
- Ban live lure training and open field coursing.
- End wagering and simulcast betting on greyhound races in the United States.
- Prohibit the sale, transport, or acquisition of greyhounds for racing purposes.

This is not a partisan issue. It is a moral issue. The Greyhound Protection Act is cosponsored by 10 Republicans and 9 Democrats including 1 Republican and 2 Democrats on this Committee. It is as bipartisan as legislation comes because the American people overwhelmingly support ending greyhound racing. Dog racing is already illegal in 44 states. Florida, my home state, phased out greyhound racing a few years ago with nearly 70% of voters in favor. Animal-welfare organizations, veterinarians, and the broader community all agree that the time has come for Congress to finish this job.

Make no mistake—the world is watching. And how we safeguard these greyhounds defines our national character. The free market has spoken and without government intervention greyhound racing would not exist in the United States.

I ask each of my colleagues to join me in supporting the Greyhound Protection Act, and to stand with thousands of families and rescued greyhounds across America who are counting on us to do the right thing. I urge the Committee to consider adding the Greyhound Protection Act in the farm bill or to simply move this bill from Committee and allow it to come to the floor under suspension of the rules.

Thank you for holding this hearing and for allowing me to submit these comments.

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 5017, Greyhound Protection Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5017ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5017ih.pdf> (See p. 354).

#### SUBMITTED STATEMENT BY HON. VAL T. HOYLE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM OREGON

Thank you for the opportunity to share my serious concerns about the prohibitory hemp language inserted by the Senate in H.R. 5371, the Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act. Oregon is a national leader in hemp production, and hemp farms are a cornerstone of our economy. At a moment when Congress should be developing a comprehensive regulatory structure to protect consumers and support the hemp industry, it instead adopted a last-minute rider that will hurt Oregon farmers, as well as consumers and businesses across the country.

The hemp industry emerged, in part, because of language included in the 2018 Farm Bill, which effectively legalized all hemp products—creating jobs and a booming industry for farmers and consumers alike. But the industry's grown faster than the regulatory structure around it, and questions remain about product safety testing, age restrictions and packaging safety as hemp-derived products have proliferated in gas stations and convenience stores across the country. Instead of working to put those standards in place, Congress implemented a sweeping hemp ban.

The recent funding bill effectively prohibits all hemp, including the plant itself, from having even negligible amounts of psychoactive cannabinoids. That doesn't make any sense because even when grown for industrial purposes, the hemp plant contains quantifiable amounts of psychoactive cannabinoids. Left unaddressed, these limitations will entirely decimate the very industry Congress sought to establish 7 years ago.

In addition to the legal implications of recriminalizing hemp, this would restrict the use of medicinal cannabinoid consumption to those residing in states where cannabis is legal. Research has proven that cannabinoids are effective medical treatments for some conditions, including nausea and vomiting from chemotherapy, anorexia, chronic pain, seizures, glaucoma and more, and prohibiting patients from using them could leave some without treatments or lead some to turn to more harmful substances like opioids.

Congress must act expeditiously to protect the industry and consumers before this ban takes effect next year. I'm committed to working closely with the House Agriculture Committee to reverse the prohibitory hemp language in H.R. 5371 and pursue a thoughtful, comprehensive hemp framework that supports our farmers,

protects consumers and keeps intoxicating hemp products out of the hands of our children.

SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **Pub. L. 119-37, Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-119publ37/pdf/PLAW-119publ37.pdf> (See p. 499).

SUBMITTED STATEMENT BY HON. JULIA LETLOW, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM LOUISIANA

Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Craig, and Members of the Committee—thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the farmers and rural communities I proudly represent.

Across the South and throughout rural America, producers are facing some of the hardest years many of them can remember. Volatile markets, natural disasters, and stubbornly high input costs have pushed already thin margins to the breaking point. And time and again, farmers tell me the same thing: they need liquidity. They need the cash-flow to make it from this season to the next.

That is the driving purpose behind H.R. 5710, the Bridge the Gap for Rural Communities Act, which Congressman Rick Crawford and I introduced earlier this year. This legislation does two simple but vital things for the 2025 crop year:

First, it temporarily suspends payment limitations under the Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for the 2025 crop year, ensuring producers are not prevented from accessing the full support for which they qualify.

Second, it authorizes a 50 percent advance payment on projected ARC and PLC awards for the 2025 crop year, giving producers the option to receive a portion of that support before planting, when operating expenses are highest and cash-flow is most strained. The remaining balance is paid after the marketing year, with safeguards in place to prevent overpayments.

Even with the recent increases to reference prices under the Working Families Tax Cuts package, which are expected to provide meaningful help to producers, those payments will not be issued until next fall for the current 2025 crop year. That delay leaves farmers without the liquidity they need for the upcoming planting season, when input costs must be paid up-front. This legislation gives producers the option to receive an advance on that fall payment so they can secure inputs, cover operating expenses, and bridge the gap from this season to the next. A 50 percent advance offers stabilizing relief at exactly the moment they need it most.

In addition to the steps Congress is taking, the Administration has moved quickly to respond to the challenges farmers are facing. The Administration has now announced \$12 billion in direct assistance for farmers for the 2025 crop year. While we are still awaiting full implementation details, this legislation is designed to run in parallel with that effort. The direct assistance will provide critical, immediate support, and this bill complements that approach by strengthening the existing farm safety net. It helps align ARC and PLC resources with the practical timing of the planting season, giving producers greater stability as they move through this difficult year.

I also strongly support President Trump's work to negotiate agricultural trade agreements that put American producers first. These long-term gains will open markets, strengthen prices, and help ensure our farmers can compete globally. But as those trade deals are being finalized and implemented, producers back home still need short-term stability to survive the months ahead. H.R. 5710 provides that bridge, giving farmers the ability to keep their operations moving until those long-term benefits reach our farms.

If we fail to act, more family farms will be forced to cut acreage, delay operations, or close their doors altogether. And at a time when the United States has shifted from being a net exporter of food to a net importer, we cannot afford to lose more agricultural capacity. Every farm that shuts down puts more American farmland at risk of being bought up by foreign adversaries like China, undermining both our food security and our national security.

H.R. 5710 is practical, producer-driven, and immediately impactful. It gives farmers the stability they need to stay in business until markets strengthen and long-term opportunities return.

Thank you, and I look forward to working with the Committee to advance this important legislation.

## SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 5710, Bridge the Gap for Rural Communities Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5710ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5710ih.pdf> (See p. 382).
2. **Pub. L. 119–21, To provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-119publ21/pdf/PLAW-119publ21.pdf> (See p. 479).

SUBMITTED LETTER BY HON. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM NEW YORK

December 10, 2025

Hon. GLENN THOMPSON,  
*Chairman,*  
House Committee on Agriculture,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chairman Thompson:

Thank you for convening this important Member Day hearing and for your leadership on the House Committee on Agriculture. Your work to champion policies that bolster America's farmers and ranchers, protect the security of our food and agricultural products, and ensure a resilient, affordable food supply has made a meaningful difference nationwide.

In addition to these shared priorities, I have introduced and supported legislation that protects vulnerable animals, strengthens the resources available to state and local law enforcement partners, and safeguards consumers and communities. Among my top priorities is the *Better Collaboration, Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement (CARE) for Animals Act* (H.R. 3112), a commonsense, bipartisan measure with more than 170 cosponsors that strengthens Federal enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The bill codifies the Memorandum of Understanding on Civil Judicial Enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act between the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) and provides DOJ with additional tools to intervene more effectively in the most serious and chronic violations.

Under the *Better CARE for Animals Act*, USDA retains full authority for licensing, inspecting, and identifying violations under the AWA. When serious or repeated violations occur, the bill ensures DOJ can coordinate with USDA to share evidence, refer cases, and pursue civil penalties, revoke licenses, seek animal seizures, and hold chronic offenders accountable. Strengthening this partnership helps stop patterns of mistreatment before they escalate into large-scale cruelty cases that strain local resources and threaten public safety. This pragmatic approach is why the legislation has been endorsed by the National Sheriffs' Association, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the National Animal Care and Control Association, and more than 115 organizations across 30 states.

I respectfully encourage the Committee to consider this important measure as part of its upcoming work, and I remain committed to partnering with you and your staff to advance policies that strengthen our nation.

Sincerely,



Hon. NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS,  
*Member of Congress.*

## SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 3112, Better Collaboration, Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement for Animals Act of 2025 (Better CARE for Animals Act of 2025):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr3112ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr3112ih.pdf> (See p. 325).

SUBMITTED LETTER BY HON. JOE NEGUSE, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM  
COLORADO

Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Craig, and distinguished Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on my legislation before your Committee.

My constituents in the Second Congressional District of Colorado have experienced countless wildfires and natural disasters, particularly within the last decade. In response, I have been proud to lead numerous efforts to address wildfire risk, including introducing several bills that have been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

First, I am grateful for the Committee's support for reauthorizing the **Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership Program** (H.R. 4412) and **Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program** (H.R. 4197) in the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024. Both of these collaborative, popular programs are critical to reducing wildfire risk across landscapes and land ownership boundaries. I look forward to working with you to ensure that these reauthorizations become law.

In response to post-fire watershed issues we have experienced across the West, I have also introduced the **Watershed Protection and Forest Recovery Act** (H.R. 5823) and the **Making Access to Cleanup Happen (MATCH) Act** (H.R. 5781) with my colleagues Representative Celeste Maloy and Senators Michael Bennet and John Curtis. H.R. 5823 would establish a program at USDA dedicated to post-fire watershed recovery on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands. While the Emergency Watershed Protection program supports watershed recovery on private lands, local officials have experienced challenges working to address watershed recovery and forest restoration on USFS lands, even if there are impacts to downstream water resources. I am pleased that this bill has been included in the Senate Fix Our Forests Act. H.R. 5781 would remove bureaucratic obstacles and cut red tape to allow quicker and more efficient emergency watershed response measures. I request your consideration for including the MATCH Act in an upcoming legislative vehicle or standalone consideration within your Committee.

I represent a district that is more than 50% Federal lands, and supporting the outdoor recreation economy is also critical to my district and Coloradans. Millions of visitors come to my district every winter to enjoy the incredible skiing and winter outdoor recreation activities that we have to offer. I have introduced the **Ski Hill Resources for Economic Development (SHRED) Act** (H.R. 1084) along with my colleagues Representatives Blake Moore and Chris Pappas, and Senators John Barasso and Michael Bennet. The SHRED Act would invest in outdoor recreation by retaining a portion of ski fees paid in the National Forest where the ski area is located. Keeping ski fees local would support broad recreation needs in some of the most visited National Forests in the country. This bill has been unanimously reported out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and I urge you to take up the bill for consideration.

Every year, farmers across the United States continue to face a plethora of challenges which not only cause devastating impacts on their livelihood, but also their ability to provide for a safe, affordable, and sustainable food supply. **The Sustainable Agriculture Research Act** (H.R. 5854) would provide Federal support for sustainable agriculture and innovative sustainability solutions through the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AGARDA) program. H.R. 5854 would build upon the goals of AGARDA to enhance the role of sustainable agriculture in innovative voluntary resilience solutions and help farms adapt to challenges like extreme weather, drought, and soil water-holding capacity. I thank the Committee for including this bill in the base text of the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to submit these priorities to the Committee. I request that you consider including these bills in an upcoming legislative vehicle, or moving them as individual bills. I look forward to working with the Committee on these issues.

Sincerely,

Hon. JOE NEGUSE,  
*Member of Congress.*

## SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

## 118TH CONGRESS

1. **H.R. 4197, Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Reauthorization Act of 2023:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-118hr4197ih/pdf/BILLS-118hr4197ih.pdf> (See p. 218).
2. **H.R. 8467, Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-118hr8467ih/pdf/BILLS-118hr8467ih.pdf> (See p. 242).

## 119TH CONGRESS

1. **H.R. 1084, Ski Hill Resources for Economic Development Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr1084ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr1084ih.pdf> (See p. 290).
2. **H.R. 4412, Joint Chiefs Reauthorization Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr4412ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr4412ih.pdf> (See p. 335).
3. **H.R. 5781, Making Access To Cleanup Happen Act of 2025 (MATCH Act of 2025):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5781ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5781ih.pdf> (See p. 390).
4. **H.R. 5823, Watershed Protection and Forest Recovery Act of 2025:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5823ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5823ih.pdf> (See p. 393).
5. **H.R. 5854, Sustainable Agriculture Research Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr5854ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr5854ih.pdf> (See p. 399).
6. **S. 472, Ski Hill Resources for Economic Development Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119s472is/pdf/BILLS-119s472is.pdf> (See p. 449).
7. **S. 1107, Making Access To Cleanup Happen Act of 2025 (MATCH Act of 2025):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119s1107is/pdf/BILLS-119s1107is.pdf> (See p. 457).
8. **S. 1462, Fix Our Forests Act, as Reported in Senate:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119s1462rs/pdf/BILLS-119s1462rs.pdf> (See p. 464).

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SUBMITTED STATEMENT BY HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN  
CONGRESS FROM COLORADO

Chairman GT Thompson, Ranking Member Angie Craig, and Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

As the House Agriculture Committee continues its work on preparing a farm bill and the legislative agenda for the remainder of the Congress, we must support programs that invest in the food and nutrition security of our most vulnerable constituents, support rural development and broadband access, support farmers during increasing extreme weather events, remediate our catastrophic wildfires that have swept through our public lands, among a host of other key priorities.

#### Title IV, Nutrition

As of January 2025, one in ten Coloradans were enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Of that, more than 64% of participants are in families with children, more than 25% are in families with members who are older adults or are disabled, and more than 46% are in working families. Because of the access to this critical Federal assistance, SNAP lifted 75,000 Coloradans above the poverty line per year, including 33,000 children, between 2015 and 2019.<sup>1</sup>

This year, we have seen unprecedented attacks on SNAP programs, leaving SNAP participants hungry, frustrated, and without any trust that the Federal Government will support them. The *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* made a \$186 billion cut to SNAP programs, leaving more than 330,000 Colorado families at risk of losing some or all of their SNAP benefits. During the shutdown, we saw the USDA illegally withhold the SNAP Contingency Fund—designed for emergency use in that exact scenario—

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/snap\\_factsheet\\_colorado.pdf](https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/snap_factsheet_colorado.pdf).

until they received significant criticism from Congressional Democrats and state leaders.

SNAP has a multiplier effect. For each dollar spent on the program, more than a dollar is generated in additional spending and income. A report generated by the USDA during the first Trump Administration showed that if we were to make a \$1 billion investment in new SNAP benefits, it would raise GDP by \$1.54 billion.<sup>2</sup> This creates jobs, boosts spending, and stimulates economic growth.

I urge this Committee to restore SNAP funding levels to pre-reconciliation numbers to invest in our communities and prove that the Federal Government is still committed to supporting and protecting our most vulnerable constituents.

#### **Title VI, Rural Development**

The farm bill is a key vehicle to invest in rural communities across the United States. The Rural Development Title of the farm bill is a central pillar that supports our rural communities by modernizing rural infrastructure, investing in our rural business and housing, and infusing our rural communities with access to reliable, high-speed internet.

Millions of rural Americans continue to lack adequate access to the internet, where the cost of connection can be high and existing service too slow or expensive to be of much use. While the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) ReConnect Loan and Grant Program (ReConnect Program) provides broadband funding for eligible rural areas, the application process can be complicated and prohibitively expensive for small providers—those most attuned to the needs of their communities and committed to providing ongoing service to local residents.

I will soon be reintroducing a bipartisan bill with Rep. Juan Ciscomani, *H.R. 5242, Connecting Our Neighbors to Networks and Ensuring Competitive Telecommunications (CONNECT) Act*, would reform the ReConnect Program's application process and boost the ability of local governments, nonprofit organizations, and cooperatives to compete for this critical funding. I encourage this Committee to support this legislation that cuts red tape and reduces the time it takes to get funding to communities, prioritizes the needs of rural Americans, and strengthens this key Federal broadband program.

I would also like to urge the Committee to safeguard and strengthen investments in affordable rural housing assistance programs. In Colorado's rural communities, the supply of affordable housing is severely outpaced by demand. Increasing housing prices, lack of housing supply due to inflationary pressures on construction, and the proliferation of short-term rental properties have made affordable housing nearly nonexistent. I encourage the Committee to work to address the affordable housing crisis hurting rural Americans.

#### **Title VII, Research, Extension, and Related Matters**

Now more than ever, we need to be investing in new technologies that will provide our farmers with the data they need for a successful crop yield. With increasing temperatures, worsening drought across the country, and major weather events becoming more frequent, our farmers need certainty and stability so they can make informed decisions each crop year.

My bipartisan bill I introduced with Rep. John Moolenaar, *H.R. 4414, Satellite-Based Agricultural Data Act*, ensures that commercial weather data and tools—using satellites and other space-based technologies—are eligible for funding under the priority research areas for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI). As major weather events become more severe and more frequent, commercial tools like satellite technology can better detect weather to predict and monitor life-threatening conditions in real time, helping communities anticipate floods, monitor droughts, and detect wildfire risk earlier.

I urge the Committee to include the *Satellite-Based Agricultural Data Act* in future moving legislative vehicles, so that Colorado farmers, ranchers, and rural communities can better respond to extreme weather events.

#### **Title VIII, Forestry**

Colorado, like many states across the West, is no longer experiencing a typical wildfire season. Instead, the threat of catastrophic wildfires is a year-round threat. The 20 largest wildfires in Colorado's recorded history have all occurred since 2001. The five biggest fires, the most recent being the East Troublesome fire in 2020, have destroyed 2,544 homes in Colorado. As drought and extreme heat continue to increase, so does the threat to rural and metropolitan communities.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.ers.usda.gov/amber-waves/2019/july/quantifying-the-impact-of-snap-benefits-on-the-u-s-economy-and-jobs>.

I have heard from stakeholders across my District about the lack of staffing at the USFS. Earlier this year, USDA and the USFS fired 3,400 U.S. Forest Service (USFS) employees in accordance with “*Executive Order 14210: The Department of Government Efficiency Workforce Optimization Initiative*,” with hundreds more employees being illegally fired or resigning since. This decision exacerbated already understaffed USFS offices across the West. For years, USFS has struggled to fill roles in rural areas, with high costs of living and low wages. I urge the Committee to make significant investments in our USFS workers—especially in rural areas—to address workforce shortages and increased housing support.

Wildfires are not the only thing threatening our forest—the Emerald Ash Borer and Mountain Pine Beetle have devastated millions of acres of forest across our state, increasing the risk of wildfires and threatening the health of our forests. I encourage this Committee to hold hearings about how Congress can invest in strong and robust Federal forest management strategies to mitigate against wildfires and lessen the toll that invasive beetles are causing to our forest health.

#### **Protecting Conservation Funding and Investing in Farmers**

It is of the utmost importance that this Committee ensures continued investments in farmer conservation programs—such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), among others—to help farmers and combat catastrophic impacts of increased temperatures, drought, and severe weather events. This Committee has the opportunity to make significant investments in these conservation programs—the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* rolled \$10.7 billion of *Inflation Reduction Act* funds into the farm bill baseline. I urge the Committee to take this opportunity to invest in farmers and use this infusion in conservation programs for their intended purpose.

ATTACHMENT 1

**Colorado**

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

January 21, 2025



The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation’s most important and effective anti-hunger program. It plays a critical role in reducing poverty, improving health and economic outcomes, supporting people who are paid low wages, and serving as the first line of defense against hunger during economic downturns.

**Whom Does SNAP Reach?**

In federal fiscal year 2024, it helped:

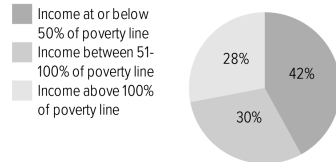
- **584,500** Colorado residents, or **10%** of the state population (**1 in 10**)
- **41,697,500** participants in the United States, or **12%** of the total population (**1 in 8**)

|                   |   |  |  |
|-------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>COLORADO</b>   | more than <b>64%</b> of SNAP participants are in families with children | more than <b>25%</b> are in families with members who are older adults or are disabled | more than <b>46%</b> are in working families |
| <b>NATIONALLY</b> | more than <b>62%</b> of SNAP participants are in families with children | more than <b>37%</b> are in families with members who are older adults or are disabled | more than <b>38%</b> are in working families |

Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service<sup>a</sup>

**Most SNAP Participants in Colorado Have Incomes Below the Poverty Line**

Share of participants by household income, fiscal year 2022



Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

**Many Colorado households struggle to put food on the table. The most recent data show in 2023:**

- **9.9%** of households were “food insecure,” meaning that their access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources.<sup>b</sup>
- **9.3%** of the population lived below the poverty line.
- **10.7%** of children lived in families below the poverty line.
- **9.2%** of older adults lived below the poverty line.

**SNAP reaches populations in need:** 76% of eligible individuals participated in SNAP in Colorado in pre-pandemic 2020.

SNAP lifted **75,000** people above the poverty line in Colorado, including **33,000** children, per year between 2015 and 2019, on average. (These figures adjust for households’ underreporting of benefits.)

**What Benefits Do SNAP Participants Receive?**

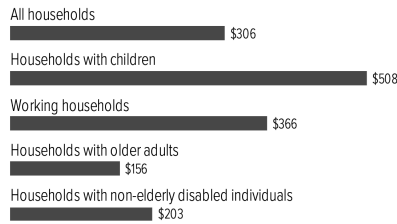
SNAP targets benefits according to need. Households with very low incomes receive more SNAP benefits than households closer to the poverty line because they need more help affording adequate food. SNAP participants in Colorado received \$1.3 billion in benefits in 2024.

Because of a congressionally mandated re-evaluation of the Thrifty Food Plan – the basis of SNAP benefits – that took effect in 2022, SNAP benefits are higher and better aligned with the cost of a healthy, realistic diet. Nationally, the revision increased SNAP benefits from about \$4.80 to about \$6.20 per person per day in 2024.



|                                      | Average SNAP benefit in nominal dollars, fiscal year 2024 |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| For each household member per month: | <b>\$186</b>  |
| For each household member per day:   | <b>\$6.11</b>   |

**Average Monthly SNAP Benefit, Fiscal Year 2022, Colorado**



Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service.<sup>c</sup>

**How Does SNAP Benefit the Economy?**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that in a weak economy, \$1 in SNAP benefits generates \$1.50 in economic activity. Households receive SNAP benefits on electronic benefit transfer cards, which can be used only to purchase food at one of about 261,400 authorized retail locations around the country, including some 3,100 in Colorado.

**Notes:** In addition to SNAP, in FY 2024 an average of about 100 individuals in Colorado received benefits through the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), which is a federal program that provides commodity foods to low-income households, including the elderly, living on Indian reservations, and to Native American families residing in designated areas near reservations and in the State of Oklahoma.

**For more information on SNAP, including Colorado-specific information, please see:**  
 Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Chart Book: <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/chart-book-snap-helps-struggling-families-put-food-on-the-table>  
 USDA SNAP data: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/pd/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>  
 Colorado SNAP program: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdhs/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap>  
 Advocates: Hunger Free Colorado, [www.hungerfreecolorado.org](http://www.hungerfreecolorado.org)

<sup>a</sup> SNAP participant counts are based on FY 2024 USDA administrative data. Demographic shares are based on FY 2022 SNAP Quality Control data.  
<sup>b</sup> The state food insecurity rate is a three-year average for the years 2021 to 2023.  
<sup>c</sup> To better approximate the current SNAP program, these figures exclude the temporary pandemic-related SNAP benefits, which still were in effect at the start of fiscal year 2022 in all states except AR, FL, ID, MO, MT, NE, ND and SD.

ATTACHMENT 2



[<https://www.ers.usda.gov/amber-waves/2019/july/quantifying-the-impact-of-snap-benefits-on-the-u-s-economy-and-jobs>]



Getty & USDA.

### **Quantifying the Impact of SNAP Benefits on the U.S. Economy and Jobs**

By Patrick Canning and Rosanna Mentzer Morrison

7/18/2019

#### **Highlights:**

- Low-income participants in USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) generally spend their benefits soon after receiving them, spending that has cascading effects throughout the economy.
- A recent ERS analysis finds that during a slowing economy, \$1 billion in new SNAP benefits would lead to an increase of \$1.54 billion in Gross Domestic Product (GDP)—54 percent above and beyond the new benefits.
- The \$1 billion in new SNAP benefits would generate an additional \$32 million in income for the U.S. agriculture industries and support an additional 480 full-time agriculture jobs.

USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the nation's largest food assistance program. In fiscal year 2018, SNAP served an average 40.3 million people per month and issued \$60.9 billion in benefits to be spent in food stores authorized to accept SNAP benefits. The primary goal of SNAP is to provide low-income households with additional resources for buying food.

But SNAP also serves as an automatic stabilizer for the economy. For example, during an economic downturn, when unemployment increases and wages fall, more individuals become eligible for SNAP and enroll in the program. As SNAP participants spend this increased Federal assistance, income is generated for those involved in producing, transporting, and marketing the food and other goods purchased by SNAP recipients. The impact of this increased spending by SNAP households "multiplies" throughout the economy as the businesses supplying the food and other goods—and their employees—have additional funds to make purchases of their own. This multiplier effect on the economy may extend well beyond the initial money provided to SNAP participants.

Although the multiplier theory is well known, the size of the multiplier from increased SNAP benefits is less clear. A recent ERS study examined the multiplier impact of a hypothetical \$1 billion increase in SNAP benefits and found that this expansion of benefits during a slowing economy would increase Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by \$1.54 billion and support 13,560 jobs, including nearly 500 agricultural jobs (farming, forestry, fishing, and hunting). The expanded benefits would also boost income in the agriculture industries by \$32 million.

#### *Higher SNAP Benefits Expand Spending on Food and Other Goods*

The size of the multiplier for any kind of government assistance, or spending, depends on how much of the assistance is spent and on what. Previous research concludes that reasonable estimates for the government spending multiplier under general economic conditions range from 0.8 to 1.5, meaning that \$1 of additional government spending increases GDP between \$.80 and \$1.50. Research also suggests that the size of the multiplier depends on economic conditions and the types of spending that take place. Spending multipliers tend to be higher during recessions, when there are underemployed resources in the economy.

Also, empirical research has found that when the government spending targets low-income individuals, such as SNAP recipients, the multipliers tend to be larger. Low-income recipients of government assistance spend most, if not all, of the money they receive soon after receiving it. Higher income individuals, on the other hand, are more likely to save a substantial share of their increased income from the government spending. Although savings spur economic growth through deferred con-

sumption and investment spending, these are less likely than SNAP recipients' spending to occur in the short term (within a year).

ERS researchers used data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to identify and measure the broad types of goods and services that SNAP and non-SNAP households purchase as their incomes increase. While SNAP benefits must be spent on food purchased at grocery stores, supercenters, and other food retailers (food at home), most SNAP participants spend their own cash in addition to SNAP benefits to purchase adequate food. Although SNAP households would spend the full amount of a SNAP benefit increase on food at home, their total food-at-home expenditures would be less than the combined amount of their previous spending plus the new benefit amount. This occurs because SNAP recipients usually redirect some of the cash that they would have spent on food at home to other goods or services.

The researchers used other studies' estimates and their own analysis to derive a value that best represents how much an additional \$1 of SNAP benefits would boost spending on food at home for an average SNAP household during 2016—the period of analysis for the data compiled in their study. This value is referred to as the marginal propensity to consume (MPC) food at home, and they estimated the MPC for food at home from SNAP benefits to be 0.30. This implies that for every dollar of new SNAP benefits, a 30¢ net increase in food-at-home spending would occur, and 70¢ of non-SNAP income would be redirected from food-at-home spending to other goods or services. (Estimates from other recent studies of the food-at-home MPC from SNAP benefits range from 0.16 to 0.65.)

The two categories with the largest increases in spending by SNAP households due to the additional benefits were food (including food-away-from-home spending) and durable goods. Because of their low incomes, SNAP households were, on average, likely to spend all of the new assistance income, rather than direct a part of it to savings.

When non-SNAP households received additional income, the researchers found that, on average, they were likely to spend 63 percent of the new income, and put the rest into savings. The two top categories toward which non-SNAP households would direct an income boost were savings and durable goods. Non-SNAP households' MPC for food at home is estimated to be 0.02.

When these MPCs are applied to the additional income given to SNAP households through the new SNAP benefits, along with their share of the multiplier effects, the \$1 billion in benefits is estimated to increase spending by \$28.80 per SNAP recipient, ranging from \$9.40 for food to \$2.70 for housing and utilities. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, SNAP households accounted for 11 percent of the U.S. population in 2016. Multiplying the per capita spending amounts by SNAP participant population results in a total spending increase of \$1.03 billion, with food accounting for \$335.7 million of that amount.

SNAP-induced per capita expenditures of non-SNAP households are likely to be substantially lower because they do not receive the SNAP benefit. Their income increases come from the multiplier-induced spending that is triggered by the new spending of SNAP participants. Also, non-SNAP households, on average, save 37 percent of an income boost. However, because non-SNAP households represented nearly 90 percent of the population in 2016, overall SNAP-induced spending of non-SNAP households (\$592 million) amounts to 58 percent of total new spending of SNAP households.

#### **An Additional \$1 Billion in SNAP Benefits Has the Largest Effect on Spending for Food, Followed by Durable Goods**

| Category              | SNAP recipient | Non-SNAP recipient |
|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|
|                       | \$ per capita  |                    |
| Durable goods         | 6.1            | 0.5                |
| Food                  | 9.4            | 0.1                |
| Health care           | 3.5            | 0.4                |
| Housing and utilities | 2.7            | 0.2                |
| Nondurable goods      | 3.9            | 0.3                |
| Other services        | 3.2            | 0.5                |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>28.8</b>    | <b>2.0</b>         |

**An Additional \$1 Billion in SNAP Benefits Has the Largest Effect on Spending for Food, Followed by Durable Goods—Continued**

| Category              | SNAP recipient        | Non-SNAP recipient |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
|                       | \$ million nationwide |                    |
| Durable goods         | 217.9                 | 137.4              |
| Food                  | 335.7                 | 41.1               |
| Health care           | 124.4                 | 123.7              |
| Housing and utilities | 97.0                  | 68.8               |
| Nondurable goods      | 137.7                 | 84.5               |
| Other services        | 113.0                 | 136.5              |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1,025.7</b>        | <b>592.0</b>       |

SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Note: Per capita measure based on an assumption that SNAP participants accounted for 11 percent of the U.S. population in 2016.

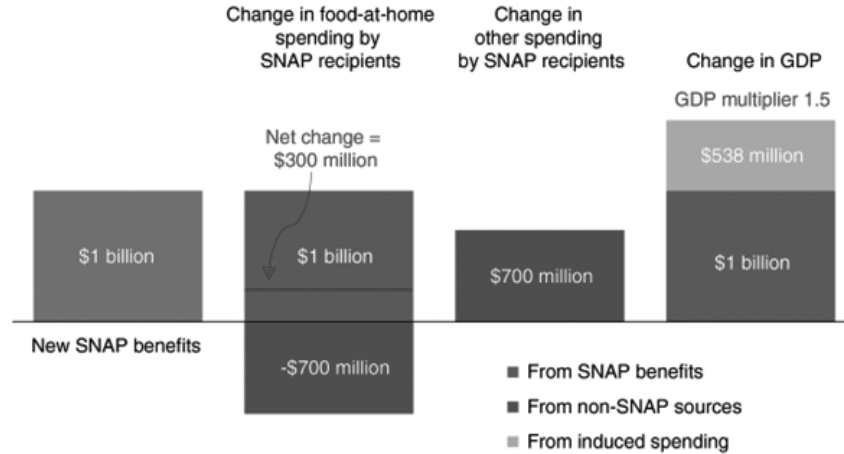
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.

*Expanded SNAP Spending Raises GDP*

ERS researchers compiled a new social accounting matrix to quantify the impact of additional SNAP benefits on GDP, employment, and Gross Domestic Income (GDI) across the farm economy and other industries affected by the increased SNAP assistance (see box, “Defining GDP and GDI”). A social accounting matrix is a fully integrated economic accounting system that summarizes all transactions and income transfers in the U.S. economy among economic agents, such as businesses, government entities, and private households. ERS’s matrix, called the Food Environment Data System, Social Accounting Matrix, uses 2016 data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis to model how the increased spending by SNAP households and, in turn, non-SNAP households would affect various sectors of the U.S. economy.

The model assumes that the average new SNAP household has the same spending and saving behaviors as the average existing SNAP household. Given SNAP households’ MPC for food at home of 0.30, then \$1 billion in new SNAP benefits implies an increase of \$300 million in food-at-home spending. This leaves \$700 million remaining to be spent by new SNAP households on other goods and services. The ERS model estimates that this increased spending, combined with the subsequent induced spending of both non-SNAP households and SNAP households, would raise total output across the 202 industries in the ERS model, and lead to employment and income effects. The model finds \$1 billion in new SNAP benefits would raise GDP by \$1.54 billion, implying a GDP multiplier of 1.5.

**\$1 Billion in New SNAP Benefits Raises GDP by \$1.5 Billion**



Notes: SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. GDP = Gross Domestic Product. “Induced spending” refers to spending occurring after the initial \$1 billion SNAP expenditure, which is derived from income that is generated for all involved in the production, distribution, marketing, and sales of the goods and services purchased. Results are reported in 2016 dollars.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.

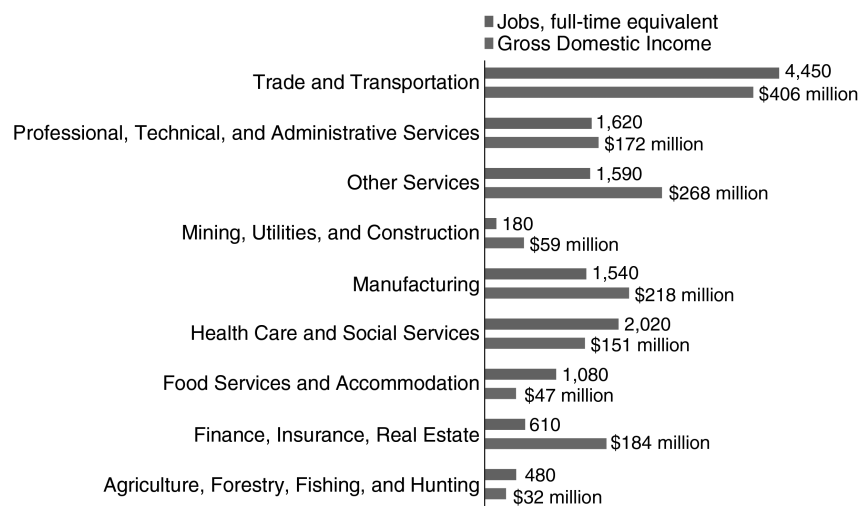
*Additional SNAP Benefits Have the Largest Effect on the Trade and Transportation Industries*

Across the economy, approximately \$1.54 billion in GDI and approximately 13,560 jobs would be supported by the \$1 billion new SNAP expenditure. The hypothetical new \$1 billion in SNAP benefits would have a relatively large effect on manufacturing industries and the trade and transportation industries. For example, over \$200 million in GDI and 1,540 full-time equivalent jobs would be generated for manufacturing industries from the new SNAP benefits. Manufacturing industries include food and beverage processors, manufacturers of consumer durables, as well as packaging manufacturers.

For the trade and transportation industries, new income totaling \$406 million and 4,450 jobs would be generated. These industries include grocery stores, food and other wholesalers, plus the trucking and rail freight industries, among others. As previously noted, the two largest grouped items of new spending would be food and durable goods, both of which rely on transportation and trade (wholesaling and retailing) services to market these products. Health care and social services would see an increase of 2,020 jobs. The hypothetical new \$1 billion in SNAP benefits would generate an additional \$32 million in GDI going to the agriculture industries (farming, forestry, fishing, and hunting) and 480 full-time equivalent jobs.

### The Impact of New SNAP Benefits Varies by Major Industry Group

*Change in Annual Employment and Gross Domestic Income per \$1 billion in New SNAP Benefits, 2016*



SNAP = Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.  
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.

The \$32 million in GDI and 480 jobs accruing to the agriculture industries may seem low given the \$377 million in additional combined food spending from SNAP and non-SNAP households, but two factors explain this result. First, the foods that consumers buy include inputs beyond the farm ingredients used in the food. For processed foods and beverages, these inputs can include extensive manufacturing steps and elaborate packaging, in addition to the transportation and retailing steps to get them to the consumer. Even unprocessed fresh fruits and vegetables must be shipped, and often packaged, before consumers purchase the produce in grocery stores.

ERS's Food Dollar data series breaks out the value of the farm and non-farm inputs used to grow, manufacture, and market domestically produced U.S. foods and beverages. In 2016, 18.9¢ of a typical dollar spent on domestically produced foods and beverages in food stores went to U.S. farmers. For foods and beverages purchased in restaurants, schools, and other away-from-home eating places (food away from home), the U.S. farm share was lower—4.0¢, reflecting the added inputs to prepare and serve away-from-home meals. Non-SNAP households are more likely to direct most of their new food spending from their income boosts to food away from home.

A second reason for agriculture's relatively low gains from new SNAP benefits stems from the fact that some of the foods and beverages purchased by Americans are imported products, such as Chilean berries and New Zealand lamb. Imported foods and beverages made up almost 13 percent of food and beverage spending by Americans in 2016, according to ERS's Food Dollar statistics. Purchases of imported foods do not boost U.S. growers' incomes or agriculture jobs.

New SNAP benefits would likely advantage farmers more than would other fiscal stimulus policies directed towards low-income households, such as tax cuts or cash assistance payments. Previous studies estimated that a low-income household receiving \$1 in cash assistance would increase its spending on food by 5¢ to 10¢—in contrast to the 30¢ increase that is estimated to result from an additional \$1 of SNAP benefits, which is targeted towards food at home. Mental accounting may play a role in these MPC for food-at-home disparities. According to mental accounting theory, households treat different income sources differently. With targeted assistance, such as SNAP benefits, households are likely to shift less of their own funds from food to other goods or services than they would do with cash assistance.

*Spending Effects Would Be Smaller Under More Robust Economic Conditions*

These findings about the multiplier impacts from additional SNAP assistance are derived from a model that is most appropriate to conditions during a slowing economy when unemployment is relatively high and interest rates on new business loans are relatively low. The model assumes that the additional spending—and the subsequent increased industry output—does not put pressure on the supply of labor and cause wages and loan interest rates to rise.

The multiplier impacts are likely to be smaller when the economy is at or near full employment because labor costs could potentially rise faster than production, which would raise consumer prices and reduce consumers' purchases relative to what they would have had consumer prices not changed. Because SNAP participation and the benefit amounts received largely depend on a household's income, new and higher SNAP spending by the Federal Government is most likely to occur during economic downturns when employment and incomes fall and there are underemployed resources in the economy.

*Defining GDP and GDI*

Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures the value of all personal and government consumption expenditures, plus the value of all private, business, and government investment—plus the value of net export sales (exports minus imports)—over the entire calendar year. Gross Domestic Income (GDI) measures the same value as GDP, but does so in terms of the incomes accumulated from the sales reported in the measure of GDP. These incomes can be added up by the type of industries that sell their goods and services, or they can be added up by the categories of persons or institutions who can claim these incomes from industry—for example, hired labor, stockholders, business owners, and domestic and foreign governments.

**This article is drawn from:**

- Tuttle, C. (2016, December 5). *Changes in Food-At-Home Spending by SNAP Participants After the Stimulus Act of 2009*. AMBER WAVES,<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service.
- Canning, P. & Stacy, B. (2019). *The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Economy: New Estimates of the SNAP Multiplier*.<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service. ERR-265.

**You may also like:**

- Hanson, K. (2010). *The Food Assistance National Input-Output Multiplier (FANIOM) Model and Stimulus Effects of SNAP*.<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service. ERR-103.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ers.usda.gov/amber-waves/2016/december/changes-in-food-at-home-spending-by-snap-participants-after-the-stimulus-act-of-2009>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/pub-details?pubid=93528>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/pub-details?pubid=44749>.




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**Presidential Documents**


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**Title 3—****Executive Order 14210 of February 11, 2025****The President****Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Workforce Optimization Initiative**

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered:

**Section 1. Purpose.** To restore accountability to the American public, this order commences a critical transformation of the Federal bureaucracy. By eliminating waste, bloat, and insularity, my Administration will empower American families, workers, taxpayers, and our system of Government itself.

**Sec. 2. Definitions.** (a) "Agency" has the meaning given to it in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code, except that such term does not include the Executive Office of the President or any components thereof.

(b) "Agency Head" means the highest-ranking official of an agency, such as the Secretary, Administrator, Chairman, or Director, unless otherwise specified in this order.

(c) "DOGE Team Lead" means the leader of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) Team at each agency, as defined in Executive Order 14158 of January 20, 2025 (Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency").

(d) "Employee" has the meaning given to it by section 2105 of title 5, United States Code, and includes individuals who serve in the executive branch and who qualify as employees under that section for any purpose.

(e) "Immigration enforcement" means the investigation, enforcement, or assisting in the investigation or enforcement of Federal immigration law, including with respect to Federal immigration law that penalizes a person's presence in, entry, or reentry to, or employment in, the United States, but does not include assisting individuals in applying for immigration benefits or efforts to prevent enforcement of immigration law or to prevent deportation or removal from the United States.

(f) "Law enforcement" means:

(i) engagement in or supervision of the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law; or

(ii) the protection of Federal, State, local, or foreign government officials against threats to personal safety.

(g) "Temporary employee" has the meaning given to it in 5 C.F.R. part 316.

(h) "Reemployed annuitant" has the meaning given to it in 5 C.F.R. part 837.

**Sec. 3. Reforming the Federal Workforce to Maximize Efficiency and Productivity.** (a) *Hiring Ratio.* Pursuant to the Presidential Memorandum of January 20, 2025 (Hiring Freeze), the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit a plan to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce through efficiency improvements and attrition (Plan). The Plan shall require that each agency hire no more than one employee for every four employees that depart, consistent with the plan and any applicable exemptions and details provided for in the Plan. This order does not affect the standing freeze on hiring as applied to the Internal Revenue Service. This ratio shall not apply to functions related to public safety, immigration

enforcement, or law enforcement. Agency Heads shall also adhere to the Federal Hiring Plan that will be promulgated pursuant to Executive Order 14170 of January 20, 2025 (Reforming the Federal Hiring Process and Restoring Merit to Government Service).

(b) *Hiring Approval.* Each Agency Head shall develop a data-driven plan, in consultation with its DOGE Team Lead, to ensure new career appointment hires are in highest-need areas.

(i) This hiring plan shall include that new career appointment hiring decisions shall be made in consultation with the agency's DOGE Team Lead, consistent with applicable law.

(ii) The agency shall not fill any vacancies for career appointments that the DOGE Team Lead assesses should not be filled, unless the Agency Head determines the positions should be filled.

(iii) Each DOGE Team Lead shall provide the United States DOGE Service (USDS) Administrator with a monthly hiring report for the agency.

(c) *Reductions in Force.* Agency Heads shall promptly undertake preparations to initiate large-scale reductions in force (RIFs), consistent with applicable law, and to separate from Federal service temporary employees and reemployed annuitants working in areas that will likely be subject to the RIFs. All offices that perform functions not mandated by statute or other law shall be prioritized in the RIFs, including all agency diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; all agency initiatives, components, or operations that my Administration suspends or closes; and all components and employees performing functions not mandated by statute or other law who are not typically designated as essential during a lapse in appropriations as provided in the Agency Contingency Plans on the Office of Management and Budget website. This subsection shall not apply to functions related to public safety, immigration enforcement, or law enforcement.

(d) *Rulemaking.* Within 30 days of the date of this order, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) shall initiate a rulemaking that proposes to revise 5 C.F.R. 731.202(b) to include additional suitability criteria, including:

(i) failure to comply with generally applicable legal obligations, including timely filing of tax returns;

(ii) failure to comply with any provision that would preclude regular Federal service, including citizenship requirements;

(iii) refusal to certify compliance with any applicable nondisclosure obligations, consistent with 5 U.S.C. 2302(b)(13), and failure to adhere to those compliance obligations in the course of Federal employment; and

(iv) theft or misuse of Government resources and equipment, or negligent loss of material Government resources and equipment.

(e) *Developing Agency Reorganization Plans.* Within 30 days of the date of this order, Agency Heads shall submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget a report that identifies any statutes that establish the agency, or subcomponents of the agency, as statutorily required entities. The report shall discuss whether the agency or any of its subcomponents should be eliminated or consolidated.

(f) Within 240 days of the date of this order, the USDS Administrator shall submit a report to the President regarding implementation of this order, including a recommendation as to whether any of its provisions should be extended, modified, or terminated.

**Sec. 4. Exclusions.** (a) This order does not apply to military personnel.

(b) Agency Heads may exempt from this order any position they deem necessary to meet national security, homeland security, or public safety responsibilities.

(c) The Director of OPM may grant exemptions from this order where those exemptions are otherwise necessary and shall assist in promoting workforce reduction.

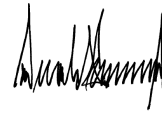
**Sec. 5. General Provisions.** (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department, agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.



THE WHITE HOUSE,  
February 11, 2025.

[FR Doc. 2025-02762  
Filed 2-13-25; 11:15 am]  
Billing code 3395-F4-P

#### SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

##### 118TH CONGRESS

1. **H.R. 5242, Connecting Our Neighbors to Networks and Ensuring Competitive Telecommunications Act of 2023 (CONNECT Act of 2023):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-118hr5242ih/pdf/BILLS-118hr5242ih.pdf> (See p. 226).

##### 119TH CONGRESS

1. **H.R. 4414, Satellite-Based Agricultural Data Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr4414ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr4414ih.pdf> (See p. 338).
2. **Pub. L. 119-21, To provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-119publ21/pdf/PLAW-119publ21.pdf> (See p. 479).

SUBMITTED LETTER BY HON. MIKE QUIGLEY, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM  
ILLINOIS

December 18, 2025

Hon. GLENN THOMPSON,  
Chairman,  
House Committee on Agriculture,  
Washington, D.C.;

Hon. ANGIE CRAIG,  
Ranking Minority Member,  
House Committee on Agriculture,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig:

Thank you for convening the House Committee on Agriculture's Member Day hearing and for your continued leadership on issues that are central to the strength of our agricultural system and the well-being of our communities. As the Committee considers priorities that affect rural economies, public safety, and consumer trust, I write to urge your consideration of H.R. 3112, the *Better Collaboration, Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement (CARE) for Animals Act* as part of the Committee's work.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus and a co-lead of the *Better CARE for Animals Act*, I have heard consistently from constituents and stakeholders about the consequences of inadequate enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). While the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) plays a critical role in licensing and inspecting facilities regulated under the AWA, including research and breeding facilities, longstanding enforcement gaps have allowed some of the most serious and repeat violators to continue operating despite documented non-compliance. These failures undermine animal welfare, place strain on local communities, and weaken public confidence in the Federal Government's ability to enforce the law.

The *Better CARE for Animals Act* offers a measured and practical response to these concerns. The legislation preserves USDA's full authority over inspections, licensing, and the identification of violations, while ensuring that the Department of Justice (DOJ) has clear authority and effective tools to pursue civil enforcement actions in cases involving chronic or egregious violations. By strengthening coordination between USDA and DOJ and improving accountability for repeat and serious violations, the bill helps ensure that egregious mistreatment is addressed earlier and more effectively, reducing the likelihood that neglect or cruelty escalates into large-scale crises.

**Support for the *Better CARE for Animals Act* is driven by those on the front lines when Federal enforcement falls short.** Law enforcement and animal control officers are often the first to respond to abuse or neglect at breeding facilities, research operations, roadside zoos, and other USDA-regulated locations, while community shelters and rescue organizations take on the responsibility of caring for animals that are surrendered or seized and are often traumatized, sick, or injured. Together, these entities work to protect public safety and animal welfare while absorbing the significant financial and logistical costs of large-scale cases. Their support for this legislation reflects a shared recognition that stronger Federal civil enforcement would help prevent violations from escalating into crises and better align Federal oversight with the realities faced by state and local responders.

This perspective is reflected in the broad and diverse coalition supporting the bill, which includes 120 animal welfare organizations, shelters, and rescue groups nationwide, as well as leading law enforcement organizations such as the National Sheriffs' Association, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, and the National Animal Care and Control Association. Together, these stakeholders recognize that effective enforcement of the AWA is essential not only to protect animals, but also to support public safety, responsible operators, and communities across the country.

The House Committee on Agriculture has an important role to play in addressing persistent enforcement challenges under the AWA. Advancing the *Better CARE for Animals Act* would demonstrate the Committee's commitment to upholding humane standards, strengthening accountability, and ensuring that Federal law is implemented as Congress intended.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these views and for your continued leadership on the Committee. I look forward to working with you to advance solutions that protect animals, support law enforcement partners, and serve communities nationwide.

Sincerely,



Hon. MIKE QUIGLEY,  
Member of Congress,

SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

1. **H.R. 3112, Better Collaboration, Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement for Animals Act of 2025 (Better CARE for Animals Act of 2025):** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr3112ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr3112ih.pdf> (See p. 325).

SUBMITTED STATEMENT HON. LATEFAH SIMON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
FROM CALIFORNIA

**Protecting State Animal Welfare Standards and Regulations**

Dear Chair Thompson and Ranking Member Craig,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I strongly oppose the inclusion of the Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act, the Save Our Bacon (SOB) Act, the Food Security and Farm Protection Act, or any iteration of these measures in the upcoming farm bill.

When California voters passed Proposition 12, they made their values clear: animals deserve humane treatment, and consumers deserve high-quality food. Prop 12 was decided directly by the people of California, has been upheld by the United States Supreme Court, and has been fully in effect since 2024. This law, along with other similar state laws, reflect what voters and state legislatures have determined to be in the best interests of their farmers, consumers, and public health.

Last month, I sent a letter to this Committee, co-led with Representatives Costa and McGovern, opposing legislative efforts to overturn state laws like Prop 12. That letter was signed by 182 Democratic Members. And, more than a dozen Republican Members, led by Representatives Garbarino, Fitzpatrick, Valadao, Mace, and Luna, submitted their own letter opposing these measures. Finally, hundreds of farm and food organizations, independent farmers, animal protection groups, consumer safety advocates, labor organizations, and environmental groups oppose these attacks on state and local agricultural laws. This broad, bipartisan opposition underscores the significant concerns these proposals raise.

These proposals would nullify state agricultural standards enacted through citizen initiatives or state legislatures, amounting to a significant intrusion on states' rights in the agricultural sector. Laws like California's Prop 12 and Massachusetts's Question 3 help family farmers compete amid historic consolidation, strengthen food safety, and establish basic, commonsense standards for animal treatment.

Rolling back these laws would cause serious harm. Family farmers would lose critical markets they have relied upon, despite having already invested significant resources to meet these standards. Agricultural practices would be driven into a race to the bottom, disadvantaging responsible producers. The will of voters would be overturned to benefit consolidated agribusiness, and long-established supply chains, many of which have adapted smoothly, would be destabilized at a time when families are already facing food insecurity and inflation.

Claims that standards such as Prop 12 have driven higher prices are not supported by evidence. In fact, minimum standards adopted by states across the political spectrum increasingly reflect consumer expectations and market realities. Major food companies, including McDonald's, Burger King, Wendy's, Costco, and Kroger, have already transitioned significant portions of their sourcing to higher-welfare systems. Major pork producers such as Clemens Food Group, JBS, Tyson, and Iowa Select have also adjusted operations accordingly.

With this progress well underway, now is not the time to move backward. It is imperative that we continue looking forward together as a nation and work with our trading partners to ensure sustained marketplaces for all producers.

For these reasons, I strongly urge this Committee to reject inclusion of the EATS Act, the SOB Act, the Food Security and Farm Protection Act, or any similar legislative provisions in the farm bill.

Thank you, Chair Thompson and Ranking Member Craig, for your attention to this important issue, and I yield back.

SUBMITTED LEGISLATION

117TH CONGRESS

1. **H.R. 4999, Exposing Agricultural Trade Suppression Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-117hr4999ih/pdf/BILLS-117hr4999ih.pdf> (See p. 210).
2. **S. 2619, Exposing Agricultural Trade Suppression Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-117s2619is/pdf/BILLS-117s2619is.pdf> (See p. 214).

118TH CONGRESS

1. **H.R. 4417, Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-118hr4417ih/pdf/BILLS-118hr4417ih.pdf> (See p. 222).

2. **S. 2019, Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-118s2019is/pdf/BILLS-118s2019is.pdf> (See p. 276).

## 119TH CONGRESS

1. **H.R. 4673, Save Our Bacon Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119hr4673ih/pdf/BILLS-119hr4673ih.pdf> (See p. 351).
2. **S. 1326, Food Security and Farm Protection Act:** <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-119s1326is/pdf/BILLS-119s1326is.pdf> (See p. 460).

## ATTACHMENT 1

***Diverse Opponents of the “Save Our Bacon” (SOB) Act, “Food Security and Farm Protection Act,” “Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression” (EATS) Act, Sec. 12007 of the 2024 House Agriculture Committee Farm Bill and Related Attacks on State/Local Agriculture Laws***

**Originating Form Letter**

[September 13, 2023]

Dear Senator/Representative:

**We write to express strong opposition to the “Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act” (S. 2019/H.R. 4417) introduced by Sen. Roger Marshall (R-KS) and Rep. Ashley Hinson (R-IA).** Better named the States’ Rights Suppression Act, this legislation would thwart states’ ability to govern. It could wipe out thousands of state laws and create a race-to-the-bottom when it comes to the production and sale of agricultural products. It mandates that if any state tolerates a pre-harvest production practice, other states must allow the sale of that product. *We urge you to oppose this dangerous, overreaching bill and do all you can to ensure that neither it nor anything like it are included in the 2023 Farm Bill.*

The EATS Act is very similar to the controversial legislation introduced by former Representative Steve King (R-IA) that—because of bipartisan outcry—was fortunately omitted from the final 2014 and 2018 Farm Bills. The King amendment generated *overwhelming opposition from a diverse set of more than 170 groups*,<sup>1\*</sup> plus hundreds of Federal and state legislators, individual farmers, veterinary professionals, faith leaders, legal experts, and newspaper editorials including *USA Today*.

*How S. 2019/H.R. 4417 Guts State Authority*

Modeled after the King amendment, the EATS Act could negate many state and local laws related to agricultural production. If any state permits a pre-harvest practice in the production of an agricultural product—no matter how hazardous, destructive, or inhumane to people or animals—the EATS Act would dictate that every state allow the sale of such products. The EATS Act is even more overreaching than the “King amendment” since it aims to block state and local laws when there is no substantive standard to take their place—preventing action on local concerns despite a vacuum of Federal action. Agricultural products are defined broadly in the bill, pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 1626, to include “agricultural, horticultural, viticultural, and dairy products, livestock and poultry, bees, forest products, fish and shellfish, and any products thereof, including processed and manufactured products, and any and all products raised or produced on farms and any processed or manufactured product thereof.”

*What Kind Of Laws And Programs Could Be Destroyed*

The sweep of laws under threat by the EATS Act is vast—for example, laws governing food safety, such as chemicals in baby food and arsenic in animal feed, exposure to dangerous pesticides, child labor, puppy mills, wildlife protection, fire hazards, invasive pests, infectious diseases, and communities disproportionately impacted by pollution. This list is by no means all-inclusive. In addition, the EATS Act could prevent states and local governments from entering into food procurement contracts that include standards for the participation of veteran, women, and minority-owned businesses. Almost every state and hundreds of local jurisdictions have such programs for government procurement.

<sup>1</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CZ-mj\\_zdlwoxvuBOjgMaYziHiiYK-tkt/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CZ-mj_zdlwoxvuBOjgMaYziHiiYK-tkt/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

\* **Editor’s note:** references annotated with † are retained in Committee file.

*Potentially Devastating Costs on State and Local Governments*

The EATS Act contains a sweeping provision which allows nearly anyone to sue state and local officials for financial awards and injunctions for imposing any standard contrary to the EATS Act. It flips the burdens of proof when an injunction is sought, so that state and local governments can be barred from regulating to protect the health and safety of the food system unless they prove by clear and convincing evidence that they are in compliance with the EATS Act. This drastic provision could bankrupt state and local governments and tie them up in endless litigation. It may also deny state and local government officials their traditional legal immunities and expose them to personal financial liability.

*Ignores Founding Principles and Constitutional Law Precedent*

On May 11, 2023, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld California's Proposition 12, a law addressing the animal welfare and public health risks caused by the extreme confinement of pigs and other animals in small crates and cages on factory farms. The Court clearly and unanimously rejected the pork industry's primary claim: that Proposition 12's ban on the sale of pork from cruelly confined animals is unconstitutional merely because it may have indirect so-called "extraterritorial" effects on out-of-state pork producers. The U.S. Supreme Court has long recognized the broad latitude provided by the Tenth Amendment to allow states to enact laws that protect public health, safety, and welfare by regulating the sale of goods and services within state borders. See *Maine v. Taylor*, 477 U.S. 131, 151 (1986); *Southern Pac. Co. v. Arizona ex rel. Sullivan*, 325 U.S. 761, 767 (1945). The EATS Act runs contrary to principles of federalism and the Tenth Amendment that have guided our nation since its founding and have long allowed states to create specific guidelines and regulations for the sale of goods within their borders.

*Broad Bipartisan Support for Banning Extreme Confinement*

There are 15 states (red, blue, and purple)<sup>2</sup> with laws regarding intensive confinement of farm animals and 80% of American voters<sup>3</sup>—including nearly equal numbers of Republicans and Democrats—support a law like Proposition 12 being enacted in their own states.

*EATS Act Hurts Farmers and Rural Communities*

The EATS Act would take away rights from states and localities to set farmer-friendly standards. Family farmers across the country have made significant investments to come into compliance with state laws that could be undone by the EATS Act. Proposition 12 is not a case of California imposing its standards on other states. Producers in any state can decide not to alter their production methods to supply another state's consumers or can segregate animals for different markets as the industry currently does. Many large and small producers have indicated they already can or will be able to supply California's market.

We urge you to reject the EATS Act and oppose inclusion of it—or any similar assault on duly-enacted state and local measures—in the farm bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Updated List of Signatories**

**Note:** of the groups listed below, more than 150 organizations signed this **joint letter**<sup>1</sup> opposing inclusion of any such attack in the farm bill).

**Farm and Food Groups**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Agri-Cultura Cooperative Network                      | National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition                |
| Alabama Contract Poultry Growers Association          | National Women Involved in Farm Economics                 |
| American Agriculture Movement                         | Nebraska Women Involved in Farm Economics                 |
| American Grassfed Association                         | New Roots Institute                                       |
| American Indian Mothers                               | Niman Ranch   |
| Better Food Foundation                                | North American Marine Alliance                            |
| Center for Food Safety                                | Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance                |
| Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment         | Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut      |
| Carolina Farm Stewardship Association                 | Northeast Organic Farming Association of Massachusetts    |
| Community Alliance for Global Justice                 | Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire    |
| Community Farm Alliance                               | Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey       |
| Competitive Markets Action                            | Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York         |
| Contract Poultry Growers Association of the Virginias | Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont          |
| Dakota Resource Council                               | Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group           |
| Dakota Rural Action                                   | Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association                 |
| Dodge County Concerned Citizens (MN)                  | OFARM, Organic Farmers' Agency for Relationship Marketing |
| EarthClaims, LLC                                      |   |

<sup>2</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Lb-l1gaeEvOgp0XokyGXenx3NI9tjN3-/view?usp=sharing>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.dataforprogress.org/blog/2022/8/2/voters-demand-farm-animal-protections-from-both-politicians-and-companies>.

<sup>1</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RFaeTOf5nDFTTdprqJbu1R8ObLIGzeaj/view?usp=sharing>.

Family Farm Defenders  
*Farm Action Fund*<sup>2</sup>  
 Farm Aid  
 Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance  
 Farm Forward  
 Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)  
 Global Organic Alliance, Inc.  
 HEAL Food Alliance  
 Illinois Stewardship Alliance  
 Independent Cattlemen of Wyoming  
 Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy  
 Institute for Local Self-Reliance  
 Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement  
 Iowa Organic Association  
 Jefferson County Farmers & Neighbors, Inc.  
 Land Stewardship Project  
 Latino Farmers & Ranchers International, Inc.  
 Local Matters (OH)  
 Michael Fields Agricultural Institute (WI)  
 Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance (MOFFA)  
 Missouri Rural Crisis Center  
 Missouri's Food for America  
 National Family Farm Coalition  
 National Organic Coalition

#### Animal Protection

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)  
 Animal Defense League of Arizona  
 Animal Equality  
 Animal Legal Defense Fund  
 Animal Outlook  
 Animal Partisan  
 Animal Protection and Rescue League, Inc. (APRL)  
 Animal Protection League of New Jersey  
 Animal Rescue League of Boston  
 Animal Protection Voters (NM)  
 Animal Save Movement  
 Animal Welfare Institute  
 Attorneys for Animals  
 Compassionate Action for Animals  
 Compassion in World Farming  
 Crate Free USA  
 CT Votes for Animals  
 Farm Sanctuary

OrganicEye  
 Organic Consumers Association  
 Organic Farmers Association  
 Organic Farming and Research Foundation  
 Organic Seed Alliance  
 Organization for Competitive Markets  
 Pennsylvania Farmers Union  
 Poweshiek CARES (IA)  
 R-CALF USA  
 REAP Food Group (Madison, WI)  
 Roots of Change  
 Rural Coalition  
 Rural Vermont  
 Socially Responsible Agriculture Project  
 Southern Colorado Livestock Association  
 Sustainable Food Center  
 Sustainable Nantucket  
 The Cornucopia Institute  
 The Weston A. Price Foundation  
 UpRoot Colorado  
 Virginia Association for Biological Farming  
 West Virginia Food and Farm Coalition  
 Western Organization of Resource Councils  
 Women, Food and Agriculture Network

#### Consumer/Food Safety/Public Health

American Public Health Association  
 Antibiotic Resistance Action Center, the George Washington University  
 Center for Science in the Public Interest  
 Clean Label Project  
 Consumer Federation of America  
 Consumer Reports  
 Food & Water Watch

Hawaii Public Health Association  
 National Consumers League  
 National Council for Occupational Safety and Health (COSH)  
 Oklahoma Public Health Association  
 Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine  
 Public Citizen  
 U.S. PIRG  
 VPIRG

#### Environment

Alliance for Sustainability  
 Alliance for the Wild Rockies  
 American Bird Conservancy  
 Anthropocene Alliance  
 Beyond Pesticides  
 Bluestem Group Sierra Club (NE)  
 Burroughs Audubon Nature Club (NY)  
 Californians for Pesticide Reform  
 Cape Henry Audubon Society (VA)  
 Catskill Mountainkeeper  
 Center for Biological Diversity  
 Clean Air Council  
 Conservation Northwest  
 Defenders of Wildlife  
 Earthjustice  
 Earth Charter Indiana  
 Endangered Habitats League  
 Endangered Species Coalition  
 Environment America  
 Environmental Working Group  
 Friends of Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas  
 Friends of the Earth  
 Friends of the Mississippi  
 Hasting Environmental Protectors  
 Hoosier Environmental Council

Kentucky Waterways Alliance  
 Lake Erie Waterkeeper  
 League of Conservation Voters  
 Maryland United for Peace and Justice, Inc.  
 Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter  
 Natural Resources Defense Council  
 New Hampshire Sierra Club  
 Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP)  
 Ocean River Institute  
 Ohio Sustainable Business Council  
 Otsego Land Trust, Inc.  
 Project Coyote  
 Queens County Bird Club  
 Saint Paul Audubon  
 Saw Mill River Audubon (NY)  
 Sierra Club  
 Sustainable Earth Eating  
 The Trustees of Reservations  
 The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation  
 Virginia Organizing  
 Vote Climate  
 Union of Concerned Scientists  
 Waterkeeper Alliance  
 Waterkeepers Chesapeake—Fair Farms Initiative

#### Labor

Alianza Nacional de Campesinas (The National Farmworker Women's Alliance)  
 CRLA Foundation

Farmworker Association of Florida  
 Food Chain Workers Alliance  
 The Child Labor Coalition (representing 38 groups)

#### Legal

Association of Prosecuting Attorneys

Environmental Law & Policy Center (Midwest)

<sup>2</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_XV5PVWNhU3O5bMktWX48J6vF27WnosX/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_XV5PVWNhU3O5bMktWX48J6vF27WnosX/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

Conservation Law Center (IN)  
Conservation Law Foundation (New England)  
Corporate Accountability Lab

Harvard Animal Law & Policy Program  
Kentucky Equal Justice Center  
Western Environmental Law Center

#### Limited Government/States' Rights

FreedomWorks

#### State and Local Government

Association of Indiana Counties  
County Executives of America  
*National Association of Counties*<sup>3</sup>

*National Conference of State Legislatures*<sup>3</sup>  
*National League of Cities*<sup>3</sup>

#### 16 State Attorneys General<sup>4</sup>

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel  
Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul  
Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes  
California Attorney General Rob Bonta  
Connecticut Attorney General William Tong  
District of Columbia Attorney General Brian L. Schwab  
Hawaii Attorney General Anne E. Lopez  
Maine Attorney General Aaron M. Frey

Maryland Attorney General Anthony G. Brown  
Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell  
New Jersey Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin  
New Mexico Attorney General Raúl Torrez  
New York Attorney General Letitia James  
Oregon Attorney General Ellen F. Rosenblum  
Pennsylvania Attorney General Michelle A. Henry  
Vermont Attorney General Charity R. Clark

*State Legislators Who Signed Letters Opposing the EATS Act*

Senator Dayna Polehanki (MI)

#### 12 Minnesota State Legislators<sup>5</sup>

Senator Jim Carlson (MN)  
Senator D. Scott Dibble (MN)  
Senator Omar Fateh (MN)  
Senator Heather Gustafson (MN)  
Senator Matt Klein (MN)  
Senator Mary Kunes (MN)

Senator Rob Kupec (MN)  
Senator Ron Latz (MN)  
Senator John Marty (MN)  
Senator Jennifer A. McEwen (MN)  
Senator Sandra L. Pappas (MN)  
Senator Lindsey Port (MN)

#### 41 Producers, Retail, and Foodservice Companies (Headquarter Locations Noted)<sup>6</sup>

Actual Veggies (FL)  
Applegate (NJ)  
Bon Appétit Management Company (CA)  
Boulder Organics (CO)  
ButcherBox (MA)  
Campfire Treats (CA)  
Coleman Natural Foods (CO)  
Crowd Cow (WA)  
duBreton (NH)  
Earth Animal Ventures (MD)  
Evermore Pet Food (NY)  
Grass Roots Farmers' Co-op (AR)  
Grebing Farms LLC (MO)  
Handsome Brook Farms (NY)  
Happy Valley Meat Company (NY)  
Hickory Nut Gap Farm LLC (NC)  
Home Place Pastures (MS)  
Hungryroot (NY)  
Kettle Cuisine (MA)  
Kipster (IN)  
Mission Driven Meat and Seafood (TX)

Natural Grocers (CO)  
Nest Fresh (CA)  
Niman Ranch (CO)  
North Country Smokehouse (NH)  
Open Farm (DE)  
Other Half Processing (MN)  
ParsleyPet (TX)  
Pederson's Natural Farms (TX)  
Perdue Foods (MD)  
Pete and Gerry's Eggs (NH)  
RoliRoli (CA)  
Solutions Pet Products (CO)  
Sundays for Dogs, Inc (OH)  
Thrive Market (CA)  
True Story Foods (CA)  
Walden Local Meat (MA)  
White Oak Pastures (GA)  
Whole30 (UT)  
Whole Foods Market (TX)  
Wild Nosh Pets (CO)

#### Individual Farms

#### 106 Alabama-based Farms<sup>7</sup>

Brett's Garden, Abbeville  
Licksillet Acres, Adger  
Indigo Ridge Farms, Anniston  
Red Briar Farm, Ashland  
Earnest Roots Farm, Ashville  
Jen's Hens, Athens  
Pecan Grove Farm, Athens  
Walden Farms, Bessemer  
Twin Rivers Farms, Black  
511 Rains Farm & Gardens, Boaz  
Smitherman Cattle, Brent  
The Vogel Farms, Brierfield  
Milligan Family Farms, LLC, Buhl  
Blueberry Havens, Camp Hill  
Cog Hill Farm, Clanton  
Iron Side Ranch LLC, Clanton  
Mountain Meadow Farm, Columbiana  
Red Hill Farms, Cropwell  
Henke Farms, Cullman  
3191 Farm, Decatur  
Gin House Branch Farm, Decatur  
CRB Farms, Double Springs  
Lillian Cattle Company, Elberta  
Carter Sod Farm Alabama, Elmore  
Living Loudly Acres, Eufaula

Harcrow Herefords, Ider  
Ever-Hope Farm, Jackson  
Greenleaf Farms, Joppa  
Back Woods Farm, Kinston  
Amason Cattle Co., Lineville  
Loxley Farm Market, Loxley  
Southard Farms, Madison  
Chestnut Hills Farmstead, McKenzie  
Bill's Honey Farm, Meridianville  
Grandview Farms, Montevallo  
Down to Earth Organics, LLC, Montgomery  
Turley Cattle, Morris  
Rusty Tractor Ranch, Moulton  
Happy Harvest, New Brockton  
JDM Family Farm, New Hope  
Circles of Colors, Notasulga  
Deeply Rooted Farms, Opelika  
Manor Farms, Opelika  
Ellis Farms, Opp  
Mayim Farm, Opp  
Tolar Satsuma Farm, Pansey  
Ford Greenhouse & Horticultural, Parrish  
Foothills Farm, Piedmont  
C&T Cattle Farm, Prattville  
Prattville Honey Farm, Prattville

<sup>3</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GKIbc1KIwsM5lwzR2057L73YvzgkuZGr/view?usp=sharing>.†

<sup>4</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g017wBso0cGL0ZEqqy2BZzGS357PDIx/view>.†

<sup>5</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Mqd3qgRIiHkPoRTdYsolXVz-K6g53Oj/view?usp=sharing>.†

<sup>6</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kFrkvShIs0Dc2pJlWraJhNhk14EeUg7t/view>.†

<sup>7</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1syUgmXpkZnwE6wk0D5x7rYgP4ZURh046/view>.†

Wonderway Farms, Eutaw  
 Circle G Farms AL, Florence  
 Hills Herefords, Florence  
 TG Farms, Florence  
 Purely Pastured Farm, Foley  
 Holland Hill Farms, Fort Payne  
 Red Boat Farm, Fort Payne  
 Wallace Homestead, Fosters  
 Wolf Thicket Farm, Fyffe  
 Ingram Farms, Gordo  
 Magnolia-Brand Farm & Apiary, Gordo  
 Miller Herefords, Grand Bay  
 Benson Family Farms, Grant  
 WK Farms, Hamilton  
 Alchemy Farms & Plants, LLC, Hampton Cove  
 Sunwise Flowers, Hartselle  
 West Hart Farm, Hartselle  
 Sleepy Hollow Blueberry Farm, Hayden  
 Witt Farm, Hayden  
 Leatherneck Creek, Henagar  
 Gardens On Air—A Local Farm, Inc., Hokes Bluff  
 Wide Open Spaces LLC, Hokes Bluff  
 Hazels Market, Holly Pond  
 The Mathis Mini Farm, Homewood  
 Fine Folly Minis, Horton  
 G6 Family Farm LLC, Huntsville  
 Howling Fresh Farm, LLC, Huntsville  
 Robinsong Dairy Goats, Huntsville

Eagle Eye Honey, Aguila  
 Forever Yong Farm, Amado  
 Arivaca Community Garden, Arivaca  
 Whorled Leaf, Arivaca  
 Leverone Family Farm LLC, Ash Fork  
 M Triangle Ranch, Bonita  
 Crow's Dairy, Buckeye  
 Tim Vanderhart Farms LLC, Buckeye  
 Clear Creek Vineyard & Winery, Camp Verde  
 Caywood Farms, Casa Grande  
 Auza Herefords, Chandler  
 Andrew Acres Farm, Chino Valley  
 B Organic Farm, Chino Valley  
 Cold Creek Ranch, Clifton  
 Cochise Family Farm LLC, Cochise  
 Gillespie Farms, Coolidge  
 Harmony Acres Ranch, Cornville  
 Lazy 5 S Cattle Company, Cornville  
 Riverside Farm, Duncan  
 FlatTop Farm LLC, Eagar  
 R Lazy J Ranch, Eagar  
 Cochise Pecans LLC, Elfrida  
 Coyote Song Farm, Elfrida  
 Golden Rule Dairy, LLC, Elfrida  
 Sheep Thrills Farm, Flagstaff  
 Goats with Horns, Gilbert  
 Heartquist Hollow Family Farm, Gilbert  
 Perry Land & Cattle, Gilbert  
 GF Ranch, Golden Valley  
 Desert Bloom Garden Center, Green Valley  
 Beatty's Guest Ranch & Orchard, Hereford  
 Laine Organic Farms, Hereford  
 Dusty River Produce, Holbrook  
 Ravens Perch Ranch, Huachuca City  
 Alpacas of the Southwest, Kingman  
 Frost Sheep, Kingman  
 Mountain Egg Farm, Kingman  
 White Harte Farms, Lake Havasu City  
 CJ's Orchard, Inc., Marana  
 High Energy Agriculture, Marana  
 Iron Quail Ranch, Marana  
 Larry's Veggies, Marana  
 Laughing Bird Ranch, Marana  
 Grace Ranch, Maricopa  
 Arizona Farm Grow, Mesa  
 Double Blessings, Mesa  
 Steadfast Farm, Mesa  
 Summers Fruit Barn (and orchard), Mesa  
 Elizabeth's Garden, Oro Valley  
 Buckelew Farms II, Parker  
 Martinez Farms, Parker  
 LAME Acres Nubian Goat Farm, Paulden  
 Quenga Farm, Paulden  
 Ridgeview Farms, Paulden  
 McClendon's Select, Peoria

Wilderwood Farm, Ralph  
 Brushy Creek Cattle Company, Repton  
 4M Farm, Roanoke  
 Wehadkee Farm, Roanoke  
 Gardner's Berry Farm, Robertsdale  
 Meme's Poultry and Quail Sales, Robertsdale  
 LB3 Farm, Scottsboro  
 Henderson Farm Alabama, Selma  
 C & B Farm, Slocomb  
 Evandale Hereford Farm, Smiths Station  
 Smiths Farm & Ranch, South Tuskegee  
 Grateful Akers Farm & Apiary, Springville  
 Grateful Akers Sheep & Cattle Co, Springville  
 Reeves Farm, Stapleton  
 Blue Rooster Farms, Sterrett  
 Four Mile Farms Produce, Sylacauga  
 Olive Hill Homeplace, [Tallahassee]  
 Derbyshire Slough, Toney  
 Hyde's Harvest, Toney  
 Beavers Christmas Tree Farm, Trafford  
 Twisted Pine Goat Ranch, Tuscaloosa  
 BDA Farm, Uniontown  
 Katie's Gourds, Vinemont  
 Spradlin Farm, Vinemont  
 Eknv-Yefolecv, Weogufka  
 Shiloh Ridge Farm, Wetumpka  
 Lovelight Farm, Wilsonville  
 Futral Farms LLC, Woodland

*110 Arizona-based Farms<sup>8</sup>*

Peoria AZ Fainting Goats, Peoria  
 Area Farms Arizona, Phoenix  
 Arizona Microgreens, Phoenix  
 Arizona Worm Farm, Phoenix  
 Cactus Hills Alpaca Farm, Phoenix  
 Crooked Carrot Farm, Phoenix  
 Diaspora Garden, Phoenix  
 Herbal.Lyf.Styl LLC, Phoenix  
 Horny Toad Farm, Phoenix  
 Hypha Farms, Phoenix  
 Sacred Garden Farm, Phoenix  
 Tiger Mountain Foundation, Phoenix  
 Pine Creek Lavender Farm, Pine  
 Pinedora Farms, Pinedale  
 White Barn Hay & Cattle, Portal  
 Delicious Earth Farm, Prescott  
 Painted Lady Vineyard, Prescott  
 Blue Goose Farms, Prescott Valley  
 AZ Silkies & Seramas, Queen Creek  
 Ennes Club Lambs, Queen Creek  
 Hagen Farms, Queen Creek  
 Wild Heart Farm, Rimrock  
 Angle Orchard, Safford  
 Poultry Paradise Free Range Birds, Saint David  
 Growers Best Organics, San Tan Valley  
 Magma 840, LLC, San Tan Valley  
 Wagner Christmas Trees, Scottsdale  
 White Mountain KuneKunes, Show Low  
 Bowman Farms, Solomon  
 Knight Herefords, Springerville  
 Dart Organics II, LLC, Stanfield  
 Bradbury Farms, Surprise  
 Cotton Lane Citrus, Surprise  
 Daisy Mae's Family Farm, Surprise  
 Dynamite Organic Farm, Surprise  
 Kennedy's Roots Farm, Surprise  
 Two Five Farm, Surprise  
 Cheney Sheep, Tempe  
 C3's Gallinaceous Hatchery, Tonopah  
 Litson Ranch, Tsailie  
 Arizona Cactus Ranch, Tucson  
 Dos Manos Apiaries, Tucson  
 Holistic Green Things, Tucson  
 HoofsnHorns, Tucson  
 Miss Linda's Farm, Tucson  
 Tucson CSA, Tucson  
 Tucson Organic Gardeners, Tucson  
 Bella Luna Goat Farm, Vernon  
 BHB Miniature Herefords, Waddell  
 Date Creek Ranch LLC, Wickenburg  
 Tirrito Farms, Wilcox  
 Copper Horse Vineyard, Wilcox  
 Dragon Mountain Vineyard, Wilcox  
 Hoof and Wattle Homestead, Wittmann  
 Hillside Farms, Yuma

<sup>8</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NoeuGGffoiLyEmZqYBHlxjwzddcd6r\\_k/view.†](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NoeuGGffoiLyEmZqYBHlxjwzddcd6r_k/view.†)

114 Arkansas-based Farms<sup>9</sup>

Mad H Acres Farm, Alma  
 Ahillen Acres, Austin  
 Elk Farms, Austin  
 IMOJE Dawson Family Farms, Austin  
 Phifer Farms, Bald Knob  
 Blowing Oaks Ranch, LLC, Batesville  
 R&D Gay Farms, Batesville  
 Big Red Farms, Bauxite  
 DreamWeavers Family Farm, Bauxite  
 Connell Berry Farm, Benton  
 Rusty Rooster Chicken Ranch, Benton  
 Triple Z Farm LLC, Benton  
 L. Weston Cattle Company LLC, Bentonville  
 Helm View Homestead, Bigelow  
 Porch Swing Farms, Bigelow  
 Up Jack Creek Farm, Booneville  
 3E Cattle Company, Bradford  
 Hallie Hankins Herefords, Cabot  
 JWC Farm, Cabot  
 Piney Creek Farm KuneKunes, Calico Rock  
 R Family Farm, Canehill  
 Pine Grove Christmas Tree Farm, Charleston  
 Circle H Bar Ranch, Clarksville  
 The Bluebird Ranch Winery, Clinton  
 Millie Moo Farms, Conway  
 The Riley Homestead, Conway  
 Age Old Agriculture, Cotter  
 Gardenscapes GCK, Crawfordsville  
 Bradford Valley Farms, Damascus  
 Rock-A-Berry Farm LLC, Decatur  
 Ouachita River Valley Farm, Donaldson  
 Holland Wildflower Farm, Elkins  
 Horn Farms & Country Kitchen, Elm Springs  
 Railway Winery & Vineyards, Eureka Springs  
 Opossum Hollow Produce, Evansville  
 Ames Orchard and Nursery, Fayetteville  
 Apple Star Farm, Fayetteville  
 Waltzing Rock Farm, Fayetteville  
 Ozark Valley Bison Farm, Fox  
 B&B Farms, Glencoe  
 Cadron Delta Farms, LLC, Greenbrier  
 Looper Farms, Greenwood  
 Mountain Valley Cattle Co, Hackett  
 Three Hollows Farm, Harriet  
 Frog Creek Farm, Harrisburg  
 Dayspring Farms, Harrison  
 Duvall Farms, Hattieville  
 Walker Farms, Huntington  
 Dripping Springs Garden, Huntsville  
 Sandy Hill Farm, Huntsville  
 Crowson & Cherry Land & Cattle, Jonesboro  
 Hydro House, Jonesboro  
 Lost Creek Flowers, Jonesboro  
 Davis Farms, Junction City  
 Sweden Creek Farm, Kingston  
 Wild Ozark, Kingston  
 Dakotah Pastures, Knoxville

Leventini Farms, Acampo  
 Sage Mountain Farm, Aguanga  
 Tzaddik Farm, Alpine  
 Marshall's Farm, American Canyon  
 HexenWald Ranch, Aptos  
 New Natives LLC, Aptos  
 Green Spiral Farm, Arcata  
 Rainbow Hills, Arroyo Grande  
 Bodacious Blooms, Auburn  
 Shared Abundance Organic Farm, Auburn  
 Covenant Pastures, Bakersfield  
 Desert Olive Farms, Brawley  
 Turning Point Growing Works, Camarillo  
 Honey Blossom Retreat Garden, LLC, Carmel Valley  
 Villa Pacifica Ranch, Cayucos  
 123 Farm, Cherry Valley  
 Chickadee Flats, Clio  
 Double A Walnuts, Colusa  
 Maywood Farms, Corning  
 McMartin Farms, Corning  
 The Seeds of Xanxadu, Covina  
 SZ Ranch, Cuyama  
 Homestead of Misfit Critters, Diamond Springs  
 Sally Negroni, Dixon  
 Honey Pacifica, Downey

Spillman Family Farms, Lead Hill  
 RNG Farm, Leslie  
 Berry Haven Farms, Little Rock  
 Cardinal Pickin Produce, Little Rock  
 Chas-s C Farms, Little Rock  
 Walnut Valley Honey Company, Little Rock  
 Sprout Urban Farms Co., Little Rock  
 Aviary Flower Farm, Locust Bayou  
 Pine Ridge Gardens, London  
 Renee's Berry Garden, London  
 Broken Spur Ranch, Lonoke  
 Hillside Acres Farm of NWA, Lowell  
 Ozark Alternative, Lowell  
 Sacred Hollow Farm, Lowell  
 CJ Farms, Malvern  
 Starbrite Farm, Marshall  
 Shook Farms, McRae  
 Barnyard Friends, Morrilton  
 Movie House Winery, Morrilton  
 Caston Farms, Onia  
 Dunrovin Farm, Paris  
 Harmony Acres Farm, Pocahontas  
 Boyd Family Farms, Ratcliff  
 Remedy Fields, Rector  
 Renegade Hens, Rogers  
 Four Dragons Farm LLC, Roland  
 Rock Creek Farm, Romance  
 Thundering L Herefords, Rose Bud  
 Goody Gang LLC, Russellville  
 Deiscirt Cross Feirm, Saint Joe  
 Ozark Family Farm, Salem  
 Natural State Microgreens, Scott  
 Rob & Kelsey Post Funny Farm, Scott  
 Rusher Family Farms, Scott  
 Shady Grove Pecan Orchards, Scott  
 Rafter S Cattle, Searcy  
 Willowbrook Farm and Sheep Dairy, Searcy  
 Wyatt Farm, Searcy  
 Circle K Angus Farm, Sheridan  
 Copeland Cattle Farm, Sherwood  
 Crown Y Ranch, Sidney  
 Illinois River Katahdins, Siloam Springs  
 Myers Herefords, Siloam Springs  
 Bilbrey Century Farm, Smithville  
 Cooks Berry Park, Springdale  
 Odglen Farms, Springdale  
 Independence Ark Farm, Sulphur Rock  
 Peace Farm Organics, Van Buren  
 Rattle's Garden, Vilonia  
 C Squared Farms, Vilonia  
 KR Farms, Waldron  
 Bullwick Farms, West Fork  
 ClemTuck Farm, West Fork  
 Ozark All Seasons, Winslow  
 Double B Farm & Ranch, Wye Mountain  
 Killough Farms, Wynne  
 Melvin Taylor Farms, Wynne

143 California-based Farms<sup>10</sup>

Berkeley Olive Grove 1913, Oroville  
 Paicines Ranch, Paicines  
 Blossom Bluff Orchards, Parlier  
 Green Goose Farm, Pengrove  
 Pilz Produce at Hillcrest, Penryn  
 Fifth Crow Farm, Pescadero  
 Harley Farms Goat Dairy, Pescadero  
 Neve Farms, Petaluma  
 Tara Firma Farms, Petaluma  
 The Lost Coast Ranch, Petrolia  
 Philo Apple Farm, Philo  
 Cloverfield Organic Farm, Pinole  
 Happy Hens Inc, Ramona  
 Quinn Farms, Ramona  
 Soil Born Farms, Rancho Cordova  
 Rocking Rolls Land & Cattle Co, Riverbank  
 Blossoms of Aloha, Riverside  
 ERD Ranch, Riverside  
 Golden Farms, Riverside  
 Shellys Succulents, Riverside  
 Albert Bradley Farm, Sacramento  
 Broken Plow Farm, Sacramento  
 Thomas Deeble, Sacramento  
 Narez Organic Vegetables, Salinas  
 Black Sheep Farms, San Bernardino

<sup>9</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-olaKHcxjle4YGzxoDxqnMDBDobT17b3/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>10</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1I0rmfjsu0YjBY1h4cWBR0CGWujiTHJ/view>.<sup>†</sup>

The Honest Bison, El Segundo  
 Wentworth Vineyards, Elk  
 Sugar Sweet Farm, Encinitas  
 Durst Organic Growers, Esparto  
 De Luz Flower Growers, Fallbrook  
 Hillcrest Healthy Grove, Fallbrook  
 Marian Biodynamic Farms, Fresno  
 McKinney Farm, Fresno  
 Esquivel Farms, Gilroy  
 Family Friendly Farms, Grass Valley  
 Johnson Farm, Gridley  
 Full Belly Farm, Guinda  
 Half Moon Honey, Half Moon Bay  
 Potrero Nuevo Farm, Half Moon Bay  
 Porter Creek Vineyards, Healdsburg  
 California Kurobuta, Hollister  
 Winterport Farm, Jone  
 VJB Vineyards, Kenwood  
 The Bee Army, La Habra  
 Spring Thyme Nursery, Lakeport  
 Olds Family Farms, Le Grand  
 Mayo Club Lambs, Live Oak  
 Kwanderosa Farms, Livermore  
 Loomis Alpacas, Loomis  
 Arge Acres, Los Banos  
 Patchen California, Los Gatos  
 Kandarian Organic Farms, Los Osos  
 Prema Farm, Loyalton  
 Lazy Heifer Ranch, Mad River  
 Dirty Girl Farm, McCloud  
 Leo's Plants, McKinleyville  
 Big River, Ltd., Mendocino  
 Menlo Honey, Menlo Park  
 Knuth Kreations Inc, Mentone  
 Three Wee Bee's, Mentone  
 Tawanda Farms, Montague  
 Shanley Farms, Morro Bay  
 Atlas Peak Olive Oil, Napa  
 Forunati Vineyards, Napa  
 Soda Canyon Farm, Napa  
 Hathaway Hills Orchards, Newcastle  
 Petersen Club Lambs, Nipomo  
 Twisty Pines Ranch, Norco  
 Sunrise Sheep Company, Oakdale  
 Kassenhoff Growers, Oakland  
 White Fox Freestone, Occidental  
 Churchill Orchard, Ojai

Lytle Greens, San Bernardino  
 Yoon Perris Farm, San Bernardino  
 B Street Growers, San Diego  
 Gerwig Avocado Ranch, San Diego  
 Harmony Hill Ranch, San Diego  
 Homesteader Pantry, San Diego  
 Kathryn Brown's Farm, San Diego  
 Kellogg Orchard, San Diego  
 Mikolich Honey, San Diego  
 Mindful Mushrooms, San Diego  
 Page's Organics, San Diego  
 Rodney's Ranch, San Diego  
 Sager Family Farm, San Diego  
 Seabreeze Organic Farm, San Diego  
 Morris Grassfed Beef, San Juan Bautista  
 T.O. Cattle Co, San Juan Bautista  
 Kandarian Organic Farms, San Luis Obispo  
 California Coast Naturals (Makela Family Farm), Santa Barbara  
 John Givens Farms, Santa Barbara  
 Koperberg Farm, Santa Clarita  
 Bees N Blooms, Santa Rosa  
 Moondance Farm, Santa Rosa  
 Viluko Farms, Santa Rosa  
 Beet Generation Farm, Sebastopol  
 River Bee's, Shively  
 Seavey Vineyard, St. Helena  
 Varozza Vineyards, St. Helena  
 Hattesen Farm, Stratford  
 Alchemy's Grove, Temecula  
 The Alpaca Hacienda, Temecula  
 Pato's Date Gardens, Thermal  
 Stemple Creek Ranch, Tomales  
 Hamlow Farms, Turlock  
 Lockwood Acres, Vacaville  
 Triple B Ranches, Valley Center  
 Guerrero Farms, Visalia  
 Ambling Ambystoma Farm, Watsonville  
 Birdsong Orchards, Watsonville  
 Dobler and Sons, LLC, Watsonville  
 Hauer Apple Ranch, Watsonville  
 Weimar Farm, Weimar  
 Neukom Family Farm, Willow Creek  
 Sierra Orchards, Winters  
 Petit Teton, Yorkville  
 Keever Vineyards, Yountville  
 Dombrowski Ranch, Yuba City

Sammons Livestock, Alamosa  
 Nola Naturals, Avondale  
 Degoatsnsheep Ranch LLC, Bayfield  
 Amy's Grass-Fed Beef, Bellvue  
 Blazing Star Organics, Bennett  
 Tuff's Ranch, Bennett  
 Bee Squared Apiaries, Berthoud  
 Dart Farms, Berthoud  
 High Altitude Rhubarb, Black Forest  
 Hempward Farms, Boulder  
 Off Beet Farm, Boulder  
 Wild Child Farm, Boulder  
 Bromley Farm, Brighton  
 Red Daisy Farm, Brighton  
 Lost Rock Farm, Broomfield  
 Simply Fresh Microgreens, Broomfield  
 Linger Fold, Buford  
 Bradbury Land & Cattle Co, Byers  
 Badger Creek Ranch, Canon City  
 Diana's Pumpkin Patch, Cannon City  
 Green Junction Farmstead, Clifton  
 Beauty Farm, Colorado Springs  
 Udder Blessings, Colorado Springs  
 Rock River Ranches, Commerce City  
 Sutcliffe Vineyards, Cortez  
 Crooked Sky Ranch, Cortez  
 Feral Farm, Cortez  
 Jones Farm, Cortez  
 Podunk's Ranch, Cortez  
 Tierra Madre Herbs, Cortez  
 Punk's Pumpkin Patch, Delta  
 Altius Farms, Inc., Denver  
 Blossom & Branch Farm, Denver  
 Northsider Farms, LLC, Denver  
 Coltivare, Durango  
 Mocking Crow Farm, Durango  
 Tocayo Farm, Durango  
 Blue Trane Heritage Farm, Elbert

Dancing Dog Farm, Hotchkiss  
 Delicious Orchards, Hotchkiss  
 Leroux Creek Vineyards, Hotchkiss  
 Mesa Winds Farm, Hotchkiss  
 Sunshine Mesa Farm, Hotchkiss  
 Thistle Whistle Farm, Hotchkiss  
 Valere Farm and Ranch, Hudson  
 Fresh Start Microgreens, Ignacio  
 Fleischer Family Farm, Lakewood  
 Lady Moon Flowers, Livermore  
 Red Granite Ranch, Livermore  
 Roots From Eden CSA, Loma  
 Artemis Flower Farm, Longmont  
 Pachamama Farm, Longmont  
 WeeBee Farms, Longmont  
 YA YA Farm & Orchard, Longmont  
 Barnyard Buddies Painting Goats, Loveland  
 Penleys Dorpers, Loveland  
 Whiteside Honey Company, Loveland  
 Lyons Farmette, Lyons  
 Sacred Song Farm, Mancos  
 Flying Pig Farm, Manitou Springs  
 Cottonwood Creek Farms, Merino  
 Rafter P Ranch, Monte Vista  
 Delyaks, Montrose  
 Searle Ranch, Monument  
 WLW Miniature Herefords, Mosca  
 Kilt Farm, Niwot  
 Indian Ridge Farm, Norwood  
 Golden Prairie, Inc., Nunn  
 Colterris Vineyard, Palisade  
 Early Morning Orchard, Palisade  
 Sprigs & Sprouts of Western CO, LLC., Palisade  
 Gray Acres, Paonia  
 Holy Terror Farm, Paonia  
 Muscat Acres, Paonia  
 Puesta del Sol Vineyards, Paonia  
 The Living Farm, Paonia

123 Colorado-based Farms <sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dYsmDwEpoZ7s3bluKiAagsxyRi\\_cvrfx/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dYsmDwEpoZ7s3bluKiAagsxyRi_cvrfx/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

Cloverleaf Farms West, Elizabeth  
 El Zorro Colorado Alpacas, Elizabeth  
 Falkor Ranch, Elizabeth  
 Ferris Berg Farm, Elizabeth  
 RK Creations Farm, Elizabeth  
 Lazy J Cattle, Flagler  
 Belafonte Farm, Fort Collins  
 The Hillside Vineyard, Fort Collins  
 Small Acre Farm, Fort Collins  
 OwlTree Farm, Fort Collins  
 My One Acre Farm, Fort Lupton  
 Heckmann Hollow, Fowler  
 Roan Creek Ranch, Fruita  
 Rivendell Farms/Plus Lazy K, Glenwood Springs  
 Ant D's Fine Foods Produce, Golden  
 Nicole Jackson Grass Fed Beef, Golden  
 Fitch Ranch, Granby  
 Bolton's Orchards, Grand Junction  
 GV Sheep Kingdom, Grand Junction  
 Helming Hampshires, Greeley  
 Pfz Farms (Pfaltzgraff Farms), Haxtun  
 Jakes Farm, Hesperus  
 Arize Farm Botanicals, Hotchkiss  
 Cobblestone Farm, Hotchkiss

108 Connecticut-based Farms<sup>12</sup>

Proctor-Hall Farm, Andover  
 Earth, Wind & Fire Farm LLC, Ashford  
 Brennan Brook Farm, Beacon Falls  
 Good Feather Farm, Bethlehem  
 Samad Garden Initiative, Bloomfield  
 The 4 Five Farm, Bloomfield  
 Valencia Grows, Bloomfield  
 Shrub Oak Mushroom Company, Bridgeport  
 Flying R Ranch, Bridgewater  
 Stuart Family Farm, Bridgewater  
 Little Dipper Farm, Brooklyn  
 Pakulis Farm LLC, Brooklyn  
 Jurassic Farm, Canterbury  
 Bristols Farm LLC, Canton  
 KD Crop Farms, Chaplin  
 Boulder Knoll Community Farm, Cheshire  
 Emerald Eyes Apiary LLC, Cheshire  
 Chakana Sky Alpacas, Chester  
 Schrempp's Tree Farm, Clinton  
 Cold Spring Farm, Colchester  
 Earth's Palate Farm, Cornwall  
 East Meadow Farm and Orchard, Coventry  
 Still River Farm, Coventry  
 Tardif Poultry Farm, Coventry  
 Black Sun Farm, Danielson  
 Blue Hills Farm, Durham  
 Snowbell Farms, Durham  
 Healing By Growing Farms, East Haven  
 Flower Power Farm, East Windsor  
 Palmier's Farm, Easton  
 MrBee Keeping, Fairfield  
 The Village Farm, Gaylordsville  
 Ivy Mountain Farm, Goshen  
 Old Barn Farm, Goshen  
 Old Beech Farm, Granby  
 Sam Bridge Nursery and Greenhouses, Greenwich  
 Standing Stone Farm, Griswold  
 Groton Family Farm, Groton  
 Nadeau Farm, Hamden  
 Yellow House Honey, Hamden  
 Turtle Ledge Farm, Hampton  
 Chambers Family Farm, Higganum  
 Late Bloomer Farm & Apiaries, Jewett City  
 Kent Greenhouse & Gardens, Kent  
 Bitta-Blue Farm, Killingsworth  
 Privacy Trees CT, Killingsworth  
 BK Tree Farm, Lebanon  
 Stone Oak Farms, Lebanon  
 Chanticleer Acres, Litchfield  
 Tranquillity Vineyard & Winery, Middlebury  
 River Ridge Farm, Middletown  
 New Petal Flower Farm LLC, Monroe  
 Lakeside Farm, Morris  
 Towne's Farm, Morris

113 Florida-based Farms<sup>13</sup>

Chestnut Hill Nursery, Alachua  
 Deep Spring Farm, Alachua  
 J & M Farm, Alva

Flat Acre Farms, Parker  
 Bugling Elk Vineyard and Winery, Penrose  
 Harmony Homestead, Penrose  
 Pop's Vineyard, Penrose  
 Cleta's Natural Beef, Piedmontese  
 Felix Family Farm, Rocky Ford  
 Winters Ranch, Rush  
 Mountain Goat Lodge-Dairy Goat Farm, Salida  
 Rocky Mountain Garlic, Salida  
 Hunters Moon Meadery, Severance  
 Sopris Alpaca Farm, Silt  
 Baker's Acres Colorado, Steamboat Springs  
 Colorado Sheep and Lamb LLC, Sterling  
 Mayard Herefords, Strasburg  
 Boizot Livestock, Wellington  
 D & K Hampshires, Wellington  
 Sangres Best, Westcliffe  
 Fruitdale Farm, Wheat Ridge  
 Gentle Spirit Alpaca Farm, Wiggins  
 Buena Vida Farm, Windsor  
 The Farm Collaborative, Woody Creek  
 Hemp Farm Colorado LLC, Yuma  
 Sun Prairie Beef, Yuma

Maple Hollow Tree Farm, New Hartford  
 Cove Honey, LLC, New Haven  
 G.R.O.W.E.R.S. Inc., New Haven  
 Centerbrook Farm-Hipp Farm, New Milford  
 Designing Eden LLC, New Milford  
 Finnegan's Farm, New Milford  
 The Striped Cow, New Milford  
 Flirtation Farms, New Preston  
 Sam's Tree Farm, Newtown  
 Lost Acres Vineyard, North Granby  
 Devon Point Farm, North Stonington  
 Northfordy Farm, Northford  
 Evergreen Berry Farm, LLC, Oakville  
 River Bend Alpacas, Oxford  
 Red Tail Valley Farm, Pomfret Center  
 Blueberry Intervale, Preston  
 Maple Lane Farms, Preston  
 Hunts Brook Farm, Quaker Hill  
 New Pond Farm Education Center, Redding  
 Robert and Allison Ford, Roxbury  
 Twilight Dreams Farm, Roxbury  
 Great Ring Farm, Sandy Hook  
 Four Maples Farm, Sharon  
 Smokedown Farm, Sharon  
 Dondoro Orchards, South Glastonbury  
 Joseph Preli Farm & Vineyard, South Glastonbury  
 Mark's Apiary, South Glastonbury  
 Symphony Flower Farm, South Woodstock  
 Down to Earth CSA, Stafford  
 Lantern Hill Acres Farm, Stafford Springs  
 Faigate Farm, Stamford  
 Terra Green Growing Co. LLC, Stamford  
 Shooks Apiaries, Storms  
 Zelda's Vegetables, Terryville  
 Cricket Hill Garden, Thomaston  
 Walt's Bees, Tolland  
 Backyard Blooms, Trumbull  
 Blue Hills Orchard, Wallingford  
 Averill Farm, Washington Depot  
 Helmstead Farm, Washington Depot  
 Urban Fresh Gardens, Waterbury  
 Desantis Farm, Watertown  
 Tara Farm, Watertown  
 Buck Mountain Herbs, West Cornwall  
 Cobble Hill Farm Cornwall LLC, West Cornwall  
 Smith Richardson Farm, Westport  
 BeeLove Apiaries, Wilton  
 Rocky Ridge Farmstead, Winchester  
 Kate and Mike's Naturally Grown, Woodbridge  
 Lavender Creek Farm LLC, Woodbury  
 Ox Hollow Farm, Woodbury  
 Azuluna Foods, Woodstock  
 Hansen Family Tree Farm LLC, Woodstock Valley  
 Joy Corner Farm, Woodstock Valley

Chestnut Hill Nursery, Alachua  
 Deep Spring Farm, Alachua  
 J & M Farm, Alva

<sup>12</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/14ioNIqpXwWnoNKziMH6JcArkB1ukRug/view?usp=sharing>.†

<sup>13</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/18gqRAc59yFD2L42hZwOKTbtR9OEjc8b/view?usp=sharing>.†

A&R Farms, Arcadia  
 Judy's Jungle, Arcadia  
 Bilbrey Family Farm, Auburndale  
 Le Farm & Nursery LLC, Bonifay  
 Neem Tree Farms, Brandon  
 Irish Acres, Brooksville  
 Los Pollitos Family Farm, Chiefland  
 Pie Vallie Goat Farm, Chiefland  
 HapPei Acres, Chipley  
 Wheeler Farm, Chipley  
 Tru Farm, Christiansted  
 Life Farms, LLC, Clearwater  
 TD Agricultural LLC, Clewiston  
 Allison Family Farm, Crescent City  
 Scurry Elephant Farm, Cross Creek  
 Painted Feather Farms, Dade City  
 Discidue Herefords, Dade City  
 S-Farms, Dade City  
 True Blue Winery, Davenport  
 BackAcres Ranch, Daytona Beach  
 Aguacate Farm, DeLand  
 Common Ground Farm, DeLand  
 3 Rock Farm, Dunnellon  
 Ferguson Farms, Durant  
 Momma G Farms, Eustis  
 Jones Farm, Fort Meade  
 East Fork Creek, Fort Myers  
 The Unruly Gardener, Fort Myers  
 TLC Eggs, Fort Pierce  
 Porters Quarters Community Farm, Gainesville  
 Goats In Gainesville, Gainesville  
 Friedman MD Hens, Hallandale Beach  
 TnF Farms, Havana  
 Longview Farms, Havana  
 Cedar Acres Farm, Hawthorne  
 Bambi's Organic Country Farm, High Springs  
 Two Old Goats Farm, Hollister  
 Bee Heaven Farm, Homestead  
 Under The Vine Farm, Homestead  
 Aunt Zelma's Blueberries, Island Grove  
 The Hamptons, Jacksonville  
 Blu By U Blueberry Farm, Jacksonville  
 Longleaf Pasture Farm, Jasper  
 Rock Ranch, Jupiter  
 JCM Family Farm, Keystone Heights  
 Steven Davis Farms, La Crosse  
 Heather Oaks Farm, Lady Lake  
 Scheider Farms, Lake City  
 Smith's Sunshine Orchids, Lake Placid  
 Novis Cattle, Lakeland  
 C&W Farms of Central Florida, Lakeland  
 Shilo Alpacas, Lakeland  
 Hollie Hill Farm, Lecanto  
 Mitchem Bee Company, Leesburg

Bridge Farms, Acworth  
 S&E Organics, Albany  
 The Blueberry Barn, Alma  
 Koinonia Farm, Americus  
 Ragdsdale Farms, Aragon  
 Heart Of Harvest Farm, Arnoldsville  
 Soul Miner's Eden, Athens  
 AGROWKulture Urban Farm, Atlanta  
 Lama Stay Farm, Atlanta  
 Outdoor Fresh Farm, Atlanta  
 Produce'd LLC, Atlanta  
 Lucky Leaf Farm, Baldwin  
 Honeywood Farms, Barnesville  
 Midway Oaks Farm, Barnesville  
 Blackwater Farm, Baxley  
 7M Family Farms, Blairsville  
 Lasso the Moon Alpaca Farm, Blairsville  
 Tierra Verde Farm, Bloomingdale  
 SunWoman Farms, Bogart  
 Four Bellies Farm, Bowdon  
 Bridges Farm, Brinson  
 Bells Farms, Bristol  
 Gilliard Farm, Brunswick  
 Gary Hedrick Farm, Buchanan  
 Lazy Pines Farm, Byron  
 Roberts VineYard, Byron  
 Roberts Vineyard, Byron  
 Rise 'N Shine Farm, Calhoun  
 Glass Enterprises Inc., Camilla  
 Hello Daisy Flower Farm, Canton  
 Holly Hill Farm & Goods, Canton

Lady Moon Organic Farms, Loxahatchee  
 McCoy's Florida Honey, Loxahatchee  
 Roche Goats, Loxahatchee  
 Ellis Farm, Madison  
 Martin's Harvest, Marianna  
 Rabbits, Etc., Masaryktown  
 D&S Blueberries, Masaryktown  
 A3 Farms, Melrose  
 Organic Grown Direct, Miami  
 Johnson Produce, Miami  
 Family Orchard Farms LLC, Molino  
 Golden Acres Ranch, Monticello  
 Rocky Soil Family Farm, LLC, Monticello  
 Johnston's Farm, Myakka City  
 Coastal Greens Farm, New Smyrna Beach  
 Master Grafters of Florida, LLC, Ocala  
 Elysium En Terra, Ocala  
 Golden Spirit Alpaca Ranch, Odessa  
 Newcomer Ranch, Okeechobee  
 Maya Papaya Organic Community Farm, Oviedo  
 Sunripe Certified Brands, Palmetto  
 Shadrick's U-Pick, Pinetta  
 Polk Pastured Pork, Plant City  
 Ecofarm, Plant City  
 Mayhem Datil Pepper Farms, Pomona Park  
 Micros Gourmet, Port Charlotte  
 Emerald Air Plants, Punta Gorda  
 The ARC Farm, Punta Gorda  
 Happy Tails Farm, Riverview  
 Got Sprouts?, Riviera Beach  
 Sulcata Grove, Sarasota  
 Florida Native Plants Nursery, Sarasota  
 Winkler Southern Family Farm, Sarasota  
 3Beez Honey Farm, Inc., St Cloud  
 Honey B Good Apiaries, LLC, St Cloud  
 Good News Honey, St Joe  
 Rebecca's Bees, St Petersburg  
 Matthews Fresh Farm Eggs, St. Cloud  
 Lost River Ranch, Stuart  
 Ayvala Land Company, LLC, Tallahassee  
 Smith Creek Farm, Tallahassee  
 Tampa Bees, Tampa  
 Habitat For Bees, Tampa  
 Cahaba Club Herbal Outpost, Tampa  
 Bufalina A.C., Thonotosassa  
 Funky Chicken Farm, W. Melbourne  
 Bee Good Honey, Webster  
 Indian Summer Honey Farm, Webster  
 Little River Organics, Wellborn  
 Sweet Berry Farms, Williston  
 Christmas at Stanley Park, Winter Haven  
 Camellia Groves, Winter Haven  
 Jackson Groves, Winter Haven

153 Georgia-based Farms<sup>14</sup>

Georgia Farmstead Inc., Grovetown  
 My Father's Place Farm, Haddock  
 Southern Pines Goat Farm, Harlem  
 C&J Berry Farms LLC, Hartsfield  
 Hooves of Hart, Hartwell  
 The Nutty Sister, Hartwell  
 HB Marans, Hawkinsville  
 In Gods Time Farm, Hawkinsville  
 Humla Garden, Helena  
 Twin Creeks Mountain Farm, Hiawassee  
 Horner Farms, Homerville  
 Terry Willis Farm, Homerville  
 Happy Hollow Homestead, Hortense  
 Middle Of Nowhere Farm, Hull  
 Floyd Farms, Jackson  
 Yahoo farm, Jasper  
 Triple E Farms, Kingston  
 Beginagin Farm, Lafayette  
 Mackenzie's Farm, LaFayette  
 Tant Hill Farm, LaFayette  
 The Blueberry Farm, LaFayette  
 Diamond KK Farm, Lavonia  
 Phoenix Gardens, Lawrenceville  
 Bob's Grove, Lincolnton  
 Big Hickory Farms, Lula  
 Foothills Farm, Marble Hill  
 Matthew K Powers Farm, Marshallville  
 Cheese Acres Farm, Meigs  
 Stateside Microgreens, Metter  
 Moss Hill Farm, Milton  
 Carrell Farms Inc, Monroe

<sup>14</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/16DknilqucEeVoZpMBQj7ACaJnLboMTix/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Crager Hager Farm, Carrollton  
 The Capra Gia Cheese Company, Carrollton  
 Sugar Valley Alpacas, Cartersville  
 Willis Orchard Company, Cartersville  
 JanBil Farms Country Cuttings, Cedartown  
 Beulah Farms, Chatsworth  
 Melon Patch Farms, Chickamauga  
 Steel Raven Farms, Clarkesville  
 Lynn Farms, Claxton  
 Clucking Hill Farm, Cleveland  
 Lavender Lamb Farm, Cleveland  
 Tesmattee River Winery & Meadery, Cleveland  
 SonGlo Guernsey Goats, Colbert  
 Iron Pin Ranch, Comer  
 Odd Duck Asylum Farm, Cornelia  
 Okie Dokie Farm, Cornelia  
 Ashland Farm, Covington  
 Melody Fulmer Backyard Homestead, Covington  
 Yellow Hen Farm, Covington  
 Blackbriar Farms, Crawford  
 Hawkins Farm, Crawfordville  
 Andi's Way, Cumming  
 Bottoms' Christmas Tree Farm, Cumming  
 Sheepcote Farm, Danielsville  
 Sundance Family Farm, Danielsville  
 Seven Seay's Farm, Dawsonville  
 Tin Goat Farm LLC, Dearing  
 Mealor Family Gardens, Decatur  
 Julep Farms, Dillard  
 Dixie Dreams Farm, Dixie  
 Fulford Farms, Donalsonville  
 Buddy's Alpaca Farm, Douglasville  
 McMillian Farm, Dry Branch  
 Velasco Farms, Elberton  
 Watson's Christmas Tree Farm, Ellaville  
 Taylor Organic Farm, Ellenwood  
 Cartecay Vineyards, Ellijay  
 Engelheim Vineyards, Ellijay  
 Grapes and Ladders Vineyards, Ellijay  
 Tisdale Farms, Evans  
 8 Mile Creek Farm, Forsyth  
 Twin Oaks Fun Farm, Forsyth  
 Tillman Family Farms, Fortson  
 Bee Wild, Gainesville  
 Watermelon Creek Vineyard, Glennville  
 Brown's Place Farm LLC, Grovetown

Benton Family Farm, Captain Cook  
 Big Island Bees, Captain Cook  
 Domain Kona, Captain Cook  
 Kuaiwi Farm, Captain Cook  
 Lions Gate Farms, Captain Cook  
 Mahina Mele Farms LLC, Captain Cook  
 Papalani Farm, Captain Cook  
 South Kona Farms, Captain Cook  
 Wailapa Farms, Captain Cook  
 Lanikai Farms, Ha'iku  
 Maui Spirit Farm, Ha'iku  
 Maui Tropicals & Foliage, Ha'iku  
 MauiMirai LLC, Ha'iku  
 Kuliike Farm, Hakalau  
 Ono Gardens, Hakalau  
 LocalHawaiianProduce.com, Hale'iwa  
 Lokoea Farm, Hale'iwa  
 Haloa Farms, Hana  
 Hana Herbs & Flowers, Hana  
 Pomaikai Aina Farm, Hana  
 E Ulu Farms, Hanapepe  
 Always In Season Farmstead, Hāwi  
 C & C Tropicals, Hilo  
 Hawaii Hybrids, LLC, Hilo  
 Hawaii Magic Skies Farm, Hilo  
 Puna Flower Power, Hilo  
 Kailoalani Farm, Ho'olehua  
 Kuulei Mahiai, Ho'olehua  
 Lafayette Coffee Farm, Hōnaunau  
 Shogo's Banana Patch, Hōnaunau  
 Bird and Bee Hawaii, Honoka'a  
 Elemental Plants, Honoka'a  
 Hawai'i Island Goat Dairy, Honoka'a  
 Hawaii Lowline Cattle, Honoka'a  
 Kahualai Farms, Honoka'a  
 Mauna Kea Tea, Honoka'a  
 The Song of Orchids, Honoka'a  
 Niu Loa Hiki Farm/Nursery, Honolulu  
 Waialua Growers LLC, 'Aiea  
 Gunstock Ranch, Kahuku

Bush Hollow Farm, Montezuma  
 Southern Pecan Products, Montezuma  
 Penelope's Peaches, Newnan  
 Foxfire Woods and Farm, Nicholson  
 Pony Trail Farm, Nicholson  
 Southern Valley Fruit & Vegetable Inc, Norman Park  
 Pelham Feed and Seed, Pelham  
 Jenny Jack Sun Farm, Pine Mountain  
 Georgian Oaks Farm, Powder Springs  
 Suki Farms, Powder Springs  
 Wolfork Valley Farm, Rabun Gap  
 Bob's Biddies Hatchery LLC, Ray City  
 Richland Distilling Company, Richland  
 Cross Creek Berry Farm, Ringgold  
 Rising Fawn Gardens, Rising Fawn  
 Shady Acres, Rock Spring  
 Menagerie Acres, Royston  
 Reno's Creek Farm, Royston  
 Homestead Basket, Saint George  
 Forest Grove Farm, Sandersville  
 Shady Laurel Farm, Santee Nacoochee  
 Yaupon Tea Company, Savannah  
 Creekwater Farm, Snellville  
 Whispering Pines Ga Farm, Soperton  
 Lone Branch Farm, Sparta  
 Joyful Acres Farm, Springfield  
 Parrish's Ole Time Premium Sugar Cane Syrup, Statesboro  
 Falling Creek Farms, Stephens  
 Michael Cutler of Georgia Inc, Sylvania  
 C and J Cattle Co. LLC, Talking Rock  
 Pasco Farms, Thomasville  
 Lewis Taylor Farms, Tifton  
 Mill Gap Farm, Tiger  
 Tiger Mountain Vineyards, Tiger  
 Little Toccoa Creek Farm, Toccoa  
 Ellis Bros Pecans, Vienna  
 Charles E Smith Farm, Wadley  
 Predestined Cattle Company, Wadley  
 Tink's Grass-fed Beef, Washington  
 DGD Farms, Watkinsville  
 Latimer Luck Acres, Watkinsville  
 Wagon Wheel Ranch, Watkinsville  
 Ganas-Cole Pecans, Waycross  
 Palmer Farm, Winston  
 Woodland Gardens, Winterville

113 Hawaii-based Farms<sup>15</sup>

Molokai Flowers, Kaunakakai  
 Aloha Hoya, Kea'au  
 Kawanui Farm, Kealakekua  
 Melomountain Farm, Kealakekua  
 Haloa Aina LLC, Keauhou  
 Aloha Ola Farms, Kilauea  
 Ka'ohi Nani Gardens, Kilauea  
 Humble Greenery LLC, Kōloa  
 AKN Ranch & Farm, Kula  
 Kulahaven Farms, Kula  
 Kupa'a Farms, Kula  
 Big Island Luffa Farm, Kurtistown  
 Laiku Organic Fruit, Kurtistown  
 Mauna Ikena Farm, Kurtistown  
 Punachicks Farm, Kurtistown  
 A Special Touch, Lāhainā  
 Kapua's Farm Lāna'i, Lāna'i City  
 Manowaiopae Excellent Adventure Farm, Laupāhoehoe  
 Kauai Honey, Lihue  
 Greenleaf Farm, Makawao  
 Harvest Garden LLC, Makawao  
 Maui Alpaca, Makawao  
 Maui Mountain Coffee, Makawao  
 Uncle Kia'i's Farm, Makawao  
 Mari's Gardens, Mililani  
 Always Anthuriums, Mountain View  
 Big Island Tea, Mountain View  
 The Family Farm, Ninole  
 Hawai'i Harvest Honey LLC, Pa'auilo  
 808 Orchids Inc., Pāhoa  
 Aina Nui, Pāhoa  
 Healing Noni Co LLC, Pāhoa  
 Jake's Plants, Pāhoa  
 Josanna's Organics, Pāhoa  
 Kaohe Corral, Pāhoa  
 Pualani Bee Farm, Pāhoa  
 Puna Gold Estate, Pāhoa  
 Pahale Farms, Pāpā'aloa  
 808 Tropicals, Pāpā'ikou  
 California & Hawaii Foliage Growers, Inc., Pāpā'ikou

<sup>15</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/16tAIC7RpozWo64FqrAFbKXXP0oop8OCy/view>. †

3 Keiki Farms, Kailua-Kona  
 Bee Boys, Kailua-Kona  
 Future Forests Nursery, Kailua-Kona  
 Hawaiian Gardens, Kailua-Kona  
 KTL Kona Coffee LLC, Kailua-Kona  
 Peter DeMello, Kailua-Kona  
 The Original Hawaiian Chocolate Factory, Kailua-Kona  
 Kua'a'i Sea Farms, Kalaheo  
 Kaulani Estates, Kalaheo  
 Daisy Dukes Flower Farm, Kamuela  
 Rare Hawaiian Honey Company, Kamuela  
 21 Degrees Estate, Kane'ohe  
 Grinpas Farms, Inc., Kapa'a  
 Kauai Animal Education Farm (KAEF), Kapa'a  
 Rainbow Roots Farm, Kapa'a  
 Aina Culture, Kapa'a'u  
 Dig This, Kaunakakai

Sharp Tail Ranch, American Falls  
 Coeur d'Alene Trees, Athol  
 Wild Flora Farm, Bellevue  
 Walk in Harmony Homestead, Bennington  
 Florage Farms, Blackfoot  
 Wooden Shoe Farms, Blackfoot  
 Elk Meadows Family Farm, Blanchard  
 Morabito Cattle, Boise  
 Bent Tree Farm Idaho, Bonners Ferry  
 Dancing Goat Farm, Bonners Ferry  
 Hymas Family Farm, Bonners Ferry  
 McLauri Apiaries, Bonners Ferry  
 Solstice Farm, Bonners Ferry  
 M&M Heath Farms, Buhl  
 Harvey Creek Farms, Caldwell  
 Little Cow Mountain Farms, Caldwell  
 Mountain Valley Farmstead, Carmen  
 Alpha Nursery and Garden Center, Cascade  
 Mountain High Farm, Cascade  
 Gabbitas Produce, Coeur d'Alene  
 Panhandle Gourmet Mushrooms, Coeur d'Alene  
 Peppermint n Poultry People, Coeur d'Alene  
 Pilgrim's Market Garden, Coeur d'Alene  
 Harness Farms, LLC, Corral  
 Denice Moffat, Deary  
 Heritage 40 Farm, Deary  
 Michael Robison, Deary  
 Ipsen Cattle, Dingle  
 Brady's Plant Ranch, Downey  
 Mountain Valley Mushrooms, Driggs  
 Blue Sky Farm Idaho, Eagle  
 Bruce Ranch Beef CSA, Eagle  
 Red Barn Blueberries, Eagle  
 Red Chair Lavender, Eagle  
 Wind Ranch, Eagle  
 Anderson Apple Ranch, Emmett  
 Crystal Bend Ranch, Emmett  
 Mault Sheep, Emmett  
 The Creators Handiwork, Emmett  
 Prairie Sun Farm, Fairfield  
 Jackpine Lavender, Felt  
 Life Spring Farms, Filer  
 Twenty Mile Farm LLC, Grandview  
 Idaho Sheep and Wool, Harpster  
 Jubilee Farms, Harrison  
 Raining Sun, Hayden  
 Purvis Nursery & Orchard, Homedale  
 Imagine Farms CSA, Horseshoe Bend  
 3G Rustic Farm, Idaho Falls  
 Callianna Farm Katahdins, Idaho Falls  
 Timber Creek Bison, Idaho Falls  
 Meadows Ranch LLC, Indian Valley  
 Apple Creek Farm, Jerome  
 Brick Barn Farm, Jerome

Simply Native Nursery, Alexis  
 Wildwood Wonders Native Nursery, Alexis  
 PrairieEarth Farm, Atlanta  
 Leschland Farm, Beecher  
 Prairie Pure Cheese, Belvidere  
 Summerdale Farms, Belvidere  
 Franklins Farm Blooms & Heirlooms, Bismarck  
 Nord Honey Farms, Bloomington  
 Riemer Family Farm, Brodhead  
 Clover Leaf Farm, Caledonia  
 Kinnikinnick Farm, Caledonia  
 The Farm Stand, Camp Point

Davis Nursery, Pepe'ekeo  
 Paniolo Palms, Pepe'ekeo  
 Lau Pono Farms, Princeville  
 Sweetwater Hibiscus LLC, Puna  
 Mohala Farms, Waialua  
 The Land, Waialua  
 Ai Pohaku—The Stone Eaters, Wai'anae  
 Farm Naholoku LLC, Wailuku  
 Kahumoku Family Farms, Wailuku  
 Kapuna Farms LLC, Wailuku  
 Maui Beekeeper, Wailuku  
 Maui Plumeria Gardens, Wailuku  
 Ahiki Acres, Waimanalo  
 Olomana Gardens, Waimanalo  
 Good Job Bees! Honey House, Waimea  
 Organa Grow LLC, Waimea

#### 108 Idaho-based Farms <sup>16</sup>

Idaho Backyard Blooms, Jerome  
 DiggBee Honey, Kamiah  
 Bitterroot Botanicals of Idaho LLC, Kooskia  
 Cook Sheep, Kuna  
 Kirby's Microgreens, Kuna  
 Phat Pheasant Farms, Kuna  
 Ike's Ranch, McCall  
 Rockn' K Bar C Yak Ranch, McCall  
 Twin Peaks Nursery, McCall  
 Abel Sheep, McCammon  
 Deep Run Vineyards, Melba  
 Gravance Sheep, Melba  
 Arbor Farms Nursery, Meridian  
 MDB Polled Herefords LLC, Meridian  
 Rice Family Farms, Meridian  
 The Living Land Ranch, Meridian  
 Buckner Sheep, Mesa  
 Deep Roots Farm, Moscow  
 Rural Roots, Moscow  
 Wing Over Farm, Moscow  
 Cosmic Shire Ranch, Mountain Home  
 Jewett Club Lambs, Mountain Home  
 Allicin's Ranch LLC, Moyie Springs  
 Konig Sheep, New Plymouth  
 Almus Farms PMA, Paris  
 LTC Cattle, Payette  
 AC Farm & Garden, Pinehurst  
 Blossom Mountain Lavender Farm LLC, Post Falls  
 EdenGreen, Post Falls  
 Milkhouse Farm and Flowers, Post Falls  
 San Isidros Farm, Post Falls  
 Arctic Fox Farm, Potlatch  
 Fiddler's Ridge Nursery, Potlatch  
 McKanna Ranch, LLC, Potlatch  
 Riley Sheep, Richfield  
 The David Family Flower Farm, Rockford Bay  
 Untamed Alchemy, Sagle  
 Viking Family Farms, Sagle  
 Pfeiffer's Produce, Saint Maries  
 Flowers From the Heart, Sandpoint  
 Greentree Naturals, Sandpoint  
 Cox Honey Farms, Inc., Shelley  
 Shelley's Fresh Produce & Cut Flowers, Shelley  
 Lightfield Acres, Star  
 Artisan Greenhouse, Sterling  
 Food Dudes, Sugar City  
 Kopf Canyon Ranch, Troy  
 Hometown Honey, Twin Falls  
 Alpenglow Farm, Victor  
 Paradise Springs Farm, Victor  
 Snowdrift Farms, Victor  
 Teton Evergreens, Victor  
 Flannigan Creek Flower Farm, Viola  
 Wild Leaf Produce, Wilder

#### 108 Illinois-based Farms <sup>17</sup>

Pierson's Herefords, Louisville  
 Belluso's 1871 Farm, Manteno  
 Gould Family Farms, Maple Park  
 Red Flower Organics, Maple Park  
 Boyer and Toenyes Cattle Co, Maquon  
 Broadview Farm, Marengo  
 Hasselmann Family Farm, Inc, Marengo  
 Thornpaw Lea Farm, Marengo  
 Rustic Red Poultry and Produce, Mason City  
 Fiacre Farm, McHenry  
 Second Nature Farm, Melvin  
 Ioerger Family Farms, Minonk

<sup>16</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mGr3zu\\_bYWY3tClpw8kZ12cD4IjDObD/view.†](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mGr3zu_bYWY3tClpw8kZ12cD4IjDObD/view.†)

<sup>17</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xLxRuhOtwtNun2WZNSoLqRSjV9zEcRg/view.†>

Dragonfly Flowers, Cantrall  
 Flora Bay Farm, Carbondale  
 Mulberry Hill Farm, Carbondale  
 Four Season Farm, Carlock  
 Carpentersville Microgreens, Carpentersville  
 Evergreen Acres Tree Farm, Carthage  
 Warfel Family Farm, Casey  
 Berries and Flour, Champaign  
 Prairie Fruits Farm & Creamery, Champaign  
 Apple Barn, Chatham  
 Black Oaks Center For Sustainable Renewable Living, Chicago  
 Global Garden Refuge Training Farm, Chicago  
 Three Sisters Garden, Chicago  
 Urban Farm South, Chicago  
 Crooked Row Farm Illinois, Chillicothe  
 White Hollow Cattle Co., Cisne  
 Turnip Rock Farm, Clear Lake  
 Shire Regenerative Farm, Coal Valley  
 Quackenberry Farms, Creal Springs  
 Five Petal Fields, Crystal Lake  
 Pleasant Row Orchard, Cuba  
 Honey Bee Gardens Farm, Downers Grove  
 O'Rourke Family Gardens, Downs  
 All Grass Farms, Dundee  
 Kira's Flowers, East Peoria  
 Harts Heritage Farm, Edinburg  
 Arnold's Farm, Elizabeth  
 Driftless Ridge Farm, Elizabeth  
 Hoffman's Little Acres, Fairbury  
 Cherokee Flats, Farmer City  
 JS Farm, Georgetown  
 Theodora Farms, Godfrey  
 The Ryder Family Farm, Golconda  
 Paca Park Place, Grant Park  
 Big T's Honeybee Farm, Greenville  
 Blueridge Farms, Hardin  
 Midnight Sun Farm, Harvard  
 Wanda Farm, Harvard  
 Hidden Marsh Farm, Hebron  
 Bland Family Farm, Jacksonville  
 Rock Farms, Kirkland  
 Susanna Farms, Lake Villa

Alpine Berry Farm, Batesville  
 Simmerman Cattle, Battle Ground  
 Bear Fruit Farm, Battleground  
 B&R Farms, Inc., Berne  
 American Mushroom & Spice Co, Bloomington  
 Bread & Roses Gardens, Bloomington  
 FirstLite Farms, Bloomington  
 Growing Opportunities, Bloomington  
 MKONO Farm, Bloomington  
 Sobremesa Farm, Bloomington  
 Sycamore Springs Farm, Brookston  
 My Hunny's Honey, Brownsburg  
 Maplewood Farms, Brownsville  
 Freebird Farm & Homestead, Burnettsville  
 Foulks Homestead, Burnettsville  
 Farmer Brad, Centerville  
 Hidden Pond Farm LLC, Centerville  
 Mama's Mini Cow Ranch, Clayton  
 Meadowbrook Family Farm, Coatesville  
 Linchris Alpaca Farm, Columbus  
 Ann's Flower Farm, Crawfordsville  
 Step Back Farm, Crawfordsville  
 Howe Farms, Crown Point  
 NWI Food Council (Region Roots Farm), Crown Point  
 Steckler Grassfed, Dale  
 The Triple Z Alpaca Farm, Decatur  
 Fritts Berry Farm, DeMotte  
 Whispering Pines Farm, Depauw  
 Pousardien Farm, English  
 Bud's Farm Market, Evansville  
 Herrmann Farm, Evansville  
 Woods & Stems, Evansville  
 Providence Pastures Co., Fairbanks  
 Christa's Country Blooms, Fairmount  
 Idlewine Bison, Fairmount  
 Andorfer Acres West, Inc., Fort Wayne  
 May Family Urban Homestead, Fort Wayne  
 Piney Acres Farm, Fortville  
 Sugar Creek Farm Market, Franklin  
 White Picket Flowers, French Lick  
 Easter Rising Farm, Friendship  
 Proesch Produce Barn, Greencastle  
 Blue River Natural Foods, Greenfield

Creekside Natural Farm, Minooka  
 Drover Trail Natural Farm, Minooka  
 Lieb Farms, Monticello  
 BerryView Orchard, Mount Morris  
 Woodland Mushroom Farm, Normal  
 River Bend Farm, Oakland  
 Hazzard Free Farm, Pecatonica  
 Local & Fresh Farm Stand, Pekin  
 Haystack Gardens, Peoria  
 Trail's End Organic Farm, Putnam  
 Four Winds Farm, Quincy  
 Mill Creek Farm, Quincy  
 Renewal Acres, Quincy  
 Truth Acres Farm, Richmond  
 Redfern Farms, Ringwood  
 Lynfred Winery, Inc, Roselle  
 Schmit Family Farm, Saint Charles  
 CoGro Co-op, Sauk Village  
 Nettle Creek Farm and Pantry, Seneca  
 Graze-N-Grow Farm, Sheffield  
 Funks Grove Pure Maple Sirup Farm, Shirley  
 Snack Herefords, Sidell  
 Prairie Pointe Herefords, Staunton  
 Boomgarden Farm, Stillman Valley  
 Brass Family Farm, Stillman Valley  
 Three Bees, Streamwood  
 5 Points Mighty Minis, Sycamore  
 Sorensen's Heritage Farm, Thompsonville  
 Alexander Family Herefords, Thomson  
 Bakerville Cattle Co., Timewell  
 Indian Creek Vineyard Inc., Toulon  
 The Ol' Dairy Barn Christmas Tree Farm, Trivoli  
 Green Island Gardens, Urbana  
 Back to Roots Urban Farm, Warrenville  
 Middle Fork Farms, Waterloo  
 Schorr Lake Vineyards, Inc., Waterloo  
 Opa's Organics, Waterman  
 Koss Family Farms Kountry Fresh, White Heath  
 L&C Webb Farm, Whittington  
 Johns Fowl Farm, Wilmington  
 Lang's Orchard, Woodstock  
 Draper's Raw & Local Honey, Yorkville

117 Indiana-based Farms<sup>18</sup>

Backroads Vineyard, Laurel  
 Grace Haven Farm, Lebanon  
 KG Acres Farm, Lebanon  
 WiseWood, Lebanon  
 Baird Herefords, Lowell  
 VRR Ranch, Lyons  
 Padgett Herefords, Lyons  
 The Hostetter Farm, Lyons  
 Oink & Moo Farms, Macy  
 McMahan Herefords, Madison  
 J.L. Hawkins Family Farm LP, Manchester  
 Route 66 Ranch LLC, Milltown  
 Christopher Farms, Modoc  
 G & S Acres, Monroeville  
 Pass Family Farms, Monticello  
 Amadeo Farm, Mooreland  
 Berry Goods Farm, Morristown  
 Sheets Herefords, Nappanee  
 Stumptown Cattle Company, Nappanee  
 Woodview Acres LLC, Nappanee  
 Rainbow Tropical Plants, Nashville  
 Wood Frog Farm, Nashville  
 Bufkin Gardens, New Harmony  
 Heartland Communities Farm, New Haven  
 Brookstone Terrace Farm, New Lisbon  
 Droste Forest Products, New Richmond  
 Rocky Meadow Farm, New Salisburg  
 Beautiful Edibles, Newburgh  
 Full Hand Farm, Noblesville  
 Ingram Cattle Co., North Judson  
 Joyfield Farm, North Manchester  
 Bee Lyvely Farms, Palestine  
 The Colorfield, Palestine  
 Catey Heritage Farm, Peru  
 Lowe & Sons Farm, Reelsville  
 Farming for Life, Rochester  
 Cope's Produce Co., Rockport  
 Goat Milk Stuff, Scottsburg  
 Shrock Family Farm, Selma  
 Denney Farms, Silver Lake  
 Barn Swallow Farm, South Bend  
 Sunchoke Farms, South Bend  
 Celtic Glen Heritage Livestock, Spencer

<sup>18</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1q88PiCvfxKF2wIKw9tRjZCmGwjOiqYiK/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Stonehouse Gardens, Greenwood  
 Ambrosia Orchard Cidery, Hoagland  
 Country Meadows Farm, Inc., Hudson  
 Critter Haven Farm, Hometown  
 dTOM Urban Farm, Indianapolis  
 Flavor By Faith, Indianapolis  
 Fruit Loop Acres, Indianapolis  
 Haughville Honey, Indianapolis  
 Honey Sweet Gardens, Indianapolis  
 KC Sunshine Farm, Indianapolis  
 The Farming Engineers, Kirklint  
 Pumpkin Valley Farms, Kokomo  
 Tuholski Produce, La Porte  
 Brummett Farms, Lafayette  
 Journeycreek Farms, Lagro  
 Fleenor Farms, Lanesville

Hershey Family Nursery, Ackley  
 Clarion Sage Farm, LLC, Adel  
 Homestead on the Hill, Adel  
 Elizabetha Flowers, Ames  
 Onion Creek Farm, Ames  
 Cheshire Moon Farms, Atkins  
 Henningsen Harvest, Atlantic  
 Rolling Acres Farm, Atlantic  
 Raccoon Ridge Farm, Auburn  
 Fork Tail Farm, Avoca  
 Wilsch Family Farm, Battle Creek  
 Forevergreen Acres, Boone  
 Timberlea Farm, Boone  
 Bridgewater Farm, Bridgewater  
 Blueberry Bottom Farm, Brighton  
 Happy Horns Cattle and Goat Farm, Calamus  
 Driftless Hills Farm, Calmar  
 Joygrow LLC, Cambridge  
 Fitkin Popcorn, Cedar Falls  
 Theo's Produce, Cedar Rapids  
 Joia Food Farm, Charles City  
 Woodside Acres, Charles City  
 Carlson Honey Bees, Clinton  
 Morning Sun Family Farm, Collins  
 Long Walk Farm, Council Bluffs  
 Paradigm Pastures, Crescent  
 Papa's Beehive, Davenport  
 FriedenHof Farm, Decorah  
 Humble Hands Harvest, Decorah  
 Oak & Olive Flowers, Decorah  
 River Root Farm, Decorah  
 Rehoboth Family Farms, Denison  
 Daystar Harvest, Des Moines  
 Heaven on Earth Garden, Des Moines  
 Ray Family Farms, Des Moines  
 Sweet Tooth Farm, Des Moines  
 Warren Hill Farm, Des Moines  
 Jefferson Orchard and Greenhouse, Dunkerton  
 Hilltop Greens, Dyersville  
 Grade A Gardens CSA, Earlham  
 Little Swan Lake Winery, Estherville  
 Brun Ko Farm, Exira IA  
 Quaking Bog Botanicals, Fairfield  
 Radiance Dairy, Fairfield  
 Jupiter Ridge Farm, LLC, Garber  
 MadAcre Farms, Gladbrook  
 Little Bud Farm, Grinnell  
 Tangled Roots Farm, Guernsey  
 Koenigs' Acres, Hampton  
 Pin Oak Place, Harlan  
 Mendenhall Farm, Hartford  
 Flavor Country Farms, Honey Creek  
 Stephens Family Garden, Honey Creek  
 Halfacre Farms, Indianola  
 Quilted Gardens Nursery & Tree Farm, Indianola  
 Eikenhiem Farm, Iowa City

Arnold Family Homestead, Abilene  
 BoDark Farm, Augusta  
 Lazy Moon Ranch, Augusta  
 Locust Creek Nubians, Augusta  
 Ad Astra Alpacas, Baldwin City  
 The Vines Farm & Vineyard, Baldwin City  
 Vinland Valley Nursery, Baldwin City  
 Ellis Island Farm, Belle Plaine  
 Bella Vista Farm, Berryton  
 Kansas Bee Farm, Berryton

Dugger Family Farm, Spencer  
 Timber and Roots, Spencerville  
 Hi-Acre Farm, Trafalgar  
 Davis Farms, Underwood  
 Moody Moo Farm, Underwood  
 Sunflower Sisters, Valparaiso  
 Good Seed Garden, Waldron  
 J2K Capraio, Walkerton  
 The Mason Homestead, Wanatah  
 Blue Sky Family Farms, Warsaw  
 IrishMudd LLC, Warsaw  
 Simpson Herefords, Waveland  
 Harvest Moon Farm, Westport  
 Armand's Harper Valley Farms, Westport  
 Oak Grove Farms, Westville

#### 112 Iowa-based Farms<sup>19</sup>

Trowel & Error Farm, Iowa City  
 Organic Greens LLC, Kalona  
 The Thomas Farmstead, Kensett  
 Bloom & Bark Farm, Keosauqua  
 Danish Village Flower Farm, Kimballton  
 Horsefeather Farm, Lamoni  
 French Creek Organic Farm, Lansing  
 Blue Jay Ridge Family Farm, Lucas  
 Johnson Family Homestead, Maquoketa  
 The Bunny Farm, Marshalltown  
 7 Pines Farm, Maxwell  
 Sandy Hill Farm, Montour  
 3Reed Farms, Moravia  
 Hartz Family Farm, Morning Sun  
 Holdfast Farmstead, Mount Ayr  
 Hidden Goat Hollow, Mt. Ayr  
 Cedar Valley Ranch, Neola  
 Trinity Farms, Nevada  
 Muddy Boots Ranch, New Virginia  
 ReFarming Microgreens, Newhall  
 Colony Acres, North Liberty  
 Nishnabotna Naturals, Oakland  
 Bruce A. Lorch, Inc., Ocheyedan  
 Lorch Family Farms, Ocheyedan  
 Lorch Lambs, Ocheyedan  
 Lorch Pork, Ocheyedan  
 Regal Pork, Ocheyedan  
 Kruse Family Farm, Ogden  
 Sunrise Ridge Acres, Ogden  
 Okoboji Organics, Okoboji  
 Blueyah Farm, Oxford  
 K&M Homestead, Pleasantville  
 Resilient Farms, Red Oak  
 Five R Farm, Reinbeck  
 Dirty Face Creek Farm, Riverside  
 Miller Family Homestead, Riverside  
 South Troy Farms, Robins  
 Nik's Backyard Chicks, Roland  
 North Iowa Freeze Dried, Saint Ansgar  
 JSH Katahdins, Sheffield  
 Ridge Road Farms, Sperry  
 Valley Chestnuts, Sperry  
 Friends Flower Farm, Story City  
 Two Cedars Weaving, Story City  
 McGreal Family Farm, Strawberry Point  
 Muggle Farms, Sutherland  
 Sugar Creek Family Farm, Swan  
 Reed's Hill Farm, Swisher  
 Grand River Family Farms, Thayer  
 Earth Biscuit Farm, Tipton  
 Yellow Table Farm, Tripoli  
 Tuuli Farm LLC, Turin  
 Wild Rose Pastures, Van Meter  
 Small Frye Farm, Walcott  
 Red Fern Farm, Wapello  
 Hoffman Produce Farms, Waterloo

#### 121 Kansas-based Farms<sup>20</sup>

Davidson Farm, Linwood  
 Hidden Meadow Farms, Lost Spring  
 Flint Hills Microgreens, Manhattan  
 Holy Goat Creamery, Manhattan  
 Miracle Gardens, Manhattan  
 Parks Pasture Pork, Manhattan  
 Piccalilli Farm, Manhattan  
 Herring & Rogers Produce, Meriden  
 Lamb Ranch Mini Cattle, Moran  
 Janzen Family Farms, Newton

<sup>19</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lq91CEuIWUDXuDYg1vWCA2V18CosDCy2/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>20</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jHPIOa7mhEu9BR5jo8v1plNhsfJM\\_XD/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jHPIOa7mhEu9BR5jo8v1plNhsfJM_XD/view).<sup>†</sup>

Monmouth Farm, Berryton  
 Manna Meadows Alpacas, Bonner Springs  
 The Pickle Cottage, Bucklin  
 Bauer Farms KS, Bucyrus  
 Sweet Streams Lavender Co., Bucyrus  
 Gertie's Lavender Farm, LLC, Burrton  
 Sleepy E Farm, Caney  
 Greenstein Acres, Cheney  
 Happy Valley Farm, De Soto  
 Sunflower Homestead, De Soto  
 Kim's Mini-Farm, Dearing  
 Carp's Bees, Derby  
 Fine Lake Christmas Tree Farm, Derby  
 Windy Knoll Christmas Tree Farm, Derby  
 Four Sisters Lavender Farm LLC, Douglass  
 Lewis Farms, Edgerton  
 Jak Family, LLC, Ellis  
 Bluejacket Crossing Vineyard & Winery, Eudora  
 Frankenbees LLC, Eudora  
 Lucky Star Farms, Eureka  
 Courage Farms LLC, Fontana  
 Mitzner Farms, Fontana  
 1553 Plants and Produce, Fort Scott  
 Slater Farm, Fort Scott  
 The Lavender Patch Farm, Fort Scott  
 Walters Ranch, Fulton  
 Clucks N Ducks Egg Company, Gardner  
 Grace Acres Ranch, Hiawatha  
 Daystar Organics, Holton  
 Scorched Stone Farm, Holyrood  
 Phil's Farm, Hutchinson  
 Mentzer Family Farm, Iola  
 Allen Family Gourmet Mushrooms & Microgreens, Kansas City  
 GGS Alpaca Farm, LLC, Kansas City  
 Five Mile Farms, La Cygne  
 Graze The Prairie, Latham  
 Amy's Meats at the Homestead, Lawrence  
 Crescent Moon Winery, Lawrence  
 Eco-Cattle, LLC, Lawrence  
 MJ Ranch, Lawrence  
 Pinwheel Farm, Lawrence  
 Two Sisters Farm, Lawrence  
 2L Farms, Leavenworth  
 Dysfunction Junction, Leavenworth  
 Next to Nature Farm, Leavenworth  
 The Bean Patch, Leavenworth  
 The Burning Barrel, Lecompton  
 Hessacres, Lenexa  
 Julie Pal Peonies, Lenexa  
 Martenyville On the Rocks, Leonardville  
 Siebert Hobby Farm, Levant

Bob White Farms II, Benton  
 Ky's Best Farm, Berea  
 Montgomery's Poultry Farm, Bowling Green  
 Peacefield, Bowling Green  
 Royalty Rock Jerseys, Bowling Green  
 Little Brush Creek Farm, Buffalo  
 Hidden Cave Ranch, Burkesville  
 Riverbrook Farm, Burkesville  
 Crigler Family Farm, Burlington  
 Maple Lane Farm, Burlington  
 Little Mill Farms, Cadiz  
 Boston Spring Farm, Calhoun  
 Onewildhoney Apiary Farm, Calhoun  
 Alsager Acres, Campbellsville  
 Wytch Wynd Farm, Campbellsville  
 Battaglia Farms, Carrollton  
 Bear Creek Cattle Company, Catlettsburg  
 Beautiful Valley Dairy Goats, Clarkson  
 All Things Alpaca, LLC, Cold Spring  
 Big Black Dog Farm, Columbia  
 Blake's Fork Cattle Company, Corbin  
 Meadowview Farm & Natural Habitat Gardens LLC, Crestwood  
 MCEP LLC, Cynthia  
 Whispering Lands Ranch, Dawson Springs  
 Sylvatica Forest Farm, Disputanta  
 Hyde'n Bee Honey, Dry Ridge  
 Bon Bon's Blueberries, Edmonton  
 England Ranch, Edmonton  
 Allgood's Boer Goats, Ekron  
 Hampshire Farm, Eubank  
 Fairy Rose Farm, Falmouth  
 HH Short Creek Farm, Falmouth  
 Little dove Farm, Fishersville  
 Davis Farm, Flemingsburg  
 Baker-Bird Winery, Foster

Pure Prairie Farm, Norton  
 Pat & Rachels Gardens LLC, Olathe  
 Stone Pillar Vineyard & Winery, Olathe  
 Waterworks Park Honey, Olathe  
 PDL Cattle, Olpe  
 Sunflower Valley Farm, Overbrook  
 Food Life Joy, Overland Park  
 Hidden Mesa Farm LLC, Paola  
 Prothe's Pecans, Paola  
 JAlly Farms LLC, Parsons  
 Heartland Farm, Pawnee Rock  
 RD Mingus Farms, Perry  
 Sacred Sun Farm, Perry  
 Flora Farm Produce, LLC, Pittsburg  
 Redger Farms, Plains  
 C&M McGinnis Grass-Fed Beef, Pleasanton  
 Rosie's Backyard Critters, Pratt  
 Smith Cattle, Redfield  
 Morning Grit Farm, Rose Hill  
 Flying S Ranch, Saint Francis  
 AJ Honey Farms LLC, Salina  
 Coyote Oaks Vineyard, Salina  
 Vanleeuwen Farm, Savonburg  
 Chautauqua Hills Farm, Sedan  
 Serenity Farm CSA, Sedgewick  
 River Watch Beef, Shawnee  
 The Red Rock Guest Ranch, Soldier  
 Blagg Herefords, Spring Hill  
 Purple Meadows Lavender Farm, Spring Hill  
 Tenth Street Orchard, Sterling  
 Kubick Farms, Sylvan Grove  
 Mew Cattle, Tecumseh  
 The Smiling M Farm, Tonganoxie  
 P & T Farms, Topeka  
 Rees Fruit Farm Inc., Topeka  
 Root Farms, Topeka  
 Piper Pastures, Udall  
 Sun E View Farm, Ulysses  
 Savoy Gardens, Valley Center  
 Country Christmas Trees, Wakarusa  
 Wakarusa Valley Vineyard, Wakarusa  
 Woolly Bee Farm, Wamego  
 Penning 4K Ranch LLC, Washington  
 Dancing Cow Farms, Wellsville  
 George Farm and Homestead, Wellsville  
 American Bee Keeping, Wichita  
 Depot Farm Market, Wichita  
 Hosta Ladies by Riverside Wood, Wichita  
 ICT Urban Greens, Wichita  
 Kansas Mountain Goats, Wilson

114 Kentucky-based Farms<sup>21</sup>

Huggett Family Farm, Lebanon Junction  
 Charlie FoxTrot Farm, LLC, Lexington  
 Groovy Lagoon Sales, LLC, Lexington  
 Nieman's Christmas Tree Farm, Lexington  
 Second Season Produce, Liberty  
 Goat Woods Farm, London  
 Strickland Farms, Louisa  
 Bardstown Road Valley Farm, Louisville  
 Kentucky Greens Co., Louisville  
 Weatherby Rubs, Louisville  
 1791 Farms, Madisonville  
 Bright Raven Simmental Farm, Maysville  
 Sturgeon Creek Farm, McKee  
 Free Radical Ranch, Morning View  
 Morning View Mushrooms, Morning View  
 Agape Fields, LLC, Nicholasville  
 Knight's Garden, Nicholasville  
 Rayburn's Blessed Acres, Olive Hill  
 Neltner Farms, Owensboro  
 Abney Farms, Paint Lick  
 Aleaton Farm, Paris  
 Carter Farms, Paris  
 Ridgemount Farm, Pendleton  
 Mile Hill Farm & Food, Princeton  
 Jamie Daugherty Farm, Raywick  
 Lawless Dairy, Russell Springs  
 Hard Rock Maple Farm, Russellville  
 Athena Ridge Ltd Co., Sadieville  
 Ison Polled Hereford, Sandy Hook  
 Maple Dell Ranch, Scottsville  
 Abelle Farm, Shelbyville  
 Long Ridge Farm, Shelbyville  
 Southville Spitters, Shelbyville  
 Sweet Blossom Farm, Shelbyville  
 The Shepherd's Criations Alpaca Farm, Shepherdsville

<sup>21</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rHG6-z2ksZ-4XIvR4AX6PNkLzw10C6Ue/view>. †

Brooks Hill Farm, Frankfort  
 Summer's Bird Honey, Frankfort  
 Jackson Gardens, Franklin  
 Mack & Madie Honey, Fredonia  
 McFarland Farms, Georgetown  
 Jumbleberry Farms, Ghent  
 Junior & Cheryl's Produce & Herbs, Glasgow  
 Magic Acres Farm, Grange  
 Whispering Pines Farm, Grange  
 Angie Rice, Grayson  
 Darnell Farm, Greenup  
 Sparkman Farm, Hallie  
 William Herefords, Hardinsburg  
 Abiding Grace Farm, Harrodsburg  
 B & B Berries, Harrodsburg  
 Drip Rock Farm, Irvine  
 Rocket Farm, Jeremiah  
 Durbin Family Farm, Knifley  
 Ambrosia Farm, Knob Lick  
 Clubb Royalty Heritage Farm, La Grange  
 Wonderland Farms, LLC, La Grange  
 Goodin View Farms, Inc., Lebanon

Guidry's Daylily Garden LLC, Abbeville  
 Field of Blessings Farm, Abita Springs  
 Fisher Farms, Abita Springs  
 Fekete Farm, Albany  
 Quarter Acre Homestead & Nursery, Alexandria  
 Joe Fekete's Family Farm, Amite  
 MB Braud Cattle Co. LLC, Amite  
 Lewis Hereford Farm, Angie  
 Steele's Christmas Tree Farm, Angie  
 Bayou Hemp Farm, LLC, Avoyelles  
 Fullness Farm, Baton Rouge  
 Hilltop Apiary, Baton Rouge  
 Shady Oak Farm, Baton Rouge  
 Willow Creek Ranch, Baton Rouge  
 Skeet's Farm, LLC, Bogalusa  
 DZA Goats, Boyce  
 Bonne Terre, Breaux Bridge  
 LA Serendipity Vineyards, Bush  
 Precious Memories Tree Farm, Calhoun  
 Ducky's Apiary, LLC, Carencro  
 Estes Farms, Clay  
 Ginger Farms, Clinton  
 Guidry's Cajun Farmstead, Cut Off  
 M & W Produce, Delhi  
 Skipper Farms, Delhi  
 Shelby/West Farms, Denham Springs  
 You Are My Sunshine Farm, Denham Springs  
 Gold Dust Plantation, Donaldsonville  
 Haley's Honey, Dry Prong  
 Ol' McGuffee's Farm, Elm Grove  
 3P Ranch, Erath  
 Green's Farming Enterprises, LLC, Erath  
 Belle Terre Farm, Ethel  
 Cassandra Jones Produce, Ethel  
 Sagrera Farms, Ethel  
 Coastal Prairie Farms, LLC, Eunice  
 Cockeyed Farms, Folsom  
 Hereau Farms, Franklinton  
 Lutz Cattle Co., LLC, Franklinton  
 Kingston Orchards, Frierson  
 Muse 3 Farm LLC, Greensburg  
 Starkey Farmstead, Greensburg  
 Small Farm of No Worries, Hammond  
 Airhart Farms, Hornbeck  
 Infinity Ranch & Rescue, Houma  
 Grace Ranch, LLC, Jennings  
 R&R Cattle Enterprises, Keithville  
 Happy Hen Farm, Kenner  
 Briar Patch Farms, LLC, Kentwood  
 Peregrine Falcon Farm, Labadieville  
 Black Bird Botanica, LLC, Lafayette  
 Rocking H Farms LLC, Lafayette  
 The Urban Naturalist, Lafayette  
 Virgin Hemp Farms LLC, Lafayette  
 Manuel Cattle, Lake Charles  
 WildWood Corner, Lake Charles  
 Haven Flower Farm, LLC, Lockport  
 A&A Acres, Loranger  
 Motherland Farm, Loranger  
 2AcreFarms, Marrero

Johnson Farm, Slaughters  
 Possum Valley Farm, Smithfield  
 Tattooed Unicorn Ranch, Smithland  
 Altera Alpaca, Springfield  
 On Tapp Dairy, LLC, Springfield  
 Sageser Blackberry Farm, Stamping Ground  
 Stag Oaks Farm, Stamping Ground  
 Circle N Farm, Stanton  
 3rd Chance, Sterling  
 Bonded Dreams Farm, Taylorsville  
 D & M Farm, Taylorsville  
 Fleur De Luna, Taylorsville  
 Nosey Bee Place, Taylorsville  
 Anderson's Critter Cove Farm, Tompkinsville  
 Perkins Cattle Co., Turners Station  
 Anglin Farm, Union  
 Verona Hops, Verona  
 Baker Farm, Versailles  
 My Pretty Moon Farm, Versailles  
 Musick Mountain Farm, Williamsburg  
 Dunaway Farms, Wilmore  
 Ryan Smith's Farm, Wilmore

119 Louisiana-based Farms <sup>22</sup>

Dennison Family Farms, Metairie  
 Esined LLC, Metairie  
 Mycelium Express, Metairie  
 Crump Cattle, Minden  
 Moe Better Farms, Monroe  
 Ard's Mini Farm, Montpelier  
 Four Oaks Farm, Morganza  
 Cryer's Family Produce, Mount Hermon  
 Smith Angus Farm, Mt Hermon  
 4 Seasons Christmas Tree Farm and Nursery, Natchitoches  
 H3R Farms, New Iberia  
 7Ds Farm, New Llano  
 Barcelo Gardens, New Orleans  
 Know Dat Grow Dat, New Orleans  
 Recirculating Farms, New Orleans  
 Sprout NOLA, New Orleans  
 Sugar Roots Farm, New Orleans  
 JP Murray Farms, Oak Grove  
 Double D Farm & Ranch, Oak Ridge  
 Angry Goat Homestead, Oberlin  
 Chenier Farms, Opelousas  
 Fontenots Green Acres, LLC, Opelousas  
 Louisiana Gourmet Produce, Paulina  
 The Bee Commander LLC, Pearl River  
 Howell Family Farm, Pioneer  
 Morrow Farm, Ponchatoula  
 Little Feet Farm, Port Vincent  
 Luckett Farms, Pride  
 Paul's Plants and Produce, Pride  
 Diamond S Produce, Raceland  
 Hebler Organically Grown Blueberry Farm, Ringgold  
 Sam Sprouts and Farms, Robert  
 Rayne Mycelia, Ruston  
 Westdome Nursery, Saint Francisville  
 Guidry Organic Farms, Scott  
 Weaver's Christmas Tree Farm, Shreveport  
 Raven's Cliff Farms, Shreveport  
 Creek and Stone Cattle, Sicily Island  
 Cool Beans Farm, Slaughter  
 Maranatha Greens, Slaughter  
 Rayne E Farm, Slidell  
 Hashagen Farms, St. Francisville  
 Stonewall Apiaries, Stonewall  
 Twisted S Farm, Sugartown  
 Welcome Farms, LLC, Thibodaux  
 Family Fungi, Tickfaw  
 Bayou Farm, Ville Platte  
 James Rice Farms, Ville Platte  
 Soileau Family Farm, Ville Platte  
 Windmill Nursery of Louisiana, Washington  
 Bon Soleil Quail and Produce Farms, Welsh  
 Dirt Road Farms, Welsh  
 Big Daddy Farms, West Monroe  
 Rusty Cock Farm, West Monroe  
 Windmill Ridge, LLC, Winnsboro  
 Triple B Farms, Youngsville  
 Genesis Wellness Microgreens, Zachary  
 Goshen Farm, Zachary  
 Triple M Ranch, Zachary

<sup>22</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/16RAAefq8A4294vgEpZxGp9agdHdAmNbN/view?pli=1>

105 Maine-based Farms<sup>23</sup>

Great East Alpaca's & Llama's, Acton  
 Wescogus Wild Blueberries, Addison  
 Field of Greens Farm, Albion  
 Mount Apatite Farm, Auburn  
 Barter Island Bees, Barters Island  
 Sunrise Farm, Belgrade  
 Harlow Pond Farm, Biddenford  
 Misty Mountain Farm, Blanchard Twp  
 Blue Hill Farm, Blue Hill  
 Beauregards Farm, Boothbay  
 DeadRiver Homestead, Bowdoin  
 The Modern Herbalist, Bowdoinham  
 Honey Petal Plants, LLC, Brooks  
 Milkweed Farm, Brunswick  
 Simply Grown Farm, Cape Neddick  
 Heartstone Farm, Charleston  
 Chester Maine Maple, Chester  
 Two Loons Farm, China  
 Raven Ridge Farm, Columbia  
 Itty Bitty Farm, Columbia Falls  
 Casa Cattle Company, Corinna  
 Hosac Farm, Cornish  
 Haymaker Farm, Cumberland  
 Singing Pastures, Damariscotta  
 Living Proof Farm, Dayton  
 Yellow Birch Farm, Deer Isle  
 Rock Maple Farm, Dover-Foxcroft  
 Clayfield Farm, East Blue Hill  
 Shipmast Farm, Eliot  
 All About The Honey, Farmington  
 Khadighar Farm, Farmington  
 July Farm, Fryeburg  
 Andrews Farm, Gardiner  
 Butting Heads Farm, Gardiner  
 Star Farm, Georgetown  
 Findview Farm, Gorham  
 Dynamic Farm, Greenbush  
 Omand's Organics, Greenbush  
 Dunham Farm, Greenwood  
 Bristol's Redbird Farm, Harrington  
 Sweet Ass Farm, Holden  
 VA JO WA Maple, Island Falls  
 Common Hill Farm, Jackson  
 Mainly Peeps, Lee  
 Robbin's Roost, Lee  
 Levesque's Organic farm, Leeds  
 Hussein Muktar's Family Farm, Lewiston  
 Rare Berry Farm, Limington  
 Continuous Harmony Farm, Lincolnville  
 Grown Heeya, Lyman  
 William Neal Farms, Mars Hill  
 Whispering Winds Farm, Mechanic Falls  
 Wyndswept Farm, Milbridge  
 Farnetta Farm, Morrill  
 Moscow Maple, Moscow  
 Raydic Farm, Mount Vernon  
 Acker's Acres Angoras, New Gloucester  
 Firefly Hill Farm, New Gloucester  
 Five Corners Farm, New Sharon  
 Straws Farm, Newcastle  
 Harris Turkey Farm, LLC, Newfield  
 All in Thyme Farm, Newport  
 Smith's U-Pick Blueberries, Norridgewock  
 Riverside Farm Stand & Greenhouse, North Berwick  
 Blue Fire Farm, North Yarmouth  
 Moon Dog Farm, Norway  
 Loud Dog Farm, Orrington  
 Otisfield Organics, Otisfield  
 Bradstreet Farm, Palermo  
 Haskell and Daughter Beef, Palermo  
 Wet Cellar Farm, Palermo  
 Meadowfalls Farm, Parsonsfield  
 Bald Mountain Botanicals, Penobscot Bay  
 Snakeroot Organic Farm, Pittsfield  
 Morton Brook Ranch, Pittston  
 Community Mushroom Farm, Plymouth  
 Attwood Farm, Poland  
 Maine Mountain Maple, Rangeley  
 R&L Berry Farm, Readfield  
 The Knight Farm, Readfield  
 Wandering Maiden Farm, Readfield  
 Tenderwild Farm, Rockport  
 No View Farm, Rumford  
 McDougal Orchards, Sanford  
 Front Porch Farm, Shapleigh  
 Wild Thistle Farm, Somerville  
 3 Level Farm, South China  
 Tilton's Heritage Pastures, Springfield  
 Mousam Valley Mushrooms, Springvale  
 Bittersweet Heritage Farm, St. George  
 Saco River Farms, Steep Falls  
 Fly Away Farm, Stow  
 Full Circle Farm, Maine, Vassalboro  
 Belgacres, Waldoboro  
 Greener Days Farm, Waldoboro  
 Meadowcroft Farm, Washington  
 Baker Hill Bees & Gardens, Waterford  
 Mid-Maine Permaculture, Waterville  
 Blue Vue Enterprise, Weld  
 Fairytail Fuzzies Farm, Wells  
 Cooper's Maple Products, Windham  
 Back Ridge Sugar House, Winterport  
 Old Mountain Farm, York  
 Woodlot Farm, York  
 Zach's Farm, York

104 Maryland-based Farms<sup>24</sup>

Twitterpated Acre, Abell  
 Deer Creek Apiaries, Abingdon  
 Flower Hill Farm, Annapolis  
 Blueberry Gardens, Ashton  
 Tanglewood Flower Farm, Ashton  
 Hazel Creek Farm LLC, Avenue  
 Hybridoma Organic Fruit Farm, Baldwin  
 A.M. Root Apiary, Baltimore  
 Golden Girls Apiary and Chicken Coop, Baltimore  
 Gratitude Garden, Baltimore  
 The Black Butterfly Urban Farmer Academy, Baltimore  
 The Greener Garden, Baltimore  
 Ree's Bees Apiary, Bel Air  
 Spiritual Food CSA, Bethesda  
 Apex Bee Company, LLC, Bethlehem  
 Coastal Bay Farms, Bowley's Quarters  
 Star Gazing Farm, Boyds  
 Susanna Farm Nursery Inc., Boyds  
 Foxfire Farm, Brandywine  
 Our Graystone Farm, Brookeville  
 Victory Chapel Family Farms, Bryans Road  
 Wild Heart Farm, Callaway  
 Butter Pot Farm, Cambridge  
 Where Pigs Fly Farm, Centreville  
 Natural Nick's Produce, Chillum Gardens  
 Hidden Ridge Flowers & Herbs, Clarksburg  
 Elements of Nature, Clinton  
 Community Ecology Institute, Columbia  
 Third Way Farm, Havre De Grace  
 Hubbard Road Tree Farm, Hurlock  
 Castle Hill Farm, Jefferson  
 Fox Haven Organic Farm, Jefferson  
 Peter Vorac, Jefferson  
 Mountain Heart Farm, Kitzmiller  
 Zekiah Ridge Farm & Flowers, La Plata  
 Walton Apiary, Lanham  
 Berry Daze Farm, Lothian  
 McDaniel Honey Farm, Manchester  
 S.D. Farms, Massey  
 Scarborough Farm, Mechanicsville  
 Keegan Garden, Middletown  
 Sycamore Farm MD, Monkton  
 Rosebud Estates, Monrovia  
 New Brooklyn Farms, Mount Rainier  
 Bee Barn Apiary, Mount Savage  
 Gaver Farm, Mt. Airy  
 Flourish Flowers, Myersville  
 Next Step Produce, Newburg  
 Caledonia Farm, North East  
 Cottingham Homestead, Nottingham  
 The Lamb's Quarter, Owings  
 Prettyboy Run Farms, Parkton  
 Patuxent Harvest, Prince Frederick  
 Greenwood Creek Nursery Inc., Queenstown  
 Black Dog Apiary, Rockville  
 Winding Root Farm, Rohrsersville

<sup>23</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/16cLR7J1-36ikn05O120oXDrXrXY-AiEtZ/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>24</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fJtGHaBpJ\\_9l4-c4\\_SZehdd6bTW8MUB/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fJtGHaBpJ_9l4-c4_SZehdd6bTW8MUB/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

Penn Oaks Winery, Cookeville  
 Betty Bee Queen Company, Crumpton  
 Red Lion Farm, Crumpton  
 Cottingham Farm, Easton  
 ECO City Farms, Edmonston  
 Flint Farms, Eldersburg  
 Morning Choice Apiary, Elkridge  
 Fair Hill Apiaries, Elkton  
 Second Chapter Farm & Apiary, Elkton  
 Good Soil Farm LLC, Emmitsburg  
 Redemption Springs, Finksburg  
 Ambling Brook Farm, Frederick  
 Avocation Farm, Frederick  
 East Side Farm, Frederick  
 Frederick Flower Farm, Frederick  
 Oak Spring Farm, Freeland  
 Three Springs Nursery, Gaithersburg  
 Lehman Apiary, Glen Burnie  
 Fat & Happy Farms, Graysonville  
 Kinohi Poultry LLC, Greensboro  
 Brown's Bees, Hagerstown  
 Dayze Farm, Hagerstown  
 King's Tree Farm, Hampstead  
 Gelder Farm, Havre de Grace

Full Well Farm, Adams  
 Ancient Ponies Farm, Amherst  
 Carrot Corner Farm, Amherst  
 Sunset Farm, Amherst  
 Hames & Axle Farm, Ashburnham  
 Silver Oak Farm, Ashby  
 Bloom Woolen Yarns, Ashfield  
 Bug Hill Farm, Ashfield  
 Growing a Bunch Farm, Ashfield  
 Sweet Birch Herbals, Ashfield  
 Whitney Acres Farm, Ashfield  
 Happy Hollow Farm, Barre  
 Many Hands Organic Farm, Barre  
 Mindful Garden Farm, Barre  
 White Rabbit Farm, Barre  
 Grown Up Farm, Belchertown  
 Phoenix Fruit Farm, Belchertown  
 Sentinel Farm, Belchertown  
 Heart Beets Farm, Berkley  
 Balance Rock Farm, Berlin  
 Eden Trail Farm, Bernardston  
 Fiddlers Blue Farm, Bolton  
 Greenleaf Farm, Brockton  
 Bent Birch Farm, Brookfield  
 Allandale Farm Inc., Brookline  
 Bay End Farm, Buzzards Bay  
 Edgewood Cranberries, Carver  
 Fresh Meadows Farm, Carver  
 Orchard Brook Farm, Charlemont  
 Wilder Brook Farm, Charlemont  
 Kelso Homestead Farm, Chester  
 Bare Roots Farm, Chesterfield  
 Native Earth Teaching Farm, Chilmark  
 The Grey Barn and Farm, Chilmark  
 Black Thistle Farm, Clinton  
 K & L Organic Growers, Colrain  
 Jordan Farm, Dartmouth  
 River Bard Farm, Deerfield  
 Riddle Brook Farm, Douglas  
 Dunlap Farm, Draut  
 Farmer Tim's Vegetables, Dudley  
 Beaver Brook Farm, East Bridgewater  
 Rhineland Acres Farm, East Bridgewater  
 Coanamessett Farm, East Falmouth  
 Chicoine Family Farm, Easthampton  
 Upingill, Gill  
 Mountain Orchard, LLC, Granville  
 Golden Egg Farm, Hardwick  
 Harvard Alpaca Ranch, Harvard  
 Flora Farm, Haydenville  
 The Benson Place, Heath  
 Happy Goats Farm, Holliston  
 Flor Farm, Holyoke  
 Nuestras Raices, Inc., Holyoke  
 Long Life Farm, Hopkinton  
 Ladybug Farm Produce, Hubbardston  
 Hillside Herbals, Jefferson  
 DragonWing Farm, Lanesborough  
 Red Shirt Farm, Lanesborough  
 The Farm at the Winthrop Estate, Lenox  
 Dancing Bear Farm, Leyden

Chesapeake Farmery, Saint Leonard  
 Little Hoof Farm, Salisbury  
 Dragon Bee Company, Severna Park  
 Eicher Family Beekeepers, Silver Spring  
 Tommy Peppers Market Garden, Sparks  
 Springfield Farm, Sparks Glencoe  
 Stark Farms, Street  
 Crossroads Multi-Farm CSA, Takoma Park  
 Fiddler's Green Farm, Taneytown  
 Loch Raven Apiaries, Towson  
 Flying Pigs Farm, Union Bridge  
 Crazy Days Family Farm, Union Bridge  
 Deep Roots Farm, Upper Marlboro  
 Honey Hemp Farms, Upper Marlboro  
 Quince Blossom Ridge, Waldorf  
 Gill Hill Flower Farm, West Friendship  
 Deep Run Pawpaw Orchard, Inc., Westminster  
 Faithful Friends Farm, Westminster  
 Falcon Ridge Farm, Westminster  
 Jason's Garden, Westminster  
 Lucky Lane Farm, White Hall  
 Giovanni's Organic Farm, Woodbine  
 Open Barn Farm, Woodbine  
 San Giovanni's Organic Farm, Woodbine

*125 Massachusetts-based Farms*<sup>25</sup>

Ellison Farms Beef, Ludlow  
 Pine Meadow Alpacas, Mattapoisett  
 Mann Orchards Inc, Methuen  
 Thatcher Farm, Milton  
 Falls Farm LLC, Montague  
 Positively Goats, Natick  
 Walker Farm at Whortleberry Hill, New Braintree  
 Alanda Farm, North Dighton  
 Angel Hair Alpaca Farm, North Grafton  
 Cider Crossing Farm, Northfield  
 Crooked Trail Farm, Orange  
 Emma's Acres Alpacas, Oxford  
 Oxford Farms, Oxford  
 Golden Rule Farm, Plymouth  
 Colchester Farm, Plympton  
 A Mire Farm, Rehoboth  
 Rosasharn Farm, Rehoboth  
 Lanzoni's, Rochester  
 Cream of the Crop Farm, Russell  
 Dragon Tree Farm, Savoy  
 Seven Arrows Farm, Seekonk  
 Taylor Girls Farmstead, Sharon  
 Moon in the Pond Farm, Sheffield  
 Sky View Farm, Sheffield  
 Hoptestill Farm, Sherborn  
 Lightning Ridge Farm, Sherborn  
 Warm Colors Apiary, South Deerfield  
 The Bitty Red Barn, Southampton  
 K E Farm Maple Products, Southbridge  
 Meadow View Farm, Southwick  
 Gardening The Community (GTC), Springfield  
 Sixteen Acres Garden Center, Springfield  
 Springfield Food Policy Council (SPPC), Springfield  
 Pineo Family Farm, Sterling  
 Sagatabscot Orchards, Sterling  
 White Pond Farm, Stow  
 Little Brook Farm, Sunderland  
 Spring Rain Farm, Taunton  
 Longnook Meadows Farm, Truro  
 Bear Hill Farm, Tyngsborough  
 Chockalog Farm, Uxbridge  
 Ironstone Farm, Uxbridge  
 Chase Hill Farm, Warwick  
 Wareham Quail Farm, West Wareham  
 Emery Family Farm, Westborough  
 Yellow Stonehouse Farm, Westfield  
 Outlook Farm, Westhampton  
 Wind Eagle Farm, Westminster  
 Aeonian Farm, Westport  
 Allen Farms, Westport  
 C Ledoux Wood Farm, Westport  
 Ferry Farm, Westport  
 Skinny Dip Farm, Westport  
 Stonehaven Farm, Westport  
 Sweet Goat Farm, Westport  
 Lombrico Farm, Whately  
 Quenquont Farm, Whately  
 Dufresne's Sugar House, Williamsburg  
 North Wind Farm, Winchendon  
 Shared Harvest Winter CSA, Winchester  
 Hilltown Market, Worthington

<sup>25</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UNGMj64\\_t2SES985O3agZ6eVgBOXIY10/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UNGMj64_t2SES985O3agZ6eVgBOXIY10/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

Good Bunch Farm, Lincoln  
Raja Farms, Lincoln

Rocky Oak Farms, Albion  
Maple Crest Farm, Alden  
Old Glory Heritage Farm, Alden  
Ricksgers Ranch, Alden  
Bur Oaks Farm LLC, Ann Arbor  
EMMA Acres Farm, Ann Arbor  
Herbs of Light Medicine Farm, Ann Arbor  
Capella Farm, Ann Arbor  
Northwest Farm, LLC, Ashley  
Baumer Farms, Aurelius  
Bucu Farms, Avoca  
Birdsong Farm, Bangor  
Yooper Produce, Bark River  
Happymess Acres, Beaverston  
Klug Orchards, Berrien  
Center Earth First Farms, Berrien  
Center Teenie Greenie Farms, Brighton  
Frog Holler Farm, Brooklyn  
Raub Rae Gardens LLC, Brown City  
Forest and Farm, Cadillac  
J&C Pasture Farms, LLC, Cadillac  
Smith Farmstead, LLC, Caledonia  
Blueridge Blueberry Farm, Capac  
Vollmar Family Farms, Caro  
Magnolia Farms, Cassopolis  
Providence Organic Farm, Central Lake  
Vermeersch Family Farms, Central Lake  
King Orchards, Central Lake  
Case Country Farm, Chatham  
Resonance Center Farm, Cheboygan  
Mastodon Farm, Clayton  
Myers Beefalo Farm, Copemish  
City Commons and Food Field, Detroit  
Fisheye Farms, Detroit  
Oakland Avenue Urban Farm, Detroit  
Brother Nature Produce, Detroit  
Buffalo Street Farm, Detroit  
N Kids Farm, Dexter  
Nature and Nurture Seeds, Dexter  
BP Farms, Dundee  
Lyerla Farm, East Leroy  
Two Sparrows Farm & Dairy, Eaton Rapids  
Willowbrook Farm, Elsie  
Pleasant Hill Farm, Fennville  
Dee's Lakeshore Farm, Fennville  
Old Hickory Beefalo Farm, Fife  
Lake Morrison Orchards, Fremont  
Assink Acres Family Farm, Gobles  
Dutcher Farm, Goetzville  
Lubbers Family Farm, Grand Rapids  
Reformation Growers, Grand Rapids  
Robinette's, Grand Rapids  
Golden Fleece Farm, Grass Lake  
Lauren Family Farm, LLC, Gwinn  
Willow Garden, Hanover  
Michigan Heirlooms, Highland  
Two Hounds Farm, Highland  
Bowerman Blueberries, Holland  
Full Moon Lavender Farm, Howell  
Cross W Organics, Howell

Maple Ridge Produce, Aitkin  
Farmer John's Pumpkin Patch, Austin  
The Honeyberry Farm, Bagley  
Mohs Dairy, Belgrade  
Iverson Tree Farm, Belview  
The Red Barn Family Farm, Bemidji  
Green Haven Farm Market LLC, Big Lake  
Brownston Community Garden, Brownston  
Trumpeter Swan Farm, Buffalo  
Gilchrist Orchard, Buffalo  
Country Taste Farm, Cambridge  
K Creek Ranch, Canby  
Petersen Tree Farm, Clear Lake  
Dancing the Land Farm, Clearwater  
Hale's Sugarbush, Cottage Grove  
Grassy Oaks Herefords, Cukato  
Lac qui Parle Valley Vineyard, Dawson  
Dehn's Pumpkins, Dayton  
Joe's Sandy Hill Vineyard & Produce, Deer River

Justamere Tree Farm, Worthington

#### 119 Michigan-based Farms<sup>26</sup>

Webbed Foot Pines, Jasper  
Tiny Giant Farm, Kalamazoo  
River Valley Farms & Meats, Kingsley  
Wayward Farm, Lake  
Red Rock Farm, Lake  
Linden Stony Croft Farms, LLC, Lapeer  
Bliss Valley Farm LLC, Levering  
Jim Nickelson's Christmas Trees, Ludington  
Alice's Iris Farm, Manclona  
Old Boathouse Organic Produce, Maple City  
Farm & Forest, Mason  
Gromak Farm, Mayville  
Crane Dance Farm, Middleville  
Lavender Lane Farm, Milan  
John Henry's Meats, Millington  
Tortoise & Hare Farm, Muskegon  
Nodding Thistle Farm, Nashville  
Shoreline Hemp Farms, New Era  
Uhljanuk Farm, North Branch  
White Pine Farm, North Branch  
Hicks Organic Dairy, North Branch  
Green Bird Organic Cellars & Farm, Northport  
Addison-Oaks Farm, Oakland Township  
Bonz Beach Farms, Onaway  
The 7 Crooked Onions Garden Farm, Onaway  
Wilcox Heritage Farm, Ovid  
American Heritage Farm-Perry  
Maple Moon Sugarbush and Winery, Petoskey  
Scheel Family Farm & Flour Mill, Petoskey  
Presque Isle Farm, Posen  
Bella Farm, Rapid River  
Virgin Earth Farm, Republic  
Demiglio Polled Herefords, Richmond  
KKR Rock'N'R Farm, Rockford  
Detroit Flight Path Farm, Romulus  
WLS Organic Acres, Saline  
Gourmet Mushrooms, Inc., Scottville  
Maple Moon Farm, Shelby  
Wandering Winds Farm, Spruce  
Tail Spin Farm, St. Johns  
Mi Farm Co-Op, Suttons Bay  
Mawby Vineyards, Suttons Bay  
Two K Farms Cidery and Winery, Suttons Bay  
Harvey's Farm, Tekonsha  
Birch Point Farm, Traverse City  
Warren Orchards, Traverse City  
Homakie Farms, LLC, Unionville  
S & T Farms, Unionville  
Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance (MOFFA), Upper Marl-  
boro  
Lacksheide Farms, Vermontville  
Starz Orchard, Wallace  
Divine Harvest Farms, Wheeler  
Provision Family Farms, White Cloud  
Reinhold Organic Farms, LLC, Whitmore Lake  
FlowerEssence of Blue Barn Farm, Williamston  
Zumo Eco-Farm, Williamston  
Moonlight Mile Herb Farm, Willis  
Michigan Flower Growers Cooperative, Ypsilanti  
Country Winds Farm, Zeeland

#### 109 Minnesota-based Farms<sup>27</sup>

Nature's Pantry, Lafayette  
Gifford's Tree Farm, Lakeville  
Leafy Legacy Herb Farm, Lanesboro  
Prairie Plum Farm, Mabel  
Alternative Roots Farm, Madelia  
Sheepy Hollow at Native Oaks Farm, Maple Plain  
Pettit Pastures LLC, Milaca  
Wagner Organic Dairy, Millerville  
Tangletown Gardens LLC, Minneapolis  
California Street Farm, Minneapolis  
Callens Honey Farm, Minneota  
Strawberry Basket & Big Woods Nectar, Monticello  
Kreps Family Farm, Moorhead  
Sapsucker Farms, Mora  
Linden Grange Pasture Based Farm, Mora  
Morgan Creek Vineyards, New Ulm  
Dew Drop Farms, New York Mills  
Hermanson Harvest, Nicollet  
Tiffany Hedican CSA, North Branch

<sup>26</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N8PvAi1UOM1inDKhiONz1lgLjdQbXIIIL/view?usp=sharing>.†

<sup>27</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FRSxQO0eeLPH8k7RfBvMmMVRq07YWclv/view?usp=sharing>.†

Uncle Herman's Farm, Duluth  
 Sörestad Farmstand, Duluth  
 Farm Lande, Duluth  
 Uncle Herman's Farm LLC, Duluth  
 Berries ETC, Duluth  
 ANJ Meadows, Elbow Lake  
 Prairie Hollow Farm, Elgin  
 Hidden Stream Farm, Elgin  
 Bee Sweet Honey, Elk River  
 Johnson Orchard LLC, Ellendale  
 Yellow Rose Organic, Fargo  
 Straight River Farm, Faribault  
 Schlangen Family Farm, Freeport  
 Star of the North Bean, Gary  
 Roman Sky Farms, Gibbon  
 Craig Hurner Farm, Glyndon  
 E & T Holdings, Inc., Grand Rapids  
 Streblov Family Farm, Granite Falls  
 Rapha Farms LLC, Greenfield  
 Jonesey Berry Farm LLC, Grove City  
 Far North Spirits, Hallock  
 Last Chance Ranch, Hallock  
 Hugh's Gardens LLC, Halsted  
 Zewers Farm, Harris  
 Bee Wrangler LLC, Harris  
 Owl Bluff Farm LLC, Houston  
 Niemczyk Gardens, Hugo  
 New Story Farm, Hutchinson  
 The Farm of Minnesota, Hutchinson  
 Hamilton Homestead, Iron  
 Dragonfly Bay Garlic Company, Isanti  
 Witzel Farm and Garden, Kasson  
 Mountainland Timber Tree Farm, Kellogg  
 Seven Songs Organic Farm, Kenyon  
 Pastures A Plenty Co & Farm, Kerkhoven  
 Hoch Orchard and Gardens, LaCrescent

Tubby Creek Farm, Ashland  
 Hillside Farms, Banner  
 Lowland Cattle Co., Bassfield  
 Punkin Ridge Farm, Beaumont  
 Southern Shine Pastures, Belden  
 River Road Pecans, Benoit  
 Dogtrot Farms, Bentonia  
 Allen Farms, Booneville  
 Alderman Farms, Brookhaven  
 Bruce Sweet Potato, Bruce  
 Thompson Farms, Bruce  
 Evans Hay, Byhalia  
 Smooth Moves Ranch, Byhalia  
 LaRose Farm, Byram  
 Green Acres Nursery, Carriere  
 Lorens Longleaf Ranch, Carriere  
 Tender Wellness Farm, LLC, Carriere  
 High Hope Farm, Cedar Bluff  
 Lazy Acres, Chunky  
 Mitchell Family Farms LLC, Collins  
 Saulters Farms, Collins  
 Shirley's Tree Farm, Columbus  
 Walking W Cattle Company, Columbus  
 Home Place Pastures, Como  
 Yellow Rose Farms, Como  
 Two Feathers Ranch LLC, Corinth  
 Camp Cattle Company, Dumas  
 Hays Berry Farms, Dumas  
 Kent Ridge Farm, Dumas  
 Grazing Way Farm, Ellisville  
 Burnt Corn Farm, Flora  
 Salad Days, Flora  
 Swinging Diamond C Farm, Florence  
 Double J Cattle Company, Glen  
 Warrior Rendezvous Farm Stay, Glen  
 Southern H LLC, Golden  
 Delta Bear Farms, Greenville  
 Everett Homestead, Greenwood  
 D J's Farm, Grenada  
 Regues Hollow Farm, Gulfport  
 Second Chance Brangus, Gulfport  
 Noni-Pops Goat Farm, Hamilton  
 Pearl River Apiaries, Harrisville  
 Simply Dunn Honey, Hattiesburg  
 Triple R Farms, Hattiesburg  
 Gnarled Oak Farm, Hernando  
 Ole Cappy's Honey, Hernando  
 Bottle Tree Poultry Farm, Holly Springs  
 Haven Farm Flowers, Horn Lake

Free Future Mushrooms, North Branch  
 Spring Wind Farm, Northfield  
 Open Hands Farm CSA, Northfield  
 Fluff Life Farm, Oak Grove  
 Brown Family Farm, Oak Park  
 Nelson Grass Farm, Ogilvie  
 Mixed Forage Farms, Park Rapids  
 The Gothic Farmstead, Pine City  
 Prairies Past, Pipestone  
 Farm Farm CSA, Princeton  
 The 100 Acre Homestead, Princeton  
 Willow Brooke Farm, Red Wing  
 Johnston Honey, Rochester  
 Treasured Haven Farm, Rush City  
 BirdDog Farms LLC, Shafer  
 Clover Bee Farm, Shafer  
 Northern Light Farm, Solway  
 Nettle Valley Farm LLC, Spring Grove  
 Bar Bell Bee Ranch, Squaw Lake  
 Honeydew Fields, St. Cloud  
 Barthel's River Road Gold LLC, St. Michael  
 Grounded Gardens, St. Paul  
 Goettl Grove LLC, St. Peter  
 Barry's Cherries Hydroponic Produce, Staples  
 Suri Serenade Alpacas, Stillwater  
 The Salty Hen Farm, Stillwater  
 Pleasant Valley Orchard, Taylors Falls  
 School House Place, Twin Lakes  
 Havlicek's Veseli Vrsek Orchard, Veseli  
 Hartman Garden Center and Tree Farm, Victoria  
 Bluff Valley Farm Inc., Wabasha  
 Beulke Farms, Wanamingo  
 Nohner Herefords, Watkins  
 Wildwood Wonders, Wells  
 Bremer Polled Herefords, Zumbro Falls

132 Mississippi-based Farms<sup>28</sup>

Copperhead Ranch, Magnolia  
 Double M Farm Grass-fed Beef, Magnolia  
 J Lazy H, Magnolia  
 Serenity Sheep Farm, McComb  
 L & R Cattle Farms, Meadville  
 J & C Cross Connected, Monticello  
 H&S Denton Farms, Morton  
 Martin Watch Farm, Morton  
 Slick Rock Bottom Farm, Myrtle  
 Atkins Farms, Natchez  
 Blue Haze Farms LLC, Nesbit  
 T & R Cattle Company, New Hebron  
 Long's Farm, Ocean Springs  
 Eezie's Dayhly Farm, Osyka  
 Clear Creek Produce, Oxford  
 Hillhouse Pastures, Oxford  
 Deaux Run Vineyard and Venue, Perkinston  
 Nature's Gourmet Farm, Petal  
 Heaven's Jubilee Farm, Pheba  
 Coastal Ridge Farm, Picayune  
 Lonely Oak Ranch, Picayune  
 Francis Flowers & Herbs Farm, Pickens  
 Tate Farms LLC, Plantersville  
 Shroomdom Inc., Poplarville  
 Thornhill Farms LLC, Poplarville  
 Wild Acre Farms, Poplarville  
 Rock Hill Farm, Raleigh  
 Artillery Ridge Growers, Raymond  
 Dutch Creek Goat Farm LLC, Raymond  
 Joe Woods Nursery, Raymond  
 Riley Acres, Red Banks  
 Circle B Ranches, Redwood  
 Buena Vista Farm LLC, Ripley  
 Sisung Cattle Company LLC, Roxie  
 Genesis 31 Ranch, Ruth  
 Barton Farm, Sardis  
 Farmer Browns Southern Farm, Saucier  
 The Smith Homestead, Saucier  
 Humphrey Farms, Seminary  
 Morning Dew Pastures LLC, Seminary  
 Ross Sod Farms, Senatobia  
 Rock N W Ranch, Shannon  
 Velma's Valley, Shannon  
 J-3 Ranch, Starkville  
 A Stroka Gene-US Alpacas, Stringer  
 First Fruits Farm, Summit  
 Leaning B Farm LLC, Summit  
 Morris Cattle, Summit  
 The Broken Egg, LLC, Summit

<sup>28</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RS-v56PVV7rro2nh34hjka1ggn9xlR22/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Taylor Family Farm, Horn Lake  
 Foot Print Farms, Jackson  
 Kazery Farm, Jackson  
 Heavenly Grace Farm LLC, Kiln  
 La Terre Farms, Kiln  
 LS Bees, Lauderdale  
 Bah Ram Ewe Farms, Laurel  
 Little Bee Farm, Lena  
 The Food System, Lexington  
 Barbara's Place, Louisville  
 Barton & Sons, INC., Lucedale  
 Brown Hill Farm, Lucedale  
 Flat Creek Farm, Lucedale  
 Stewart Cattle Co, Lucedale  
 Williams Nursery, Lucedale  
 Lazy U Farm, Macon  
 Double J Cattle Ranch, Magee

Limpus Farms, Amsterdam  
 Mr. Larry's Apiary, Arnold  
 Rocky Valley Farms, Ash Grove  
 1984 Farms LLC, Atlanta  
 Solid Rock Ranch, Ava  
 Belleview Valley Apiary, Belleview  
 Fall Down Fainters, Bertrand  
 King Hill Farms, Brunswick  
 Moore Cattle Ranch, Buffalo  
 Sunset Alpaca & Llama Farm, Buffalo  
 Timber Creek Farm, Calhoun  
 McKinzie Farms, California  
 Box Turtle Ranch, Camdenton  
 Monchils Longhorn Ranch, Cameron  
 Bangert Family Farmstead, Cape Girardeau  
 Manoor Manor LLC, Cape Girardeau  
 Nourished Farms, Cape Girardeau  
 Aschermann Akaushi & Charolais, Carthage  
 Wine Creek Farm, Cedar Hill  
 Curly Eye, Columbia  
 Enchanting Acres Farm, Columbia  
 Farmer Dan, Columbia  
 Flippin Bees, Columbia  
 Sweet Hills Farm, Columbia  
 V.P. Farm, Conway  
 Home Bee Sweet Honey, Corder  
 Riverbank Acres Cattle Company, Cuba  
 C & S Farms, Dadeville  
 Windy Lake Farm, De Soto  
 Windy Thistle Farm, Dittmer  
 Prier Farms Grassfed Beef, Eagle Rock  
 Orrick Acres, Easton  
 Elk Creek Farms, Elk Creek  
 AV Livestock LLC, Farmington  
 Breezy Meadow Farm, Farmington  
 Liberty Mission Farms, LLC, Farmington  
 Big River Alpacas LLC, Fletcher  
 Ozzy's Mini Farm, Fredericktown  
 NK Ranch, Fruitland  
 Birch Cove Farm, Fulton  
 Giofre Apiaries, Fulton  
 McKinzie Farm & Vineyard, Garden City  
 WitnessTree Land & Livestock, Gerald  
 Smiling Dog Farm, Goodman  
 Peaceful Hills Farm, Grain Valley  
 OakWoods Farm, Granby  
 Stevens Family Farm, Granby  
 GemStone Farm, Grovespring  
 Middle Earth Acres, Hamilton  
 Highley Farms, Harrisonville  
 Cackle Farms, Hazelwood  
 Bellews Creek Farm, Hillsboro  
 Hope & Blended Blessings Homestead, Humansville  
 Wild Goose Ranch, Humansville  
 Adams ORAC Farm, Independence  
 Circle F Registered Herefords, Jefferson City  
 Diekmann's Home Run Honey, Kansas City  
 Haven Hives, Kansas City  
 Heart and Soil Farm KC, Kansas City  
 Ophelia's Blue Vine Farm, Kansas City  
 Pepper Berries Urban Farm, Kansas City  
 Reed Apiary, Kansas City  
 River Watch Beef, Kansas City

Williamson Nursery, Summit  
 Two Brooks Farm, Sumner  
 Taylor Flower Patch, Taylor  
 Memory Orchard, Tupelo  
 Andrews Farms, Tylertown  
 Field Masters Produce Farm, Tylertown  
 Heritage Acres LLC, Tylertown  
 Tree Lady's Nursery LLC, Union  
 H & F Cattle Company LLC, Vanceleave  
 Lawrence Farms, Vanceleave  
 Old River Road Blueberry Farm, Vanceleave  
 Triple Cs Farms, Walnut Grove  
 Poultry in Motion Farm, Water Valley  
 Ambers Blueberry Farm & Nursery, Waynesboro  
 Eden's Garden, Wesson  
 CM Farms, West Point  
 Shellwood Farm LLC, Yazoo City

125 Missouri-based Farms<sup>29</sup>

Urban Bounty Farms, Kansas City  
 Rock Ridge Farm, Lawson  
 Rosy Buck Farm, Leasburg  
 Double SS Farm, Lebanon  
 MeMaws Honeybees at Double SS Farm, Lebanon  
 Farmstand on Orchard, Lee's Summit  
 Cedar Stone Bison LLC, Lenox  
 Liberty Bees, Liberty  
 Mysthaven Dairy Goats, Macomb  
 3 Girls and a Tractor, Marthasville  
 Alger Family Farm, Miller  
 Chateaufert Farm, Mountain Grove  
 Hillside Harvest, Mountain Grove  
 Box Turtle Farm LLC, Mt. Vernon  
 PlayHaven Farm, Napoleon  
 Pettig Livestock, New Bloomfield  
 Oakwood Farm, New Haven  
 Circle S Farm, Newburg  
 Turkey Ridge Farm, Newburg  
 Thistle Hill Farms, Noel  
 BlackWater Treasures, Odessa  
 Honey Creek Bee Farms, Odessa  
 Nunley Bee Empire, Oldfield  
 Hart's Gelbvieh Farm, Osceola  
 Earth Beet Farm, Ozark  
 Spittin' Good Alpaca Meats LLC, Paris  
 Pearl Family Farm KC, Parkville  
 Rusty Rose Gelbvieh, Piedmont  
 Natures Harvest Home, Pierce City  
 Peaceful Pocket Farm, Purdy  
 Four Oaks Farm, Raymore  
 Ferrodise Farms LLC, Republic  
 Osage Honey, Richland  
 Good Land Natural Farm, Rolla  
 Sutton At Home Alpacas, Rolla  
 Flint Hill Farm, Russellville  
 My Little Sheep, Szymour  
 Rocky Top Farm, Smithton  
 Prospect Hill Homestead, Sparta  
 J & L Honey Farm LLC, Springfield  
 Tasty Acres Farm, Springfield  
 Oran Mor, Squires  
 Tavern Creek Gelbvieh LLC, St. Elizabeth  
 Heru Urban Farming, St. Louis  
 Miller's Homestead, St. Louis  
 Nagl Farm Products LLC, St. Louis  
 Suri & Company at Fern Creek Farm, St. Louis  
 Green Thumb Farm, Stockton  
 J&S Farms, Stotts City  
 Salt River Alpacas, Stoutsville  
 Coyote Creek Ranch, Stover  
 Riedel Alpaca Ranch, Tebbetts  
 Taylor Farm on FF, Thompson  
 Dogwood Farm, Troy  
 Shepherd's Crossing Sheep & Goat Farm, Union  
 Breezeway Farm, Valles Mines  
 Sharingwood Farmstead, Wentzville  
 Ford Family Farm, West Plains  
 Peace Valley Poultry, West Plains  
 Three Oaks Farm, West Plains  
 Humble B LLC, Williamsville  
 Palme Acres Farms, Wright City

25 Missouri-based Farmers<sup>30</sup>

Allen Foster, Montgomery City

Don Mudd, Olney

<sup>29</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LsBNwceI6P3Qg6bShJt5oyrGvQcFf13p/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>30</sup> <https://farmactionfund.us/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/EATS-Act-Pork-Producers-Letter.pdf>.<sup>†</sup>

Eddie Foster, Montgomery City  
 Elden Foster, Montgomery City  
 Isabelle Foster, New Florence  
 Ruben Foster, New Florence  
 Tracy Foster, Montgomery City  
 Dayne Hubbard, Hurdland  
 Madison Hubbard, Hurdland  
 Josh Humphreys, Fulton  
 Steve Maxwell, Rush Hill  
 Daryl Mudd, Olney  
 Dave Mudd, Olney  
 Debbie Mudd, Olney

Gary Mudd, Silex  
 Terry Mudd, Silex  
 Raylene Poston, Montgomery City  
 Brian Sjostrand, Hartsburg  
 Jean Sjostrand, Hartsburg  
 Chester Williams, Greentop  
 Kayla Williams, Greentop  
 Cheri Yoakum, Hurdland  
 Darin Yoakum, Hurdland  
 Eugene Yoakum, Hurdland  
 Marvin Yoakum, Hurdland

112 Montana-based Farms<sup>31</sup>

Amaltheia Dairy, Belgrade  
 For The Love Farms, Belgrade  
 Nana Louie Flower Farm, Belgrade  
 Preamyer Homestead, Belgrade  
 Reese Creek Cattle Co, Belgrade  
 Olson Farm and Ranch, Biddle  
 Abraxas Farm, Big Arm  
 Boettcher, Robert, Big Sandy  
 Quinn Farm & Ranch, Big Sandy  
 Regen Market, Big Sky  
 Lair Ranch, Big Timber  
 Living Soil Farm, Big Timber  
 Uncommon Beef, Big Timber  
 Getmans' Orchard and Vineyard, Bigfork  
 Hudgins Ranch MT, Billings  
 Lady Kate's Garden, Billings  
 St. Andrew Community Garden, Billings  
 Border Farm, Bozeman  
 Dusty Bottom Ranch, Bozeman  
 Farm 51, Bozeman  
 Heavenly Llamas, Bozeman  
 Montana Honey Bee Company, Bozeman  
 Three Hearts Farm, Bozeman  
 Red Hen Jam, Bozeman  
 Rising Z7 Farms LLC, Brady  
 Aspen Mountain Katahdins, Butte  
 Sichen Live Stock Co, Cascade  
 Yurman Farms, Chester  
 Miller Colony, Choteau  
 Nelson Organic Farms, Circle  
 Brownell Polled Herefords, Conrad  
 CNutt Acres, Corvallis  
 Double K Ranch, Darby  
 Wild Plum Farm, Dixon  
 Reedfly Farm, Emigrant  
 Fasching Farm, Ennis  
 Vigilante Acres, Ennis  
 Spring Coulee Farm LLC, Fairfield  
 Fairview Honey, Fairview  
 April's Acres, Florence  
 Big Sky Lavender Farms, Florence  
 Diamond U Ranch, Fort Shaw  
 Hardda Farm, Fort Shaw  
 Plain Jane Flowers, Fort Shaw  
 Greycliff Creek Ranch, Greycliff  
 Canyon Creek Poultry, Hamilton  
 Homestead Organics Farm, Hamilton  
 Krebs Farm, Hamilton  
 Never Sweat Ranch, Hamilton  
 Montana Red Devon, Harrison  
 Gruff Grains, Havre  
 Hoof & Paw Farm, Helena  
 N Bar S Microgreens, Helena  
 Sheep Mountain Creamery & Meat, Helena  
 Windy Ridge Llama Ranch, Helena  
 James Dolph Farm, Hingham

Sophia's Lavender and Herb Farm, Huson  
 Lower Valley Farm, Kalispell  
 Steitzhof Merinos, Kalispell  
 Hansen Farms, Kila  
 Cranky Goose Hill Farm, Lakeside  
 Yellowstone Valley Farms, Laurel  
 Coulee Creek Ranch, Lavina  
 Wellspring Ranch, Lewistown  
 Mirror KB Ranch, Libby  
 Chicken Creek Homestead, Livingston  
 Montana Mexican John Ranch, Livingston  
 Paradise Permaculture, Livingston  
 Woods Rose Market, Livingston  
 Bridger Backcountry Llamas, Manhattan  
 Anna's Kitchen and Garden, Missoula  
 Big Sky Herbs, Missoula  
 Blong and Vang Chang, Missoula  
 Clark Fork Organics, Missoula  
 Dog Paw Honey, Missoula  
 Farm Hand Farm, Missoula  
 Garden City Harvest, Missoula  
 Green Bench Orchard, Missoula  
 Hickory Leaf Dairy Goats, Missoula  
 High Vibration, Missoula  
 Highland Winds LLC, Missoula  
 Lowdown Farm, Moiese  
 North of Nowhere Farm, Opheim  
 Moon River Ranch, Philipsburg  
 Montana Peaches, Plains  
 Berardinis Farmstead, Polson  
 Fat Robin Orchard & Farm, Polson  
 VOXY Shrub (BEN Orchard), Polson  
 Green Star Baby Dolls (sheep), Pompeys Pillar  
 Kickin Creek Gourmet Eggs, Red Lodge  
 Shepherd's Path Farm, Roberts  
 McClendon Grain & Cattle Co, Rudyard  
 LouEllen LLC, Shelby  
 Roy Benjamin, Shelby  
 Bermes Goats, Shepherd  
 Foothill Farm, St. Ignatius  
 Sunleit Family Farms, St. Regis  
 Alger Ranch, Stanford  
 Blue Willow Farm, Stevensville  
 Swift Current Farms, Stevensville  
 Bob's Montana Bees, Thompson Falls  
 Living Sky Grains, Three Forks  
 Old Town Farmstead, Three Forks  
 Allicins Ranch, Troy  
 Graze & Roam Ranch, Victor  
 Whitefish Community Garden, Whitefish  
 WhiteStar Organics, Whitefish  
 Montana Highland Lamb, Whitehall  
 North Bridger Bison, Wilsall  
 Bowen Cattle Company, Worden  
 Hays Show Lambs, Worden  
 Tami's Grassfed Beef, Worden

114 Nebraska-based Farms<sup>32</sup>

Abie Vegetable People, Abie  
 Schroeder Herefords, Arapahoe  
 Bierman Sheep, Arnold  
 Biermans of Arnold, Arnold  
 Johnson Gardens, Arnold  
 Indigo Farm, Auburn  
 Big Dog Dorpers, Battle Creek  
 J and J Cattle Co, Beatrice  
 Kennelwood Farms, Beaver Crossing  
 Straight Arrow Bison Ranch, Broken Bow  
 Promise Country Farm, Brownville  
 Morgan Cattle Partners LLC, Burwell

Clinch Produce, Madison  
 Hastreiter Farms, Madison  
 The Grain Place, Marquette  
 Anchor Meadow Farm, Milford  
 Farm Girl Fresh Market, Mitchell  
 Jams and Jellies Just for You, Mitchell  
 Mitchell Valley Farm, Mitchell  
 Country Road Bees, Morse Bluff  
 Gress Produce, Nebraska City  
 Paradise in Progress Farm, Nebraska City  
 Slattery Vintage Estates, Nehawka  
 Double M, Nelson

<sup>31</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_E5Yt0ILLQzVqEXEa4KXmG-KOXH2vzKO/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_E5Yt0ILLQzVqEXEa4KXmG-KOXH2vzKO/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

<sup>32</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oDagFVB43k4\\_h2BD3O6zAa9aTfG2epI5/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oDagFVB43k4_h2BD3O6zAa9aTfG2epI5/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

- Flying Wild White Dorpers, Butte  
 Sky Chief Springs, Cambridge  
 All Streams Inc, Chappell  
 Cada Family Farm, Clarkson  
 Urbaneek Sheep, Clarkson  
 Diamond C Farms, Cortland  
 High Plains Homestead LLC, Crawford  
 Sellman Ranch, Crawford  
 Vick's Organic Vegetables, Creighton  
 Hoyt Farm, Culbertson  
 Sandhills Lavender Farm, Dannebrog  
 Larsen Polled Herefords, Decatur  
 Hohl Produce, Deshler  
 Grandma Jan's, DeWitt  
 Sandhills Red Angus, Ellsworth  
 Diller Produce, Fairbury  
 Spear Lazy V Ranch, Farnam  
 Little Mountain Ranch & Garden, Fort Calhoun  
 Grandview Farm, Fremont  
 Maggie's Farm, Fremont  
 Leggott Produce, Gering  
 Verbeck Produce, Gering  
 Little Town Gardens, Gibbon  
 Kayton Produce, Gordon  
 Pine Valley Ranch, Gordon  
 Rouge Roots, Greenwood  
 Alber Enterprises, Guide Rock  
 Hintz Produce, Hebron  
 TLC Ranch, Hebron  
 Helms Polled Herefords, Holbrook  
 Kuper Farms, Hoskins  
 The Hoagland Homestead, Inland  
 Apple Acres, Kearney  
 Bamford Produce, Kearney  
 Our Haven LLC, Kearney  
 VR Bar Land & Cattle, Kenesaw  
 Secluded Farms, Kennard  
 Logterman Livestock, Kilgore  
 Amezcua Sheep, Leigh  
 Bruce Vokoun, Lincoln  
 Encompass Farming Co., Lincoln  
 Pasture2 Table LLC, Lincoln  
 Salt Slope Farm, Lincoln  
 Clear Creek Land and Livestock, Litchfield  
 Good Taste Farms LLC, Lyons
- Wondercheck Family Farms, Newman Grove  
 Baldwin Produce, Norfolk  
 Bow Valley Jersey, Norfolk  
 Debbie's Kitchen, Norfolk  
 R & A Gardens, North Platte  
 Black Chick Farm, Omaha  
 Dee Sign Landscaping, Omaha  
 Fruit of Levine LLC, Omaha  
 Omaha Sunflower Cooperative, Omaha  
 Omstead Family Farms, Omaha  
 Pemberley Farms, Omaha  
 The Perennial Homestead, Omaha  
 Wood n' Bees Urban Farm, Omaha  
 Xiong's Garden, Omaha  
 B&R Family Farm, Palmer  
 Mini Green Things, Panama  
 Broken Z Lazy T Bison Ranch, Potter  
 Shorty's Produce, Prague  
 1-TOPP Boer Goats, Ravenna  
 KM Cattle, Ravenna  
 Abundant Life Honey, Red Cloud  
 Tender Meadows, Roca  
 The Perfect 10 Buffalo Ranch, Rose  
 Bluff Valley Farm, Rulo  
 Coonce Farm, Rulo  
 Cleay's Produce, Scottsbluff  
 Griffiths Produce, Scottsbluff  
 Meadowlark Hearth Farm, Scottsbluff  
 RR 1 Farms, Scribner  
 Heibel Farms, Silver Creek  
 Glaser Farm, Spalding  
 Shady Oak Farm, St Paul  
 Bate's Hilltop Troque Garden, Stella  
 Mentink Family Farms, Stromsburg  
 Upstream Ranch, Taylor  
 Renner Produce, Tilden  
 Moma Preme's, Unadilla  
 Wagon Wheel Homestead, Valentine  
 Amish Farms, Verdigre  
 Harvest Home Flowers, Waverly  
 JB Ranch, Wayne  
 Five-H Ranch, West Point  
 Three-H Cattle LLC, West Point  
 Healthy Harvest, Wymore  
 Linsenmeyer Produce, Wymore
- 122 New Hampshire-based Farms<sup>33</sup>
- Fallen Maple Sugaring, Alstead  
 Souhegan Soccer Farm, Amherst  
 Sunny Valley Farms, Amherst  
 The Snow Family Farm, Barnstead  
 Third Stone Farm, Barnstead  
 CDR Farm, Barrington  
 Determination Farms, Barrington  
 Farm Fresh NH, Barrington  
 Fears Farms, Barrington  
 Sallie's Fen Alpaca's, Barrington  
 Caprine Maple Farm, Bath  
 2 Sappy Guys, Bedford  
 Pustizzi Fruit Farm, Boscaawen  
 Moose Mountain Farm, Brookfield  
 Tumbledown Family Farms LLC, Brookfield  
 Bee Joyful Farm, Candia  
 Forest Fed Farmstead, Candia  
 Marsh Meadow Bison, Canterbury  
 Someday Farm, Canterbury  
 Bascom Farm, Charlestown  
 The Cluck'n farm, Chester  
 Windswept Hill Apiary LLC, Chichester  
 Farmer Palmer, Concord  
 Gray Cat Farm, Concord  
 Sunfox Farm, Concord  
 One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Deerfield  
 Piney Woods Farm, Deerfield  
 Vineyards at Hickory Hill, Dover  
 Stark Farm, Dunbarton  
 NH Farm to School, Durham  
 The Farm By The River, Effingham  
 Sapling Forest Farm, Epsom  
 Dave's Farm, Exeter  
 Gem Farms, Farmington  
 Rocky Meadow Farm, Francestown  
 Carder Farm, Fremont  
 Flying M Farm, Fremont  
 Timber Hill Family Farm LLC, Gilford  
 Fowl Language Farm, Gilmanton  
 Gary's Sugar Shack, Gilmanton
- Old Orchard Farm LLC, Madbury  
 NH Native Perennials, Madison  
 The Autonomous Garden CSA, Manchester  
 Bending Branch Farm LLC, Marlborough  
 Phoenix Farm, Marlborough  
 Babel's Sugar Shack LLC, Mason  
 Restoration Acres Farm, Meredith  
 Sacred Tree Herbs, Meredith  
 Falling Tree Farm, Meriden  
 Miracle Acres Farm, Milford  
 Jug Hill Farm, Milton  
 McKenzie's Farm, Milton  
 Claddagh Hill Farm, Nashua  
 Blue Heron Farm, New Boston  
 Greentwist Acres, New Boston  
 Simplicity Farm, New Boston  
 Three Creeks Farm, New Hampton  
 B&S Farm, New Ipswich  
 Old Tavern Farm, New Ipswich  
 Sleepy Brook Farm, New Ipswich  
 Wild Thyme Farm NH, New Ipswich Center  
 Balsam Woods Tree Farm, Newport  
 Patridge Farm, North Haverhill  
 Waxing Moon Gardens, North Sandwich  
 Fairy Farm, Northwood  
 Lucky B farm, Northwood  
 Marsh Berry Farm, Northwood  
 Gravel Pit Farm, Nottingham  
 Nicole's Greenhouse & Florist, Pembroke  
 Blackfire Farm, Peterborough  
 Wendy Town Farms, Pike  
 Crimson King Farm, Pittsfield  
 See To It Farm, Plymouth  
 Baby Greens Farm, Rochester  
 Slippery Soap Company, Salem  
 Ward Family Homestead, Salisbury  
 Keenan Family Farm, Sanbornton  
 Wild Berry Farm, Sanbornton  
 Mountain Breeze Farm, Sandwich  
 Moriah Valley Farm, Shelburne

<sup>33</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_d-CWoGbzFPLEhuJPyBkHhr0lRuOeM3S/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_d-CWoGbzFPLEhuJPyBkHhr0lRuOeM3S/view?usp=sharing).†

Twillingate Farm, Gilmanton  
 Templeton Family Organics, Goffstown  
 North Pack Maple Syrup, Greenfield  
 Ten Talents, Greenfield  
 Jesta Farm, Hampton Falls  
 Watterson Farm, LLC, Hampton Falls  
 Slovenian Beekeeping, Harrisville  
 Beeskep Cottage, Hillsboro Center  
 Wingate Farm, Hinsdale  
 Brookdale Fruit Farm, Inc., Hollis  
 Fulchino Vineyard, Hollis  
 Singing Pond Farm, LLC, Hollis  
 Busy Beezzz, Hooksett  
 K-Farm LLC, Kingston  
 Valley Brook Farm, Lancaster  
 Hickory Nut Farm, Lee  
 Solid Earth farm, Lisbon  
 Victory Aquaponics LLC, Londonderry  
 Maple Lane Farm, Lyndeborough  
 Paradise Farm, Lyndeborough  
 Levesque Tree Farm, Madbury

Dancing Waters Farm, Annandale  
 Stoneyfield Orchards, Belvidere  
 Aube Sweet Acre Farm, Berlin  
 Dietrich Apiary, Blackwood  
 Hidden Brook Ranch, Blairstown  
 Simone Apiary, Boonton  
 The Shepherd's Pasture, Bordentown  
 River Lea House LLC, Branchburg  
 Fralinger's Orchards, Bridgeton  
 Irwin Apiary, Bridgeton  
 Just Kiddin' Around Farm LLC, Bridgeton  
 Bee Kind Honey Farm, Bridgewater  
 Wick Apiary, Bridgewater  
 Potor Apiary, Burlington  
 Ashton Farm, Califon  
 Bees on Beavers Apiary, Califon  
 Rays Bees & Honey, Camden  
 No Frills Farm, Cape May  
 Orlando Ramos (Apiarist), Carteret  
 Blue Sky Farm, Cedarville  
 Red Oak Permaculture, Cherry Hill  
 Two Cats Apiaries LLC, Chester  
 Hlubik Farms, Chesterfield  
 Sparkling Stingers, Chesterfield  
 Closter Farm and Livestock Co, Closter  
 The Great Full Garden, Dividing Creek  
 Green Archers, Eastampton  
 Ranch 118 LLC, Egg Harbor City  
 C&B Coop, Egg Harbor Township  
 Bluebird Farm Alpacas, Far Hills  
 Blue Jangler Farm Market, Flemington  
 Duck Flats Farm, Flemington  
 Stony Road Farm, Flemington  
 Campgaw Bees, Franklin Lakes  
 Triple Dog Dare You Christmas Tree Farm, Franklinville  
 Lockatong Organic Herb Farm, Frenchtown  
 Mariposa Farm, Frenchtown  
 Goodson Apiary, Galloway  
 R and J Farm, Galloway Township  
 Silver Fox Farm, Germania  
 Olsen Apiary, Green Village  
 Burningheart Farm, Hackettstown  
 Paradise Apiary, Hamilton  
 Cedarbrook Apiaries, Hammonton  
 Charlie's Chickens, Hammonton  
 Rosedale Farms, Hammonton  
 High Breeze Farm, Highland Lakes  
 Hive Mind Honey, Hillsborough  
 Polnasek Poultry Farm, Hillsborough  
 Sourland Farm, Hillsborough  
 Lima Family Farms, Hillsborough Township  
 Swayze Inn Farm, Hope  
 Beechtree Farm LLC, Hopewell  
 Honey I'm Home, Jersey City  
 Sunset View Farm, Lafayette  
 Angelico Winery, Lambertville  
 Horsnall Apiary, Lambertville  
 Northeast Organic Farming Association of NJ-NOFA NJ,  
 Lambertville  
 Willow Gate Farm LLC, Lawrenceville  
 Long Meadow Bee Works, Lebanon  
 Molasses Hill Farm, Lebanon  
 Quinton Apiary, Leonia  
 Two River Gourmet Mushrooms, Long Branch

Dogrose Farm, Strafford  
 Hickory Hill Farm, Strafford  
 Under-n-Acre Farm, Strafford  
 Red Door Farm, Stratham  
 Heath's Greenhouse & Nursery, Sugar Hill  
 Cornerstone Maple Farm, Swanzey  
 Old Bridge Farm, Swanzey  
 Tippin' Rock Farm, Swanzey  
 The Farmstand, Tamworth  
 Ben's Sugar Shack, Temple  
 Whippoorwill Organics, Wakefield  
 Beaver Meadowbrook Farm, Warner  
 Micro Mama's, Weare  
 Warner River Produce, Webster  
 Webster Ridge Farm, Webster  
 SunnySide Farm, Wilmot  
 Hungry Bear Farm, Wilton  
 Temple Wilton Community Farm, Wilton  
 Carriage Hill Honey, Wolfeboro  
 Mustard Seed Farm, Wolfeboro  
 [Northeast Organic Farming Association of NH (NOFA-NH)]

*142 New Jersey-based Farms<sup>34</sup>*

Ferrentino Apiary, Millburn  
 Verde Harvest, Millburn  
 Soel Farm, Millstone  
 Funky Feathers Farm, Millstone Township  
 Chatum Logistics LLC, Millville  
 Bailey Apiary, Monroe Township  
 Jacobs Apiary, Montclair  
 O'Donovan Apiary, Montvale  
 Gooserock Farm, Montvale  
 Pleasant Valley Lavender, Morganville  
 2Beeornot2Bee, Mount Holly  
 Jersey Girls Produce & Seasonal Items, New Egypt  
 Laurita Winery, New Egypt  
 Magnolia Farm, New Egypt  
 Second Wind Farm NE LLC, New Egypt  
 Twin State Farms LLC, Newfield  
 Phiefer Apiary, Newton  
 Hilltop Honey, North Caldwell  
 High Mountain Hives, North Haledon  
 Sparta Mountain Farm, Oak Ridge  
 Country Stand Farm, Oxford  
 Schulman Apiary, Passaic  
 Blue Moon Acres, Pennington  
 Fairgown Farm, Pennington  
 Little Ridge Vineyards, Phillipsburg  
 Chaos Farms, Pilesgrove  
 Lake Nelson Apiary, Piscataway  
 Sadowski Apiary, Piscataway  
 Murphy Livestock Farm, Pittstown  
 Murphy Pigs, Pittstown  
 Oak Summit Livestock, Pittstown  
 Rolfe Apiary, Pittstown  
 Twin Goat Farm, Pittstown  
 Volpe Apiary, Pompton Lakes  
 RBees Apiary, Port Murray  
 Well-Sweep Herb Farm, Port Murray  
 Cherry Grove Organic Farm, Princeton  
 Chris' Trees, Princeton  
 Princeton Apiaries, Princeton  
 Kahana Farm, Randolph  
 SpiceBush Farm, Ringoes  
 Unionville Vineyards, Ringoes  
 Golden Boy Apiaries, Rio Grande  
 Chung Apiary, Roselle  
 Amberg Perennial Farm Inc, Scotch Plains  
 Logey Bee Apiary, Sewell  
 Anderson Apiary, Sicklerville  
 Swazey Farms, Sicklerville  
 Bendell Apiary, Somerset  
 Rancoas Creek Farm, Southampton  
 Jasanti Apiary, Stockholm  
 Whispering Pines Alpaca Farm, Stockton  
 Goosepond Farms, LLC, Tabernacle  
 Ware's Chicken, Tabernacle  
 Walnut Hill Farm, Tewksbury  
 Jewell Apiary, Tinton Falls  
 Holroyd Apiary, Toms River  
 Tay Honey Company, Totowa  
 Santa Maria Farms LLC, Union City  
 The Farm at Glenwood Mountain, Vernon  
 Bloom with Linda, Vineland  
 Gailsfarm LLC, Vineland  
 Sikking Bros. Inc, Vineland  
 Moorhouse Apiary, Voorhees

<sup>34</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j4R5Py9Djt2Sr9YVW4NYtLxDrgUWrso4/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Longview Flower Farm, Lumberton  
 Stoney Lane Farm, Lumberton  
 Garrison (Apiarist), Manahawkin  
 Devine Associates LLC, Manalapan  
 Anderson Apiary, Manchester Township  
 The Naked Botanical, Mendham  
 New Life Farms LLC, Middletown  
 Mad Lavender Farm, Milford

Wormuth Farm, Wantage  
 Out of Sight Alpacas, Waretown  
 Windsong Organic Farm, Warren  
 Charkowski Apiary, Wayne  
 Arya's Acres, Williamstown  
 Eight and Plum Farms LLC, Woodbine  
 Littleworth Tree Farm, Woodbine

*140 New Mexico-based Farms*<sup>35</sup>

Agri-Cultura Network (with 30+ Allied Farms across New Mexico), Albuquerque  
 Albuquerque Growers Market, Albuquerque  
 Amyo Farm, Albuquerque  
 Atrisco Community Farm, Albuquerque  
 Jojola Gardens, Albuquerque  
 Los Jardines Institute, Albuquerque  
 Matt's Mushroom Farm, Albuquerque  
 Mission ABQ Learning Gardens, ABQ  
 MJ Honey, Albuquerque  
 Solarpunk Farm, Albuquerque  
 Sweet Mercy Farms, Albuquerque  
 Growing Opportunities Inc., Alcalde  
 Quality Farms, Algodones  
 Jordan's Organic Pecan Farm, Anthony  
 OG Farm, Anthony  
 Taylor Hood Farms, Anthony  
 Rivers Bend Ranch, Aztec  
 Circle "T" Beef LLC, Belen  
 Big Baby Farms, Bernalillo  
 Tierra Sagrada Farm, Bernalillo  
 BuzyGoat's Farm, Bloomfield  
 Gathings Gardens, Bloomfield  
 GCI Farm, Bloomfield  
 Black's Smuggler Winery, Bosque  
 Polk's Folly Farm, Cedar Crest  
 Chelenzo Farms, Cerrillos  
 SunStar Herbs, Cerrillos  
 Cerro Vista Farm, Cerro  
 Garcia Herefords, Chama  
 The Chama Valley Meat Co, Chama  
 Vigil's Chimayo Produce, Chimayo  
 Little J Ranch, Cloudcroft  
 MTA Farms, Clovis  
 Acequia Vineyards, Corrales  
 Corrales Classic Farms, Corrales  
 Heidi's Raspberry Farm, Corrales  
 Sias Growers, Corrales  
 Aspaas Farm, Cudei  
 Mac Ranch, LLC, Deming  
 Mark Anthony Farms, Deming  
 Lazy BG Ranch, Dilia  
 El Bosque Garlic Farm, Dixon  
 Starlight Ranch, Edgewood  
 Orozco Farms 2, El Guique  
 Phi Beta PacaAlpacas & Yarns, El Prado  
 Embudo Valley Organics, Embudo  
 Khalsa Family Farms, Espanola  
 Loeffler Farms, Grants  
 Martin Farms, Grier  
 Pueblo Resurgents,<sup>36</sup> Isleta Pueblo  
 Green Tractor Farm, La Cienega  
 Rey Romero Farms, La Cienega  
 Owl Peak, La Madera  
 Full Circle Mushrooms, La Mesa  
 Stahmanns Inc, La Mesa

La Villita Farms LLC, La Villita  
 Rio Grande Winery, Las Cruces  
 Bodhi Farms, Las Vegas  
 Sweet Grass Cooperative, Las Vegas  
 Yuccabird Herb Farm, Liano  
 2 Willows Farm, Los Lunas  
 Haynes Cattle Company, Los Lunas  
 Big Jim Farms, Los Ranchos  
 Turquoise Trail Lavender Farm, Madrid  
 Major Land and Cattle Co., Magdalena  
 Elevated Eggs, Melrose  
 McCall Land and Cattle Co., Moriarty  
 Schwebach Farm, Moriarty  
 Mesteño Draw Cattle Co., Mountainair  
 Southwest Homestead, Mountainair  
 A La Madre Farms, Ohkay Owingeh  
 San Isidro Farms, Page  
 Sile Pastures, Pena Blanca  
 Coonridge Organic Goat Cheese, Pie Town  
 Avery's Farm, Pojoaque  
 Veggie Shack, Portales  
 BrownKawa Farmstead, Prewitt  
 Nyn Acres, Red Hill  
 Pecos Rose Farm, Ribera  
 Corn Ranches, Roswell  
 Legacy Land & Livestock LLC, Roswell  
 Roswell Wool LLC., Roswell  
 The Art Farm UNIncorporated LLC, Sandia Park  
 Santa Cruz Farm, Santa Cruz  
 Clean Fork Farm, Santa Fe  
 Desert Verde Farm, Santa Fe  
 Paradox Farm, Santa Fe  
 Petal Pushers Santa Fe, Santa Fe  
 Santa Fe CBD, Santa Fe  
 Sungreen Living Foods LLC, Santa Fe  
 Rancho de Mil Piedras Beef, Santa Rosa  
 RJ's Legacy, Shiprock  
 Benson Ritter, LLC, Socorro  
 Pollo Real/Real Chicken, Socorro  
 Rosales Farms, Socorro  
 Bee's Honey, South Valley  
 Chispas Farm, South Valley  
 Wagner Farms, Stanley  
 Farmah, LLC, Stanley  
 Wildhood Farm, Taos  
 C4 Enterprises, Inc., Tierra Amarilla  
 Sage Coyote Farm, Tierra Amarilla  
 Shepherd's Lamb, Tierra Amarilla  
 Gipson Land LLC, Tinnie  
 Milagro Goat Farm, Truchas  
 Carlson Way Farm, Tucumcari  
 LAMB (Live Agricultural Management Business), Tucumcari  
 Mellej's Farm, Tularosa  
 Rancho de Santa Fe, Velarde  
 Blue Box Farm, Villanueva  
 Wayne's Farm Eggs, Yatahe

*159 New York-based Farms*<sup>37</sup>

Westwind Orchard, Accord  
 Radix Ecological Sustainability Center, Albany  
 Navarra's Farm Market & Greenhouses, Albion  
 Sunny Cove Farm LLC, Alfred Station  
 Canticle Farm, Allegany  
 Cast Iron Acres, Altona  
 Maitri Farm, Amenia  
 Leaning Birch Farm, Amsterdam  
 Lovin' Mama Farm, Amsterdam  
 Acorn Hill Farm, Ancram  
 Herondale Farm, Ancramdale  
 Sunny Acres Farm, Athens  
 Folls Flower Farm, Auburn  
 Hoffay Farms, Averill Park  
 Wm. H. Buckley Farm, Ballston Lake  
 Shoving Leopard Farm, Barrytown  
 Terry's Berry Farm, Barton  
 Cess Farms LLC, Bay Shore

Smith Farms, Hudson  
 Three Stone Farm, Interlaken  
 Casper's Farm, Ithaca  
 Rocking Horse Farm, Jamesville  
 Yawney Farms, Jordan  
 Solid Ground Farm LLC, Kingston  
 Brownson Family Farm, Kirkville  
 The White House Homestead, Kirkville  
 Claddagh Farm Alpacas, LLC, LaFayette  
 Agrarian Feast, Livingston Manor  
 Root 'N Roost Farm, Livingston Manor  
 Six Circles Farm, Lodi  
 Andersens Maple Farm, Long Eddy  
 Ten Mile Farm LLC, Marietta  
 Spring Pond Farm, Mattydale  
 Hickory Hurst Farm, Mayville  
 All Family Farm, Middletown  
 Fresh Meadow Farm, Middletown

<sup>35</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g6rwEd\\_iREtBWSSs7ojRyxuwDwdoHzg9/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g6rwEd_iREtBWSSs7ojRyxuwDwdoHzg9/view). †

<sup>36</sup> Community-governed organization that also manages a farm.

<sup>37</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eIdT-zrCBwoFB5ana\\_XECdfogplywvI7/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eIdT-zrCBwoFB5ana_XECdfogplywvI7/view). †

Mascho Homestead Farms, Belmont  
 Marz Farm, Berkshire  
 DM Herefords, Berne  
 Raven Crest Botanicals, Berne  
 Hidden Acre Farm, Bloomingburg  
 Squeak Creek Apiaries, Brasher Falls  
 Camman Acres LLC, Brockport  
 Slow Food USA, Brooklyn  
 WestSide Tilth Farm, Buffalo  
 WolfTree Farm, Burdett  
 Long Days Farm, Buskirk  
 Bickford Farms, Caledonia  
 Firefly Dairy Goats, Caledonia  
 Twin Brook Camillus Farm, Camillus  
 Hidden Camp Farm, Canajoharie  
 Forget Me Not Farm, Candor  
 Side Hill Acres Dairy Goat Farm, Candor  
 Vega Beef Farm, Candor  
 Birdsfoot Farm, Canton  
 Persephone Flowers, Canton  
 Cayuta Sun Farm, Catharine  
 Visnesky Herefords, Cattaraugus  
 Lucky Moon Farm, Cazenovia  
 Farmland Animal Park, Chemung  
 Orchard Rest Farm, Chenango  
 Family Roots Farm, Cherry Valley  
 Fraser's Garlic Farm LLC, Churchville  
 High Lonesome Farm, Cincinnatus  
 Catch a Torii Farms, Clifton Springs  
 Kingfisher Farm, Clinton  
 Turtle Tree Seed, Copake  
 Edgwick Farm, Cornwall  
 Hemlock Hill Farm, Cortlandt  
 Spring Lake Farm, Delhi  
 Yericco Farms, Dunkirk  
 Greene County Wool, East Durham  
 Marion Gardens, Organic Herbs, East Marion  
 Diamond H Farm, East Meredith  
 Barred Owl Brook Farm, Essex  
 Echo Farm, Essex  
 Winter Farm, Fleischmanns  
 Crazy Legs Farm, Fort Edward  
 Bowterra Farm, Fort Plain  
 Brick House Acres, Frankfort  
 Robert J. Fish Family Farm LLC, Frankfort  
 Post St. Farm, Franklin Springs  
 Almosta Farm, Gansevoort  
 Becker Farms, Gasport  
 Humble House Gardens, Gasport  
 Saeli Farm, Geneva  
 Wilk Apiary, Glendale  
 Foxtail Community Farm, Greenville  
 Bessette Registered Herefords, Greenwich  
 Snowy Field Farm, Groton  
 Bawden Farms, Hammond  
 Rasta Ranch Vineyards, Hector  
 Bittersweet Farm, Heuvelton  
 Milkweed Tussock Tubers, Heuvelton  
 Anastasia Farms, Hopewell  
 Boorcrest Farm, Horseheads  
 Rocky Top Acres Llc, Hubbardsville  
 Micosta Enterprises, Hudson

Dashing Star Farm, Millerton  
 Chicory Creek Farm, Mount Vision  
 Flint and Steel Farm, Naples  
 The Retreat Freelander Ranch, Naples  
 Larchar Farms, New Berlin  
 Abode Farm CSA, New Lebanon  
 Climbing Tree Farm, New Lebanon  
 Gatehouse Greens, New Paltz  
 Engelbert Farms, Nichols  
 Stonegoose Farms, North Rose  
 The Johnson's Family Farm, Northville  
 Sojourner Farm, Olean  
 Heart of Heaven Farm, Oriskany Falls  
 Fable: From Farm to Table, Ossining  
 Green Heron Growers, Panama  
 Ridge Ranch, Patterson  
 Fox Run Vineyards, Penn Yan  
 Klaas Martens, Penn Yan  
 Chaseholm Farm, Pine Plains  
 Sugartree Village, Potsdam  
 Dwarf Hollow Farmstead, Prattsburgh  
 Cobblestone Valley Farm, Preble  
 Fraleigh's Rose Hill Farm, Red Hook  
 Face and Fall Farm, Richfield Springs  
 Agbotic, Inc, Sackets Harbor  
 Mayer Cattle Farm, Salamanca  
 Small Paws Farm, Salt Point  
 Moody Tree Farm, Saranac Lake  
 White Feather Farm, Saugerties  
 The Hungry Chicken Country Farm, Schenectady  
 Terrace Mountain Orchard, Schoharie  
 Saratoga Apple, Inc., Schuylerville  
 Glenville Farm, Scotia  
 SMI Farm, Sidney Center  
 Doce Lume Farm, Skaneateles  
 Right from the Hive, Slate Hill  
 Brick Church Farms, Sodus  
 Humble Hill Farm & Lodge, Spencer  
 La Basse Cour, South Kortright  
 Bear Creek Farm, Stanfordville  
 Chestnut Creek Farm, Sterling  
 Tongore Brook Farm, Stone Ridge  
 Red Oak Farm of Stuyvesant, Stuyvesant  
 Cedarvale Maple Syrup Co., Syracuse  
 Luff Farms, Three Mile Bay  
 Northwind Farms, Tivoli  
 Bluebird Dream Farm, Trumansburg  
 Remembrance Farm, Trumansburg  
 Red House Ranch, Van Etten  
 Noto Herefords, Varysburg  
 Abel's Trees, Verbank  
 Bison View Farm, Victor  
 Mud Creek Farm CSA, Victor  
 Our Lady of Victory Farm, Victory  
 Stony Creek Farmstead, Walton  
 G and S Orchards, Walworth  
 Little York Farm, Warwick  
 Cross Island Farms LLC, Wellesley Island  
 Gold Brook Farm LLC, Westfield  
 Kezialain Bicentennial Farm, Westtown  
 Ben Wever Farm, Willsboro

202 North Carolina-based Farms<sup>38</sup>

Marshall's Produce, Apex  
 Zephyr Family Farm, Apex  
 Uwharrie Farm, Asheboro  
 Appalachian Seeds Farm, Asheville  
 Cedar Springs Farm, Asheville  
 Charlotte's Greenhouse, Asheville  
 Herb Mamma, Asheville  
 Sprout Culture Microgreens, Asheville  
 Sweet Betty Bee's Honey and Hive, Asheville  
 Fork Mountain Farm, Bakersville  
 Naturally Equine, Belevs Creek  
 Rail Fence Farm, Belevs Creek  
 Stauber Farm, Bethania  
 Campbell's Berry Farm, Bethlehem  
 Montgomery Sheep Farm, Biscoe  
 Encompass Farm, Black Mountain  
 Good Shepherd Trees, Blowing Rock  
 The Family Goat Farm, Bolivia  
 Coffey's Orchard at Coffey Grounds, Boone  
 A Way of Life Farm, Bostic  
 Colonial Acres Nursery, Brevard  
 Minro Acres Alpacas LLC, Burlington  
 Mountain Gardens, Burnsville

Happy Valley Farms, Lenoir  
 Fool's Gold Honey, Lewisville  
 Native Vines Winery, Lexington  
 Sunrise Acres Farm, Lincolnton  
 Clouston Cattle, Louisburg  
 Faircreek Farms, Louisburg  
 Lucky 3 Farm LLC, Louisburg  
 MAE Farm Meats, Louisburg  
 Rocky Ridge Farm, Louisburg  
 Freedom Farm Soap, Maiden  
 Windfell Farm, Maiden  
 Revival Garden, Marion  
 Sprig and Shoot Farm LLC, Mars Hill  
 East Fork Farm, Marshall  
 Good Fight Flowers, Marshall  
 Jewel Hill Farms, Marshall  
 Malinak Farms, Marshall  
 Small Bean Farmstead, Marshall  
 Sweet Pea Farm, Marshall  
 The Berry Farm LLC, Marshall  
 The Forest Pharmacy, Marshall  
 Charlie T Locklear Vineyard, Maxton  
 Bynum Family Farm, Maysville

<sup>38</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yyawP70gtu8LDTTk5rVPQW07EFbH8l\\_6/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yyawP70gtu8LDTTk5rVPQW07EFbH8l_6/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

Open Ridge Farm, Burnsville  
 Sawyers Creek Farm, Camden  
 C.V. Pilson Farm, Cameron  
 Slow Farm, Cameron  
 Ivy Creek Family Farm, Candler  
 Far Flung Farm, Canton  
 KT's Orchard and Apiary, Canton  
 The Ten Acre Garden, Canton  
 Four Little Birds Farm, Carthage  
 Green Haven Plant Farm, Carthage  
 Maple Spring Gardens, Cedar Grove  
 Wild Hare Farm, Cedar Grove  
 Belle Vie Farm, Chapel Hill  
 Blaswesome, Chapel Hill  
 Eco Farm, Chapel Hill  
 Fifth Bend Farm, Chapel Hill  
 Parish Family LLC, Chapel Hill  
 WildSide Farm, Chapel Hill  
 Rambo Family Farm, Clayton  
 Farm E Farms, Clemmons  
 Always Love Gardens, Clyde  
 Bumble Holler Farm, Clyde  
 Jehovah Raah Farm, Clyde  
 Sun Dragon Flower Farm, Clyde  
 Full Spectrum Farms, Cullowhee  
 Dallas Lavender Lane Farm, Dallas  
 Piedmont Farmstead, Dallas  
 Manuel Farms LLC, Danbury  
 Catawba Trail Farm, Durham  
 Avery Family Farm, Durham  
 Fickle Creek Farm, Effland  
 Carolina Heritage Vineyard, Elkin  
 Cane Creek Asparagus & Co. CSA, Fairview  
 Mystic Roots Farm LLC, Fairview  
 Crew Family Orchards, Fayetteville  
 Cloud 9 Farm, Fletcher  
 Gnome Holler Farm, Franklin  
 River Road Farm, Franklin  
 Temperance Farm, Franklin  
 Woodnote Farm, Franklin  
 The Wandering Hen Farm, Germantown  
 Clean Hearts Farm, Graham  
 JB Farm, Granite Falls  
 Carl's Pond Farms, Grassy Creek  
 Red Feather Ranch, Greensboro  
 Cow Swamp Creek Farms, Greenville  
 Ring Family Farms, Hamptonville  
 Farm under the Sun, Henderson  
 Black Dog Flowers, Hendersonville  
 J & M Farms, Hendersonville  
 Justus Orchard, Hendersonville  
 K. Johnson Family Farm, Hendersonville  
 Kingdom Harvest, Hendersonville  
 Oliver Organics, Hendersonville  
 Rooster Head Plantation, Hendersonville  
 Petit Green Giants, High Point  
 Little Flowering Mountain, Highlands  
 Coon Rock Farm, Hillsborough  
 Eno River Farm, Hillsborough  
 Green Heart Farm, Hot Springs  
 Maddyland Mushrooms, Hot Springs  
 Parrot Swamp Farm, Hubart  
 Reames Farm, Huntersville  
 Black River Organic Farm, Ivanhoe  
 Lilawandee Farm, Jacksonville  
 Little Smiles Farm, Kannapolis  
 Triple J Farm, Kenly  
 Apple Family Farm, Kernersville  
 Robertson Family Farm, King  
 Proffitt Family Farms, Kings Mountain  
 Killer Bees Honey, Lake Toxaway  
 Big Horse Creek Farm, Lansing  
 Good Ashe Lavender Farm, Lansing  
 Caldwell Farm, Leicester  
 Holmes Brothers Farm, Leicester  
 Mount Gilead Farm, Leicester  
 Rooted Earth Farm LLC, Leicester  
 Blackberry Hill Farm LLC, Lenoir

Wahlstrom Ranch, Alexander  
 Oscar Huso Jr & Sons, Aneta  
 Perkins Honey Farm, Aneta  
 Mehlhoff Boers, Arena  
 Schock Farms, Ashley  
 Harvest Honey Inc., Baldwin  
 Maverick Farms, Beach

Brittain Farms, Mills River  
 Deep Woods Mushrooms, Mills River  
 Woodwise Botanicals, Mills River  
 Hawkins Farm, Morganton  
 Hilltop Angus Farm, Mount Gilead  
 Alpacawaka Barn & Pastures LLC, Moyock  
 Candy Mountain Farm, Murphy  
 Edwards Family Farms, Nebo  
 South Creek Vineyards, Nebo  
 Hite Horticulture, Inc., New Bern  
 PaccaDreams Alpaca Farm, New Bern  
 Parker Farm, New Bern  
 Avery Farms, Newland  
 Pine Grove Farms, Newland  
 Farisha Foods, Newton  
 Silver Coast Winery, Ocean Isle Beach  
 Cove Creek Nursery Farm, Old Fort  
 Mikell's Farm, Old Fort  
 Old North Acres, Old Fort  
 Talking Rock Farm, Otto  
 Borrowed Land Farm, Pinnacle  
 Clem's Organic Gardens, Pisgah Forest  
 Famlet Farm, Pittsboro  
 Harland's Creek Farm, Pittsboro  
 Rising Sun Farm, Polkton  
 Heart and Soul Farm, Raeford  
 DJ's Berry Patch, Raleigh  
 Raleigh City Farm, Raleigh  
 Sweet Peas Urban Gardens LLC, Raleigh  
 Stone House Farms LLC, Red Oak  
 Blackwell's Farm, Reidsville  
 MoonBranch Botanicals, Robbinsville  
 Elodie Farms, Rougemont  
 Bodenhamer Farms & Nursery, Rowland  
 Lucky L Farms, Ruffin  
 Mother Cluckin' Farm, Rural Hall  
 New Beginnings Historic Farm, Rutherfordton  
 NH Farms, Salisbury  
 Renn Bee Farm, Salisbury  
 Hidden Gap Farm, Saluda  
 Saluda Grade Farm, Saluda  
 Dew Dance Farm, Sanford  
 Griffin's Evergreens, Sanford  
 Petite Produce, Sanford  
 Haw Honey, Saxapahaw  
 Huckleberry Trail Farm LLC, Siler City  
 Okfuskee Farm, Siler City  
 Dinner Bell Farm, Snow Camp  
 Blue Ridge Blueberries, Spruce Pine  
 Little Switzerland Orchard, Spruce Pine  
 Redmond Hereford, Statesville  
 High Grace Farm, Stedman  
 Belflower Farm, Sunshine  
 Hidden River To The Heart, Swannanoa  
 Talus Slope Farm, Swannanoa  
 Honey Mountain Bee Farm, Sylva  
 JAAR Farms, Sylva  
 The Family Farmstead, Timberlake  
 Mathomhouse Farm, Todd  
 Todd's Table, Todd  
 Emerald Earth Botanicals, Topton  
 Caney Fork Blueberry Patch, Tuckasegee  
 Old Mill Acres, Vale  
 Sleepy Bird Farm, Valle Crucis  
 Peden's Farm, Wagram  
 Boy and Girl Farm, Waxhaw  
 Mighty Gnome Market Garden, Waynesville  
 Starfields Organic, Waynesville  
 WNC Urban Farms, Waynesville  
 Bear Necessities Farm, Weaverville  
 R Farm, Weaverville  
 The Living Seed Company, Weaverville  
 Cooke Family Farms, Wendell  
 Abundant Toad Garden, West Jefferson  
 Old Season Farm, West Jefferson  
 Terra Vita Farm, Wilmington  
 Against the Grain Farm, Zionville  
 North Fork Farm, Zionville

102 North Dakota-based Farms<sup>39</sup>

Skyline Ranch Produce, Hensler  
 Howe Herefords Inc., Hettinger  
 JC Farms, Hettinger  
 Naturezgirl Ranch, Hettinger  
 Nature's Roots Farm, Hillsboro  
 Morning Star Ranch, Inkster  
 Buffalo City Bees, Jamestown

<sup>39</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N7x9v-9IUyheUo9Sy4i-sxNF30QKF8FI/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Ray's Bees & Honey, Belfield  
 High Plains Concepts, Beulah  
 Crazy K Bison Ranch, Beulah  
 Playle Ranch, Beulah  
 Apple Creek Acres, Bismarck  
 Brown's Ranch, Bismarck  
 Forever Gardens by Nan, Bismarck  
 Nourished by Nature, Bismarck  
 Roselawn Legacy Hampshires, Bismarck  
 Tschida Honey Farms Inc, Bismarck  
 Hiatt Honey ND LLC, Bowman  
 Kiefat Honey Farms, Brocket  
 Berry Dakota, Buchanan  
 Buzz Off Honey, Burlington  
 Points of View Winery, Burlington  
 Souris Valley Vineyard, Burlington  
 North Star Farms, Carpio  
 Mackrill Honey Farms & Sales, Inc., Cathay  
 Hart Land and Cattle, Chaseley  
 Proverbs 31 Farm, Chaseley  
 Dawson Faith Farms, Dawson  
 Miller Family Farm, Denhoff  
 Premium Gold Flax Products & Processing, Inc., Denhoff  
 7/5 Beef, Des Lacs  
 Bakken Bison Ranch, Devils Lake  
 Wilson Apiaries, Edmore  
 Beegirl.biz LLC, Emerado  
 Homestead Honey, Englevale  
 Ransom Elk Ranch, Englevale  
 Fargo Fungi LLC, Fargo  
 Prairie Faith Homegrown, Fargo  
 Red River Garlic and Produce, Fargo  
 Purple Feather Farm, Fingal  
 Benjamin Dick Farms, Inc., Fort Ransom  
 Bock Farms, Foxholm  
 Schirado Farm, Glen Ullin  
 Thompson Wheat, Grafton  
 Chosin Roots Nursery, Grand Forks  
 Dakota Prairie Acres, Granville  
 Frey Rambouillets, Granville  
 Bonetraill Beef, Grenora  
 Pelton Polled Herefords, Halliday  
 Yellow Bird Organics, Harwood  
 Stramer Farms Inc., Hazelton  
 Jambor Farm, Killdeer  
 Cottonwood Bend Farm, Kindred  
 Kesselring Vineyards, Kindred  
 Sunnyside Ranch, Kulm  
 Prairie Lark Farm, Langdon  
 Dietzler Apiary, Larimore  
 Klemin Farm, Lawton  
 Egg-Cellent Hen House, Leeds  
 Whitetail Acres, Leeds  
 Wholemade Farm, Lidgerwood  
 Balcom Produce, Mandan  
 The Root Sellers, Mandan  
 Heart River Bison, Manning  
 Bellevue Gardens, Manvel  
 4e Winery, Mapleton  
 Happy Animal Farm, McClusky  
 Alerohof LLC, Minot  
 Beagle Hill Organic Farm, Minot  
 South 40 Beef, Mott  
 Doll Charolais & Simmental, New Salem  
 Friesz Family Farm LLC, New Salem  
 Wolff Suffolks, Oakes  
 GMDSSD Ranch, Palermo  
 Dalman Produce, Portland  
 Rhubarb-N-More, Portland  
 Whetstone Butte, Reeder  
 Horneman Family Organic Farm, Regan  
 The Toad Garden, Regent  
 Todd's Honey Farm LLC, Richardson  
 Heartland Bison Ranch, Rugby  
 Slavic Heritage Farm, Rugby  
 Mr. G's Berry Patch, Selz  
 Elston Beef, Spiritwood  
 Hannon Farms LLC, Stanley  
 Sterling Cuts, Sterling  
 Forager Farm, Streeter  
 Badlands Hemp, Taylor  
 West Organics, Thompson  
 DTG LLP, Towner  
 Gnomehall Farm, Towner  
 MW Maxwell Honey, Turtle Lake  
 [Emery Greenhouse, Wahpeton]  
 [Andersen Apiary, Watford City]  
 [Martin Goter, Woodworth]

107 Ohio-based Farms<sup>40</sup>

Local Sprouts Aquaponics LLC, Apple Creek  
 Pear Lane Farms, Apple Creek  
 Longhorns Head to Tail, Barnesville  
 Gray Fox Farms, Batavia  
 Elsasser Brothers Farm, Belle Center  
 Anderson Herefords, Big Prairie  
 Grazeland Farm, Blanchester  
 Spice Acres, Brecksville  
 Wholly Organic Microgreens, Brookfield  
 Lorntz Farm, Bryan  
 Chandler Hill Farm, Burton  
 Great Lakes Growers, Burton  
 Ohio Land and Cattle, Cadiz  
 Maple Valley Sugarbush & Farm, Chardon  
 Onerdings Lavender & Herb Farm, Clarksville  
 Scot's Fresh Eggs, Clarksville  
 Old Brooklyn Greenhouse, Cleveland  
 Timberlane Farms, Clyde  
 So Succulent Gardens, Columbia Station  
 Franklinton Farms, Columbus  
 Sunsprout Farms of Central Ohio, Columbus  
 Gasser Farm, Creston  
 Woodlyn Acres Farm, Dalton  
 Cackler Farms, Delaware  
 Bull Country Compost, Dundee  
 Simon Certified Organic Family Farm, East Sparta  
 Boulder Belt Eco-Farm, Eaton  
 Indian Springs Berry Farm, LLC, Fairfield  
 Siegel Farms, Fort Laramie  
 Jute's Fruit Farm, Fort Recovery  
 Hand Hewn Farm, Fresno  
 Soltis Farms, Garrettsville  
 Twelve Pines Farm, Goshen  
 Bird's Haven Farms, Granville  
 Dry Creek Valley Farm, Granville  
 Southgate Farm, Green  
 Caraway Farm Galloway Cattle, Hamilton  
 GM Moore's Tree Farm, Hartsville  
 Gehres' Family Farm, Hillsboro  
 Polecat Pines Mushroom Farm, Hiram  
 Copia Farm, Johnstown  
 Maple View Farm, Kenton  
 Frog Hollar Farms, Mentor  
 Laleure Vineyards, Middlefield  
 Combs Bee Farm, Milford Center  
 Solid Ground Farm, Millfield  
 Garver Family Farm Market, Monroe  
 Bezold Farms, Moscow  
 The Graybrier, Mount Perry  
 Springhaven Croft, Mount Vernon  
 KJ's Alpaca Ranch, Navarre  
 Mud Run Farm, Navarre  
 Doran's Farm Market, New Albany  
 Sweet Emmy Herbs, New Carlisle  
 Haystack Farm, New Lebanon  
 Ledbetter Farm, New Lexington  
 Martha Jennings Farms, LLC, New London  
 Sanctuary Farm, New London  
 Haulin' Hoof Farm, New Marshfield  
 Sassafras Farm, New Marshfield  
 Cail Farm, New Paris  
 Blue Owl Hollow Forest Farm, Newark  
 J & K Farm, Newcomerstown  
 City Fresh, Oberlin  
 Honey Sweetie Acres, Owensville  
 Greyhold Farms, Peebles  
 Pennline Farm, Pierpoint  
 Votaw Farms, Pioneer  
 Circle M Farms, Piqua  
 Hochstetlers Grass Fed Beef, Plain City  
 Rhoades Farm, Plain City  
 Atlantis Rising, Spring Valley  
 Green Valley Farm, Sugarcreek  
 Lanum Farms, Sunbury  
 Oliver Farms, Thornville  
 Wild Farm, Tipp City  
 Mize Farm, Tippecanoe  
 GGG Cattle, Utica  
 Plum Creek Farm CSA, Valley City  
 Woodstack Farms, Wadsworth  
 Hibner Family Farm LLC, Wapakoneta  
 Koneta Farms, Wapakoneta  
 Triple Creek Ranch, Waynesville  
 Merrell's Texas Longhorns, Waynesville

<sup>40</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gOlzB0skW-4GXEkWq9begg\\_emlu7VtEE/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gOlzB0skW-4GXEkWq9begg_emlu7VtEE/view). †

Just Farmin', Liberty Township  
 Infinite Garden Farm, Litchfield  
 Earth Song Farm, Lodi  
 Marsh Vineyards at Mohican, Loudonville  
 R Farm, Louisville  
 Boltz to Nutz Farm, Loveland  
 Alpaca Meadows, Mansfield  
 Davidson Family Farm, Marion  
 Scioto Prairie Farms, Marion  
 Peaceful Acres Lavender Farm, Martinsville  
 Schmidt Family Farms, Medina  
 A's and O's Farm, Mentor

216 Ranch, Afton  
 Murrow Farms, Alva  
 Edgewise Farms, Anadarko  
 Li'l B's Honey Company, Ardmore  
 Double R Farms, Asher  
 Sunshine Acres Miniature Herefords, Barnsdall  
 The Heirloom Acre, Beggs  
 JK Homegrown, Blanchard  
 Quail Hollow Flower Farm, Blanchard  
 Tanglefoot Farm, Blanchard  
 Wild Horse Hill Ranch, Boynton  
 Feather Ridge Farms, Bristow  
 Garden Farm LLC, Broken Arrow  
 Green Country Permaculture, Broken Arrow  
 Haynes Family Farm, Calvin  
 Horn Canna Farm, Carnegie  
 Campbell Herefords, Checotah  
 Chickasha Nursery, Chickasha  
 Croskey Farms And Produce, Chickasha  
 Khanagov Farmstead, Choctaw  
 Kobyluk Herefords, Choctaw  
 Strahm's Insect Farm of Northeastern Oklahoma, Claremore  
 46D Herefords, Cleveland  
 Outwest Farms, Cleveland  
 Big V Honey Bee, Collinsville  
 Ellis Sheep, Comanche  
 Turner Sheep, Comanche  
 Willow Way Ranch, Coweta  
 Pleasant Valley Meat Co., Coyle  
 Rafter GF, Cushing  
 Jetz Farm, Davis  
 Daydream Acres, Elk City  
 3L Farms, Enid  
 Tea and Country Estate, Enid  
 Hogg Herefords, Erick  
 Stone River Gardens, Euchla  
 Duchess Creek Farms, Eufaula  
 Rine Livestock, Forgan  
 Elam Cattle, Ft Gibson  
 T/R Cattle Company, Glencoe  
 Alpacas-N-Moore, Guthrie  
 Bamboo Satori, Guthrie  
 Grasslander Ranch, Hennessey  
 Akecheta Christmas Tree Farm, Hitchita  
 Two Rivers Ranch, Holdenville  
 Longshadows Ranch, Hulbert  
 Wood Acres, Jones  
 Boeckman Herefords, Kingfisher  
 Miskimon Ranch LLC, Lane  
 Canaday Herefords, Laverne  
 Beaver Creek Farms, Lawton  
 Pepper Creek Farms, Lawton  
 Concharty Ranch, Leonard  
 Hilltop Farm, Lindsay  
 Legends Vineyard & Winery, Lindsay  
 Haygood Hereford Farms, Mangum  
 Strate Ranch, Marshall

Fry Road Farm, Albany  
 Wings & A Prayer Alpacas, Amity  
 The English Lavender Farm, Applegate  
 Box R Beef, Ashland  
 Wizards Way Flower Farm, Ashland  
 Spring Up Farm, Astoria  
 Young Roots Farm, Baker City  
 MoonRidge Farms, Beavercreek  
 Naked Acres Farm, Beavercreek  
 Anker Farm, Bend  
 Pioneer Ranch, Bend  
 Windflower Farm, Bend  
 Vaughtopia Homestead, Bonanza

Hickory Hollow, Wellsville  
 B&E Farm, Williamsburg  
 D and L Meadows LLC, Williamsburg  
 Honeyrun Farm, Williamsport  
 Thompson Corner LLC, Williamsport  
 Alexander Farms, Wilmington  
 Morning Mercies Farm, Windsor  
 Beans Farm, Xenia  
 Mad River Garlic Growers, LLC, Yellow Springs  
 The Village Flower Farm, Yellow Springs  
 E.A.T. Food for Life Farm, Yorkshire

#### 114 Oklahoma-based Farms <sup>41</sup>

Black Sparrow Ranch, Mcloud  
 Frost Herefords, Mcloud  
 405 Bees, Moore  
 Pecan Creek Winery, Muskogee  
 Berry Creek Farm, Mustang  
 Lavender Hill Farm, Newalla  
 Barney Family Farms LLC, Newkirk  
 Freedom Reigns Farm, Newkirk  
 Bowling Herefords, Newkirk  
 Dark Water Ranch LLC, Ninnekah  
 Spring Creek Farms, Ninnekah  
 OLD Farm, Noble  
 Thunder Valley Ranch Hay & Cattle Co., Noble  
 Barley's Garden Patch, Norman  
 Nature's Harmony Farms, Norman  
 Sanctuary Gardens, Norman  
 Nature's Comeback Bison Ranch, Nowata  
 Three Springs Farm, Oaks  
 B4 Ranch & Meats, Oklahoma City  
 Fungus Family Farms, Oklahoma City  
 Plant Wisdom Garden Center, Oklahoma City  
 Rooted Farm, Oklahoma City  
 K-Select Farm, Oklahoma City  
 Flying A Dorper Sheep, Perkins  
 Shiitake Mama, Perkins  
 Baker Bee Farms LLC, Piedmont  
 Silvertop Farm & Vineyards, Ponca City  
 Garrison Farm Co., Porter  
 Ziegler KuneKunes, Porter  
 Cedar Hill Farm, Prague  
 Graham Acres, Pryor  
 Bates Barn To Table, Ramona  
 G4G Cattle Co, Sallisaw  
 Lazy A Farm and Goods, Shawnee  
 Leifer Lodge Farms, Stillwater  
 Maness Farm, Stillwater  
 Stillwater Succulents, Stillwater  
 Diamond H Ranch, Stilwell  
 Holland Herefords, Stroud  
 The Blueberry Farmhouse, Tahlequah  
 Wise Cat Apothecary, Tahlequah  
 Altruistic Farmstead, Tecumseh  
 McLeroy Sheep, Thackerville  
 Great Buffalo Pecan Farm, Tulsa  
 Sooner Plant Farm, Tulsa  
 Arrowhead Bison Ranch, Tuttle  
 Backroad Vineyard, Wagoner  
 Fragrant Forest Farms, Wagoner  
 Holy Cow Farms, Wann  
 Swans of Serenity Poultry Farm, Weleetka  
 Heaven Sent Food & Fiber, Welling  
 Long Valley Registered Miniature Herefords, Westville  
 Off The Wall Farm, Wilson  
 Lively Hope Farms, Wynona  
 Cornerstone Free Range Pastures, Yale  
 Rosenquist Ranch, Yale  
 Broady Farm, Yukon

#### 109 Oregon-based Farms <sup>42</sup>

Lovin' Life Farm, Merlin  
 Crickview Ranch, Milton-Freewater  
 Lampson Blueberries, Milton-Freewater  
 Birdsong Farm, Monmouth  
 Idiot's Grace Winery, Mosier  
 Monitor Farm, Mount Angel  
 Meadow Harvest, Nehalem  
 Beaux Frères, Newberg  
 Dolce Farm & Orchards, Newberg  
 X Novo, LLC, Newberg  
 Golden Tradition Saffron, North Plains  
 Mason Hill Cattle Wagyu Beef, North Plains  
 Lorick Farms, Oregon City

<sup>41</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zWausUsZHycZHUuNT4C5ngW8ZyZygedR/view>. †

<sup>42</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mRUafzJMqbCobtgbl10WamE\\_1zsI7nOc/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mRUafzJMqbCobtgbl10WamE_1zsI7nOc/view?usp=drive_link). †

Gentle Rain Farm, Boring  
 Nature's Old Time Meats, Boring  
 White Hereford Ranch Inc, Burns  
 Morning Shade Farm, Canby  
 Tabula Rasa Farms, Carlton  
 Rogue Valley Aberdeens, Central Point  
 Wild Forage Farm, Colton  
 R Fuzzy Butt Poultry Farm, Coos Bay  
 Amana Ranch, Cornelius  
 Ardri Winery and Vineyards, Cornelius  
 Blueberry Meadows, Corvallis  
 Sol Cycle Farm LLC, Corvallis  
 Territorial Road Orchard, Corvallis  
 Garus Cattle, Dallas  
 Pablo Munoz Farms, Dayton  
 Captain Blueberry, Eagle Creek  
 Uncle Wayne's Tomatoes, Inc, Eagle Creek  
 The Garden Shed, Eagle Point  
 Wild Bee Honey Farm, Eagle Point  
 Quackenbush Farm, Estacada  
 Little Wings Farm, Eugene  
 Living Earth Farm, Eugene  
 Carpenter Creek Ranch, Forest Grove  
 Freedom Ridge, Gales Creek  
 Mat's Windmill Gardens & Nursery, Goble  
 Oshala Farm, LLC, Grants Pass  
 Freja Vineyards, Hillsboro  
 Helvetia Creamery, Hillsboro  
 Mountainside Lavender Farm, Hillsboro  
 Flourish Farm Flowers, Hood River  
 Walter Wells & Sons, LLC, Hood River  
 Wilinda Blueberry Patch, Hood River  
 Schmid Family Farm, Hubbard  
 Renegade Ridge, Jacksonville  
 Blue Basin Beef, Kimberly  
 Little River Nursery, La Pine  
 Valley Flora Farm, Langlois  
 Mount Hope Heritage Farm, Lebanon  
 Nourished With Nature, Lebanon  
 Shepherds Lane of Oregon, Lebanon  
 Springbank Farm LLC, Lebanon  
 The Mushroomery, Lebanon

107 Pennsylvania-based Farms<sup>43</sup>

Wholesome Food Farms, Alburtis  
 Bountiful Earth Farm, Allison Park  
 Goat Rodeo Farm & Dairy, Allison Park  
 Augusta Acres Farm, Beach Lake  
 C&K Herefords, Bellefonte  
 Oak Nut Farm, Bethel  
 Black River Farms, Bethlehem  
 Bowersox Family Farm, Bloomfield  
 Bear Meadows Farm, Boalsburg  
 Skyview Lab Blueberry Farm, Boswell  
 Cherry Valley Organics, Burgettstown  
 Coyne Family Farm, Burgettstown  
 Country Creek Produce Farm, Chambersberg  
 Silkie's Farm, Chester Springs  
 Dreamland Farmstead, Coopersburg  
 BBK Farms LLC, Covington  
 Goose Creek Gardens, Ltd., Cowansville  
 K Schlegel Fruit Farm, Dalmatia  
 Locust Point Cattle Co., Dover  
 Forge Hill Farms, Downingtown  
 Farmer Jon's Produce, Doylestown  
 Buck Run Farm, E Fallowfield  
 Kromer Meats, Easton  
 Sundust Farm, Eighty Four  
 Aberdeen Mills, Elizabethtown  
 Amazing Acres, Elverson  
 Winola Farm, Factoryville  
 Dancing Grace Farm, Fleetwood  
 Lake Forest Gardens, Inc., Fombell  
 Heidel Hollow Farm, Germansville  
 Oh! Pear Orchards, Gibson  
 Spoutwood Farm, Glen Rock  
 Five Drakes Farm, Halifax  
 Harford Farm, Harford  
 Blue Barnyard, Hellertown  
 Cedar Meadow Farm, Holtwood  
 Spring Mills Farm, Honey Grove  
 Michael Lipka Farm, Hunlock Creek  
 Plowshare Produce, Huntingdon  
 Mother Earth Farm, Indiana  
 Yarnicks Farm, Indiana  
 Morris Organic Farm, Irwin  
 Blackbranch Farm, Julian

The Buxton Farm, Oregon City  
 Goodfoot Farm, Philomath  
 A & M Family Farms, Pleasant Hill  
 Able Farms, Portland  
 Portland Creamery, Portland  
 Sue's Blueberries, Portland  
 Tweedle Farms, Portland  
 Vesper Mushrooms, Portland  
 Lundy Natural Beef, Powell Butte  
 Great Malus Beef, Rainier  
 Central Oregon Ostrich, Redmond  
 Larkin Valley Ranch, Redmond  
 Bethel Springs Farm, LLC, Rickreall  
 Abacela Winery, Roseburg  
 Koch Family Farm, Saint Paul  
 Garcia Farm, Salem  
 Miller Farm, Salem  
 Rolling Acres Farm, Salem  
 Trinity Vineyards, Salem  
 Wittie Farm, Salem  
 Fox Belly Farm, Scholls  
 Jo-Le Farms, Scio  
 Morning Mist Farm & Vineyard, Sheridan  
 Hawks View Winery, Sherwood  
 J.K. Carriere, Sherwood  
 Austin Farm, Silverton  
 Forster's Blueberry Hill, Silverton  
 Hand Maid Farm, Silverton  
 Silver Peaks Farm, Silverton  
 Harmony Farm Sanctuary, Sisters  
 Wet Rock Gardens, Springfield  
 Alpaca Country Estates, Terrebonne  
 DD Ranch, Terrebonne  
 Rainshadow Organics, Terrebonne  
 East Wind Cattle Co, Troutdale  
 Alpacas at Lone Ranch, White City  
 Belle Mare Farm, Willamina  
 Plaisance Ranch, Williams  
 Carabella Vineyards, Wilsonville  
 Brosi's Sugartree Farms, Winston  
 Hanson Vineyards, Woodburn

Starry Night Farm, Lewisberry  
 Dreamcatcher Farm, Lewisburg  
 Mountain View Longhorns, Lewistown  
 Sauder's Quality Eggs, Lititz  
 Danda Farms, Manheim  
 Swingle Family Farm, Mansfield  
 Whispering Woods Farm, McVeytown  
 Showboat Farm, Mercer  
 Carlin Farm, Meshoppen  
 Rocky Ridge Farm, Middletown  
 Springtime Hill Farm, Mill Run  
 Carlton Farms, Montrose  
 B & H Organic Produce LLC, Morgantown  
 Pittsburgher Highland Farm, Mount Pleasant  
 Baarda Farms, Mt Bethel  
 Regent Park Naturals LLC, Murrysville  
 Solebury Orchards, New Hope  
 Rainbow Farm, New Tripoli  
 Burch Farms, North East  
 Beichick Farm, Northern Cambria  
 Bendy Brook Farm, Oley PA  
 Forks Farm, Orangeville  
 Paradise Organics, Paradise  
 Bill Kreisher Farm, Paxinos  
 One More Farm LLC, Penn Run  
 Stauffer Family Farms, Pennsburg  
 Hobbie Hill Farm, Perkasie  
 T-n-T All American Swine, Pine Grove  
 Red Hill Harvest, Pitman  
 Bedners Farm, Pittsburgh  
 Ridgemeade Farm, Pittsburgh  
 Sol Patch Garden, Pittsburgh  
 Maple Acres Farm, Plymouth Meeting  
 Twin B Farms, Port Matilda  
 Krenzelak Orchards, Prosperity  
 Frush Farm, Reinholds  
 Old Windmill Farm, Ronks  
 Trust the Dirt Farm, Sabula  
 Frankferd Farms Food, Inc, Saxenburg  
 Stoudt's Orchard, Shartlesville  
 Bent Limb Farm, Shoemakersville  
 Thompson Farms, Sigel  
 Spring Creek Farm, Solebury

<sup>43</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j0MOZWSLSf2M3mZj7bT1YpCWgexM1P\\_d/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j0MOZWSLSf2M3mZj7bT1YpCWgexM1P_d/view?usp=sharing).†

Rocky Ridge Orchards, Kane  
SpringWood Organic Farm, Kinzers  
Acorn Hollow Farm, Kittanning  
Kim and Andrew's Farm Market, Lake Ariel  
Two Creek Farm, Lakewood  
Lancaster Farm Fresh Cooperative CSA, Lancaster  
Nature Ridge Farm, Lancaster  
Schopf Bros Farm, Lancaster  
Chaganra Farm LLC, Latrobe  
Starr Valley Farm, Leechburg  
Spring Mountain Farms, Lehighton

McCaw Farms, Abbeville  
Fast And Fresh Farms, Anderson  
MP Creations, Anderson  
Vdovichenko Bee Farm, Anderson  
Flying Fig Farm LLC, Awendaw  
Veggie Cupboard Community Garden & Greenhouse, Barnwell  
Earthganic Farms, LLC, Belton  
Flying C Farms, Blacksburg  
Giddy Goat Farm SC, Blacksburg  
Clayton-Ridge Farms, Blackville  
Daisy Branch Farm LLC, Bluffton  
Parks Pharm, Buffalo  
Simple Man Farm, Campobello  
Gadsby's Forever Farm, Cassatt  
New Life Farm, Central  
King Tide Farms, Charleston  
Mc Lee Farm, Charleston  
Rita's Roots, Charleston  
Swamp To Sea Honeybees, Charleston  
Tidewater Farm, Charleston  
Davis Hollow Farm, Chesnee  
Upstate Pecan Grove, Chesnee  
A & A Farms And Hauling, Chester  
Krazy K Farm, Chesterfield  
J And J Family Farm LLC, Clover  
The Purple Mushroom LLC, Columbia  
Dogwood Hill Farms, Conway  
Ethan's Highland Cattle, Conway  
Maypop Free Range Chicken, Darlington  
Didaskalos Farm, Donalds  
Palmetto Grace Farm, Easley  
Upstate Serenity Farm LLC, Easley  
Breezy Knolls Farm, Edgefield  
Cragganmore Plantation, Edisto Island  
Old Tyme Bean Company LLC, Elloree  
Altman Farm and Mill, Florence  
Forest Lake Greenhouses, Florence  
Hewett Hives, Florence  
The Neighborhood Farm, Fountain Inn  
The Tender Tendril Farm, Fountain Inn  
Stabler Family Farms, Gaston  
Robinson's Farm, Georgetown  
Greener Pasture Farms, Gilbert  
The Chicken Coop at Brown Farm, Gilbert  
Gentry Farms, Gray Court  
Whistling Pines Farm, Gray Court  
Hot Pepper Herb Farm, Great Falls  
Front Yard Foods, Greenville  
Miss Bee Haven Honey Bones, Greenville  
Pembroke Woods Honey, Greenwood  
Granjammer's Blueberries, Greer  
Tyger River Smart Farm, Greer  
Nettles Farm, Hampton  
Sweet Blessings Farm, Iva  
Blackwater Acres LLC, Johns Island  
Fire Ant Farms LLC, Johns Island  
Jeremiah Farm and Goat Dairy, Johns Island  
The Goatery at Kiawah River, Johns Island  
Diamond Branch Farms, Johnsonville  
Six Oaks Farm, Jonesville  
Sheep Island Farm, Lake City  
Light Farms LLC, Lamar  
Elf Leaf Farm LLC, Landrum  
Hughes Family Farm, Laurens  
Utopia Farm LLC, Leesville  
2 Blessed, Lexington  
Elgie Deberry Apiaries LLC, Lexington  
Poplar Hill Honey, Lexington  
Rodger's Heirlooms, Little Mountain  
Chucktown Acres LLC, McClellanville  
Williams Chicks, Moncks Corner

Seal Livestock, Aberdeen

Reflection Family Farm, Somerset  
Pine Hollow Farm, Spring Grove  
Yoder's Farm Market, Telford  
Carter Farm, Verona  
Fallen Aspen Farm, Volant  
Gary's Berries, Volant  
Berries & Blooms, Waterford  
Soergel Orchards, Wexford  
Strong Roots Organic Farm, Woodward  
Norway Ridge Angus, Wyalusing

142 South Carolina-based Farms<sup>44</sup>

Atkinson Produce, Mullins  
Cori's Backyard Chickens, Myrtle Beach  
Carolina Soap Works, Newberry  
Four Dog Farm, Newberry  
Renegade Acre LLC, Newberry  
Berry Farms, Ninety Six  
Hope For Hooves Rescue, North Augusta  
Nurseries Caroliniana, Inc., North Augusta  
Moonlit Bottom Farms LLC, Norway  
Muddy Feathers Farm LLC, Orangeburg  
Raven Micro Farm LLC, Pageland  
Acuff Sheep, Pelzer  
Hurricane Creek Farms, Pelzer  
Hurricane Hill Farm, Pelzer  
R&R Farms, Pelzer  
Wild Rabbit Specialty Farms LLC, Pelzer  
Faith And Freedom Farm, Pendleton  
Wild Earth Gardens and Herbs, Pickens  
Woodall Mountain Specialties, Pickens  
Patient Wait Farm, Piedmont  
Triple R Farms, Prosperity  
Live Oak Plantation, Ravenel  
Creek Blueberry Farm, Reesville  
Bushels And Bags Farm, Ridgeway  
Bunce Apiary, Rock Hill  
Olson Meadows, Rock Hill  
Willie Mae Acres, Rock Hill  
Del Valle Fresh Inc, Roebuck  
Refuge Farm LLC, Roebuck  
Ross Family Farms LLC, Roebuck  
Trailplace Farms, Roebuck  
A T Williams Farms, Rowesville  
Odyssey Farms, Salem  
Lizanne's Dancing Bees, Saluda  
Pearlgirl Farm, Seneca  
MKM Farms, Simpsonville  
Hobo Hollar Farms LLC, Spartanburg  
New Leaf Produce, St. Helena Island  
Seaside Farm, Inc., St. Helena Island  
Backwoods Spirits, Sumter  
Weir Fam Farm, Sumter  
H&R Family Farm, Sunset  
Adams Hen House, Swansea  
Shepherds Ridge Farm, Taylors  
H & B Produce, Timmonsville  
Lazy Bear Farm and Ranch, Townville  
Harner Hills, Travelers Rest  
La Familia Produce & Repack LLC, Travelers Rest  
Rocky Pastures Farm, Travelers Rest  
M and M Farm LLC, Trenton  
Melvin Goodson Farms, Ulmer  
Vital Mission Farm, Wadmalaw Island  
Spring Steel Farm, Wagener  
Donna's Honey, Walhalla  
Liv's Farm, Walhalla  
Reid Homestead, Walhalla  
3 B Farms, Walterboro  
Bio Way Farm LLC, Ware Shoals  
Pompey's Rest Farm, Ware Shoals  
Quinton Farms, Waterloo  
Sassafras Bee and Honey Farm, West Columbia  
Billy's Boer Meat Goat Farm LLC, Westminster  
Busy Bee Acres, Westminster  
Honey Bees Farm LLC, Westminster  
Hillcrest Orchards LLC, Winnsboro  
Papa's Gardening and Veggie Plants, Winnsboro  
Tyger Valley Farm, Woodruff  
Black's Peaches, York  
Dayspring Farm, York  
New Moon Flower Farm, York  
Rosy Hill Organics, York

101 South Dakota-based Farms<sup>45</sup>

Hebda Family Produce, Mission Hill

<sup>44</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uBjzBZTR6pWCvEAGz9XswLKeMCQohPy-/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>45</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mvx7VRvuvq212oLF4lSIrNrGv-3JY006C/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

MB Genetics Inc., Alexandria  
 Little Shire Farm, Aurora  
 Premier Produce, Brandon  
 Gilkerson Gardens, Brookings  
 Hillside Prairie Gardens LLC, Brookings  
 Goosemobile Natural Meats, Canova  
 Swanson Gardens, Canton  
 Caputa Alpacas, Caputa  
 Sodak Gardens, Clear Lake  
 Dirksen Organic Beef, Conde  
 Busy Ewe Farm & Fibers, Custer  
 Wild Goodness Gardens, Custer  
 Koupal Angus, Dante  
 M&M Herefords, Dante  
 Larson's Country Rainbow, LLC, De Smet  
 Houghtaling Hamps, Doland  
 Rancho Del Rio, Eagle Butte  
 Mended Kettle Farm, Elk Point  
 Hanssen Polypay, Emery  
 Blue Dasher Farm, Estelline  
 Hillsvieview Bison, Eureka  
 MovinUp Ranch, Faith  
 Peterson Livestock, Fedora  
 Diamond A Cattle Company, Flandreau  
 Fazenda Organic, Flandreau  
 South Dakota Grassfed Beef, Garretson  
 Gregory Community Garden, Gregory  
 Bee Healthy Produce, Harrisburg  
 Circle G Ranch, Hartford  
 Deep Creek Honey, Hartford  
 Grampa D's Orchard, Hayti  
 Willowtrail Farm, Hot Springs  
 Rock Hills Ranch, Hoven  
 Stuwe Herefords, Hoven  
 Circle View Ranch, Interior  
 Beaver Creek Buffalo Company, Jefferson  
 Gregson's Gardens LLC, Keystone  
 Kremer Buffalo LLC, Keystone  
 Homegrown Pork and Poultry, Kyle  
 Medicine Root Garden Program, Kyle  
 Pesicka Farms, Lake Andes  
 Prairie Blush Orchards, Lake Norden  
 Tatanka Hills, Lake Norden  
 Joan's Garden & Produce, Lake Preston  
 Carol's Homemade Goodness, Lead  
 Deerfield Glen, Lennox  
 The Good Earth Farm LLC, Lennox  
 Graceful Gardens, Marion  
 T&J Bison, Marvin  
 Snaza Livestock LLC, Milbank

Cheyenne River Buffalo Ranch LLC, Mobridge  
 Belle Valley Ancient Grains, Newell  
 Becker Herefords, Oldham  
 Rausch Ranch, Onaka  
 K&B Herefords, Onida  
 Valley View Farm, Parker  
 Prairie Valley Farm, Platte  
 Oahe Hills Ranch Premium Beef, Pollock  
 Knife Chief Buffalo Nation, Porcupine  
 Grandma D's Kitchen, Pukwana  
 Happy Hydros, Pukwana  
 Black Hills Beef, Rapid City  
 Frontier Flowers Company, Rapid City  
 Hills Roost Farm, Rapid City  
 New Hope Farm, Rapid City  
 Prairie Elk Farm, Rapid City  
 RockValley Gardens, Rapid City  
 Wild Idea Buffalo Co., Rapid City  
 Wolf Creek Ranch, Ree Heights  
 EH Ranch, Reliance  
 Hackberry Hollow Farm, Renner  
 Great Plains Buffalo, Reva  
 Carl B's Farm, Salem  
 Masteller Farms LLC, Selby  
 Revenant Ranch, Shadehill  
 Nom Nom Gardens, Sioux Falls  
 High Prairie Dairy Goats, Smithwick  
 Cycle Farm, Spearfish  
 Lookout Gardens, Spearfish  
 Moonrise Mountain Ranch & Enterprises, Spearfish  
 Spearfish Valley Produce, Spearfish  
 Agler Hampshires, Stickney  
 Woodring Farm, Sturgis  
 Parsons Honey Farm, Tea  
 Brown Otter Ranch, Timber Lake  
 Landeau Land and Cattle, Trail City  
 Rock Ranch Meats, LLC, Tyndall  
 Prairiesun Organic Farm, Vermillion  
 Sweetgrass Farm, Viborg  
 Ward Farm, Viborg  
 Knutson Farm, Volga  
 Culhane Buffalo, Watertown  
 Henricks Grain & Livestock, Watertown  
 Waldner Farms, Webster  
 Firewatch Ranch, White River  
 Schoon Sheep, White River  
 Diamond Bee Suffolks, Whitewood  
 Free Bees, Whitewood  
 Duke's Bees LLC, Yankton

BeeAttitudes Apiary, Adams  
 Jonathan Moseley Farms, Adams  
 Hopper Katahdin Farm, Adamsville  
 Free Hearts Farm, Ardmore  
 Southern Lull Farm, Athens  
 Belle Fleur Farm, Bell Buckle  
 Joel's Angus Farm, Bon Aqua  
 Tiny Wild Farm, Brighton  
 Barrett's Black Herefords, Brush Creek  
 Dillehay Farm, Carthage  
 Grinders Switch Cattle Co, Centerville  
 The Stone Farm, Centerville  
 KM's Farm, Chapmansboro  
 Johnson Farms, Chattanooga  
 Broken Point Farm, Clarksville  
 Plunkett Pastures, Columbia  
 Thorn Farms, Cookeville  
 House Mtn Katahdins, Corryton  
 Foster Cattle, Cowan  
 Twin Oaks Acres, Crossville  
 Southern Grace Tree Farm, Culleoka  
 Wisner Farms, Dandridge  
 Gibson Backyard Eggs, Darden  
 Grimsley Gardens, Decherd  
 Mockingbird Homestead, Del Rio  
 Triple O Farms, Dellrose  
 Black Family Farms, Dover  
 Mary Way Farms, Eads  
 Rocky Glade Farm, Eagleville  
 Winters Plantation, Eagleville  
 End Of The Road Acres, Enville  
 Bowers Farm, Ethridge  
 Windsong Farm LLC, Fairview  
 Hardy Junction, Fayetteville  
 Southern Nubians, Franklin  
 Stockton Farms, Gainesboro

120 Tennessee-based Farms<sup>46</sup>

Cherry Bomb Boutique & Nursery, Lebanon  
 Twin Pines Ranch Inc, Lebanon  
 Innisfree Farm, Leoma  
 C4 Farms, Lewisburg  
 Glory 7 Farm & Ranch, Lexington  
 Honey Rock Herb Farm, Louisville  
 Buck Hollow Farm, Lyles  
 Shady Hill Farms, Lynnville  
 Dreamland Farm, Maryville  
 Freedom Farms, McMinnville  
 Heavenly Acres Farm, McMinnville  
 Mayes Cattle, McMinnville  
 Yellowbird Farms, McMinnville  
 Marla's Garden, Memphis  
 Ounce Of Hope Farm, Memphis  
 Friendly Acres Farm, Morrison  
 Hernandez Farms, Morrison  
 McKay Herefords, Morrison  
 Pailey's Acres, Morrison  
 Purple Patch Farm, Moscow  
 Promethean Pastures, Moss  
 Gibson Hollow Goat Ranch, Mt. Pleasant  
 Lowe Cattle Company, Nashville  
 Lick Skillet Farm, New Market  
 Chapman Land And Cattle, Nunnally  
 Winged Elm Farm, Philadelphia  
 Thrifty Acres, Pikeville  
 A Place Of The Heart Farm, Pioneer  
 Pleasant View Nursery, Pleasant View  
 Pardon Farm, Prospect  
 Uncle Tim's Farm, Prospect  
 Gracefield Grown, Pulaski  
 Hillhouse Farm, Pulaski  
 White Buffalo Ranch, Quebeck  
 Foggy Mountain Farm, Rogersville  
 Red Dog Ridge Farms, Rogersville

<sup>46</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/15KftGcyiHbdcqMek4Dbo26M01kY2Rk9C/view>. †

Long Hollow Suri Alpacas, Gallatin  
 Fresh-Tech Growers, LLC, Georgetown  
 The Farm Stand at Lagrange, Grand Junction  
 Eden's Vista, Gray  
 Lowery Farms, Greeneville  
 Amber Falls Winery & Cellars, Hampshire  
 2 Angels Mushroom Farm, Harrison  
 Hay Yall Farm, Heiskell  
 Peaceful Pastures, LLC, Hickman  
 Hill Stone Farm LLC, Hilham  
 Dirty Fingernails Farm, Hollow Rock  
 Blue Goose Blueberries, Huron  
 Firefly Farm, Indian Mound  
 2-F Meats, Iron City  
 A Different Chick Farm & Orchard, Johnson City  
 ARMA's Market, Johnson City  
 Circle Of Blessings Sheep Farm, Jonesborough  
 Chestnut Acres, Kelso  
 Dixie Chile Ranch, Kenton  
 Star Valley Farm, Kingsport  
 She Diggis Farm, Knoxville  
 Windy Meadows, Knoxville  
 Zysis Garden, La Vergne  
 Lafayette Farms, Lafayette

Flat Tire Farm, Abilene  
 Casey Beefmasters Ltd, Albany  
 Circle Bar D Ranch, Alvin  
 Dr. Baker's Grassfed Beef, Belton  
 Double Bar A Ranch, Ben Franklin  
 Vifre Ranch, Bivins  
 Canticle Farm, Blue Ridge  
 Bluff Dale Vineyards, Bluff Dale  
 Graves Cattle Co, Bowie  
 Jolie Vue Farms, Brenham  
 Agricultural Holdings, LLC, Brenham  
 Games Ranch, Briggs  
 Halbert Farm, Burleson  
 Dunbar Creek Ranch, Campbell  
 Stinson Farm, Castroville  
 Porter's Never Forgotten Farm, Cedar Hill  
 Clark Farm, Cisco  
 Lonestar KuneKune Hogs, Cleveland  
 Lovejoy Farm, Clifton  
 Purdon Groves, Corsicana  
 Thompson Ranch, Cresson  
 Tudmon Nubian Goat Farm, Cypress  
 Larson's Polled Herefords, De Soto  
 Broken Wheel Ranch Vineyard, Edgewood  
 Born & Raised, Emory  
 Damuth Flying D Ranch, Eustace  
 Esquire Miniature Herefords, Fair Oaks  
 Nature's Way Family Farm, Fairfield  
 Kolodziej Ranch, Falls City  
 Thorny Acres Ranch, Flatonia  
 Knighton Farm, Floresville  
 Gass Haus Farm, Frankston  
 Oak Rock Hill, Gail  
 Girndt Ranch, Ganado  
 Englewood Ranch, Giddings  
 4C Cindy's Cute Cattle Company, Gilmer  
 David Franks Farm, Godley  
 Camp Farm+Ranch, Goliad  
 Chick P's Creek, Granbury  
 Hudson Cattle, Granbury  
 Little D's Farm, Grand Saline  
 Quarter Moon Farm, Grand Saline  
 KM Price Farm, Grandview  
 Sammy's Farm, Grape Creek  
 M-Rockin-C Ranch, Grapeland  
 Needum Cattle, Gunter  
 Happy Bleats Dairy Goats, Gustine  
 Ervin Bludau Jr Cattle, Hallettsville  
 Sullivan Ranch, Hillsboro  
 Buckley Ranch, Hockley  
 Bare Back Ranch, Honey Grove  
 Taylor Cattle, Hutto  
 Short Trip Farm, Idalou  
 Cripple Critter Ranch, Jacksboro  
 Rim Ranch, Jourdanon  
 Diamond D Ranch LLC, Justin  
 DJ's Classic Alpacas, Keller  
 Indio Springs Ranch, Kingsbury  
 Hickory Lake Beef, La Vernia

AJ's Happy Chick Farm LLC, Albany

Two H Farms, Rogersville  
 Rhodes Farm, Saulsberry  
 Outpost Farms, Savannah  
 Fields Of Grace Nigerians, Sevierville  
 Sevier Blumen, Sevierville  
 Do Over Farm, Shelbyville  
 Hackberry Lane Vineyard, Shelbyville  
 Lookout Farms, Shelbyville  
 Young Cattle, Shelbyville  
 Paz Family Farm TN, Smithville  
 Hidden Gem Farm, Spring Hill  
 Clover Farm, Springfield  
 Widespread Panicles, Strawberry Plains  
 ECO Farm, Sweetwater  
 West Farms, Tellico Plains  
 Chickasaw Valley Farm, Toone  
 Little River Farms, Townsend  
 Lone Star North Farm, Townsend  
 Cove Creek Farm, Tracy City  
 Seven Pines Farm, Tracy City  
 Fungalicious, Tullahoma  
 Byrd Family Farm, Unicoi  
 RBW Farm, Wartrace  
 Stumpy's Acres, Waynesboro

117 Texas-based Farms <sup>47</sup>

Neel-Parker Polled Herefords, Laredo  
 Kunetastic KuneKunes, Leander  
 Bar C Fields, Liberty Hill  
 Buckhorn 88, Livingston  
 Serenity Yoga Holistic Farm, Lockhart  
 Player's KuneKunes, Lolita  
 Stoneledge Winery & Vineyard, Wine  
 Profound Microfarms, Luca  
 Hoddes Reds, Manor  
 Bar None's Dexters, Manvel  
 Cook Land & Cattle Co., Llc, Medina  
 KAP Miniature Cattle, Menard  
 Broken Horn, Miles  
 Seifert Cellars & Wild West Vines, Millersview  
 CL Ranch, Missouri City  
 Terra Sienna Grass Fed Beef, Montague  
 Faselers Farm, Montgomery  
 Amazing Grace Mini Ranch, Mt. Pleasant  
 Hooton Herefords, Naples  
 Bull Dancer Bison Ranch, Navasota  
 Rook Pastures, Navasota  
 Cole Polled Herefords, Orange Grove  
 Fields Polled Herefords, Pampa  
 Skip Rock Ranch, Pearsall  
 Forge Cattle Company, Plano  
 Wild Onion Ranch, Powell  
 Diamond WR Cattle Company, Reagan  
 MNG Ranch, Richardson  
 Mulberry Field Farm, Riesel  
 Dean Herefords, Robert Lee  
 Rosini Vineyards, Wine  
 Merideth Creek Farm, Rusk  
 Morning Star Heritage Farm, Sadler  
 Arché Wines, Saint Jo  
 Salty 6 Homestead, Salado  
 Cd&J Mini Ranch, San Benito  
 Rockin 7 Ranch, Sanger  
 Baer Creek Herefords, Seguin  
 Bar None Meat Goats, Seguin  
 JWTX, Sherman  
 Wild Rye Heritage Farm, Sherman  
 Stubenthal Brothers, Skidmore  
 K Bar C, Tahoka  
 Lazy S, Talpa  
 Bandera Grassland, Tarpley  
 Bar Oak Ranch, Tolar  
 Triple N Ranch Winery and Vineyard, Trinidad  
 PH Herefords, Tyler  
 My Smalltown Farm, Van  
 DCM Cannon, Van Alstyne  
 C & L Lazy S Ranch, Vernon  
 Little Bit Of Heaven, Waskom  
 Haywire Hog Farms, Weatherford  
 White Stone Ranch, Webster  
 Rancho De Santos, Weesatche  
 Foster/Meeks Herefords, Whitesboro  
 Falster Farm, Winnsboro  
 Oyster Creek Acres, LLC, Wolfe City

113 Vermont-based Farms <sup>48</sup>

Prospect Farm, Lunenburg

<sup>47</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/14zMhs1S3tfUR5tSl9L3HqwUViKeIwrhd/view>.<sup>†</sup>  
<sup>48</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VXb45PEeYrAK8GPOlgSjcZ6cackvU\\_Y9/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VXb45PEeYrAK8GPOlgSjcZ6cackvU_Y9/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

J & M Ladd Families Farm, Alburgh  
 The Sole Connection Farm, Arlington  
 Jacobs Family Sugarhouse, Bakersfield  
 Stone Hollow Farm, Bakersfield  
 Small Axe Farm, Barnet  
 Stagecoach Hollow Maple, Barre  
 Nomad Farm, Bellows Falls  
 Bolton Mountain Maple Farm LLC, Bolton  
 Bone Mountain Farm, Bolton  
 Raven Ridge Farm, Braintree  
 1000 Stone Farm, Brookfield  
 Maple Lane Farm, Cabot  
 Quintessential LLC, Cabot  
 Frank A. Kneeland, Cambridge  
 Golden Dog Farm LLC, Cambridge  
 Producer: Patrick Fondry, Cambridge  
 Stillwater Farm VT, Castleton  
 Ceres Gardens, Charlotte  
 Maple in Vermont, Charlotte  
 Stony Loam Farm, Charlotte  
 Baird Farm, Chittenden  
 Elmore Mountain Maple Works, Chittenden  
 Producer: Robert Adams, Colchester  
 Mountain View Organics Farm, Corinth  
 Osgood's Organic Farm, Corinth  
 Newfield Herb Farm, Craftsbury  
 Elysian Hills Tree Farm, Dummerston  
 Walker Farm, East Dummerston  
 High Hill Inn Farm, East Montpelier  
 Bogie Mountain Sugar Shack, East Ryegate  
 Cedar Circle Farm and Education Center, East Thetford  
 Pumpkin Village Foods, Enosburg  
 White Family Maple, Enosburg  
 Larivee's Maple, Enosburg Falls  
 Producer: Daniel Lussier, Enosburg Falls  
 Chapin Orchard, Essex  
 Delicious Dirt Farm & Apothecary, Fairfax  
 Branon Family Maple Orchards, LLC, Fairfield  
 Producer: Jeff Corey, Fletcher  
 Minister Maple, Franklin  
 MKVT Farm, Glover  
 Eastview Farm, Hardwick  
 Ghost Dog Dairy, Hardwick  
 Hardwick Garlic, Hardwick  
 Lady Bug Farm, Hardwick  
 Ancestral Farm VT, Hartford  
 Clay Hill Farm, Hartland  
 Full Moon Farm, Hinesburg  
 Dairy Air Farm Slaughterhouse, Holland  
 Petrichor Farm, Huntington  
 Zack Woods Herb Farm, Hyde Park  
 Ledge View Maple LLC, Jeffersonville  
 Calhoun Maple, Jericho  
 Erik's Sugarbush, Kirby  
 Anjali Farm, Londonderry  
 Green Mountain Sugar House, Ludlow

Ashwood Acres, Abingdon  
 The Beekeeper's Farm LLC, Aldie  
 Valley Green Naturals, Amissville  
 Wolf Creek Highlands Farm, Appomattox  
 Red Dog Farm, Ashland  
 Retreat Farm, Aylett  
 Country Sky Farm, Beaverdam  
 delli Carpini Farm, Beaverdam  
 Johnson's Orchards & Winery, Bedford  
 Wellville Farm, Blackstone  
 Back Creek Farms LLC, Blue Grass  
 Epic Gardens, Bon Air  
 Locust Grove Farm, Boyce  
 Fawn Crossing Farms, Bridgewater  
 Turkey Ridge Farm, Brightwood  
 Night Sky Farm, Brookneal  
 Heritage Springs, Catharpin  
 Sunny Point Farm, Charlottesville  
 Timbercreek Farm, Charlottesville  
 New Folk Commerce, Check  
 Peaceful Heart Farm, Claudville  
 GP Herefords, Clear Brook  
 Patchwork Farm, Copper Hill  
 Ridgewind Farm, Copper Hill  
 Horse Mountain Farm, Covington  
 Highland View Farm, Crockett  
 Dunrovin Farm, Crozet  
 Goldman Farm, Cullen

Valley Brook Farm, Maidstone  
 Dancing Bee Gardens, Middlebury  
 Pura Vida Botanicals, Montgomery  
 Montpelier Vineyards, Montpelier  
 Buck Mountain Maple, New Haven  
 Sunset Valley Farm, New Haven  
 The Kindle Farm School, Newfane  
 The Happy Cow Farm, Newport  
 Divine Dairy, Newport Center  
 Producer: Daniel Royer, Newport Center  
 Joon Moon Farm, North Bennington  
 Blume Vermont LLC, North Clarendon  
 Union Brook Farm, Northfield  
 Philosophy Farm, Orange  
 Kinder Way Berry Farm, Pawlet  
 Walnut Hill Farm, LLC, Pawlet  
 Producer: Susan McGarry, Pittsford  
 Shat Acres Highland Cattle, Plainfield  
 Quill Hill Farm, Poultney  
 Amandola Farm LLC, Putney  
 Leaping Bear Farm LLC, Putney  
 Leaping Bear Farm LLC, Putney  
 Poulin and Daughters Family Farm, Randolph  
 Producer: Dean Conant, Randolph Center  
 Purple Lark Farm LLC, Richmond  
 Royal Oak Farm LLC, Royalton  
 New Village Farm, Shelburne  
 Champlain Valley Organics LLC, Shoreham  
 Shelter Pond Farm, South Hero  
 Hidden Leaf Homestead, South Londonderry  
 Hollow Hill Farm, South Royalton  
 Wellwood Orchards, Springfield  
 Joe's Brook Farm, St Johnsbury  
 4M lavender, St. Johnsbury  
 Green & Gold CSA, Sudbury  
 Gagne Maple, Swanton  
 Longwind Farm INC, Thetford  
 Settlement Sap LLC, Underhill  
 Flag Hill Farm, Vershire  
 Shire Beef, Vershire  
 Hartshorn's Certified Organic Farm, Waitsfield  
 KBMG LLC, Waitsfield  
 Alpenglow Farm, LLC, Warren  
 Muddy Boots CSA, Warren  
 Green Mountain Garlic, LLC, Waterbury  
 Larson Farm and Creamery, Wells  
 Hudson Road Maples, West Charleston  
 New Day Farm, West Rutland  
 Will Farm LLC, Westford  
 Harlow Farm, Westminster  
 Fast Hitch Farm LLC, Whiting  
 Four Pillars Farm, Whiting  
 Riverhill Farms, Inc., Williston  
 Windswept Farm, Williston  
 Kettle Song Farm, Worcester

137 Virginia-based Farms <sup>49</sup>

Davis Creek Farm, Lovingston  
 Bare Garden Farms, Lynchburg  
 Hereford Springs Cattle Co, Marion  
 Cider Mill Farm, Markham  
 Eastfields Farms, Mathews  
 North Mountain Vineyard, Maurertown  
 So Bee It! Apiary, Maurertown  
 Mosby's Waterloo, Me Kenney  
 Bent Fox Farm, Meadows of Dan  
 TNT Farm N Greenhouse, Meadowview  
 Wittle Wattle Pig Farm, Meadowview  
 Whispering Springs Farms, Montpelier  
 Goose Creek Gardens, Montvale  
 Wingstem Farm, Montvale  
 Lucky Moon Farm, Nelson County  
 Woodall Blueberries, New Castle  
 Henry Family Farm, New Market  
 Burnside Farm, Nokesville  
 Evergreen Acres, Nokesville  
 Little Goat Farm at the Lake, Nokesville  
 Sebandon Hill Farm, Pamplin  
 Chicory Hill Farm, Powhatan  
 Blue Valley Farm, LLC, Purcellville  
 Lydia's Fields at Wheatland LLC, Purcellville  
 Fields of Athenry Farm, Purcellville  
 Marlbrook Farm, Purcellville  
 Bou's Zoo, Quicksburg  
 Superfood Farms, Remington

<sup>49</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pMFHNve\\_xGfVxp6Wt6cCK-EcGORXSpp\\_/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pMFHNve_xGfVxp6Wt6cCK-EcGORXSpp_/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

- Cobbler View Farm, LLC, Delaplane  
 Laughing Stock Farm, Draper  
 Willowland Farm, Dundas  
 Endless Farms LLC, Elberon  
 Landon Farm LLC, Etlan  
 Rider's Backfield Farm Beef, Etlan  
 Winfield Farm, Fairfax  
 Golden Valley Farms, Farmville  
 Lazy Pigg Farm, Ferrum  
 Bean Hollow Grassfed, Flint Hill  
 Fields Edge Farm, Floyd  
 Floyd Eco Village Farm, Floyd  
 Hessathome, Floyd  
 Rivenwood Gardens, Floyd  
 Great Day Gardens, Forest  
 C.A.&J. Farm, Foster  
 Little Owl Natural Farm, Free Union  
 Double H Farm, Galax  
 Meadow Creek Dairy, Galax  
 ABC Beef, Gladstone  
 Vanguard Ranch Ltd., Gordonsville  
 Broad Creek Farm, Greenville  
 Spring House Farm, Hamilton  
 Big Way Farm, Hardy  
 Cross Keys Farm, Harrisonburg  
 The Purple WOLF Vineyard, Harrisonburg  
 White Oak Lavender, Harrisonburg  
 Hill Top Farm, Hillsboro  
 Homestead 1870 Farm, Hillsboro  
 Silver Maples Farm, Hillsville  
 Solid Rock Ranch, King William  
 3E Land and Livestock LLC, Lebanon  
 Black Sheep Farm, Leesburg  
 Sprouting Roots Farm, Leesburg  
 Fruit Hill Herefords, Lexington  
 Owl Moon Farm, Lexington  
 Paradox Farm, Lexington  
 Polish Rose Farm, Lignum  
 Green Springs Flower Farm, Louisa  
 Davlin, LLC, Lovettsville  
 Earth Wind and Fleece, Lovettsville
- Lakota Cedar Creek Ranch, Remington  
 Elioena Farm, Reva  
 EssentialVA Microgreens, Richmond  
 Nolley Wood Farm, Riner  
 Halo Sheep, Rockbridge Baths  
 Campbell Ranch Myotonics, Rustburg  
 Firever Pines, Ruther Glen  
 Free Bird Farm, Scottsville  
 Longbottom Farm, Scottsville  
 Painted Horse Ranch & Cattle Co., Scottsville  
 Waddle Om Farm, Scottsville  
 Silverleaf Farm Productions, LLC, Shipman  
 Belle Meade Farm, Sperryville  
 Po River Apiary, LLC, Spotsylvania  
 Abiding Hills Farm, Spring Grove  
 River's Bend Ranch, Stanley  
 Permaculture Gardens, Sterling  
 Full Quiver Farm, Suffolk  
 Southern Gates Homestead, Suffolk  
 Polyface Farm, Swoope  
 Bright Meadows Farm, The Plains  
 Ratliff Blueberry Farm, Timberville  
 Wake Forest Farm, Topping  
 Oak Creek Farm of Virginia, Unionville  
 Sapphire Farms, Vernon Hill  
 Fireside Farm, Warm Springs  
 Abundant Acres Farm, Warrenton  
 LA Farms, Warrenton  
 [Harmony Harvest Farm, Weyers Cave]  
 [Mockingbird Farmstead, Williamsburg]  
 [White Oak Meadows, Wilsons]  
 [Misty Mountain Meadworks, Winchester]  
 [The Homestead Farm at Fruit Hill Orchard, Winchester]  
 [Double H Farm, Wingina]  
 [Four Oaks Farms, LLC, Wirtz]  
 [Sweet Land Farm, Wirtz]  
 [Swallow Hill Farm, Woodford]  
 [Rawhide Ranch, Woodlawn]  
 [Beagle Ridge Herb Farm, Wytheville]  
 [Hope Blueberry Farm, Inc., Wytheville]
- 109 Washington-based Farms<sup>50</sup>
- Gaia Rising Farm, Anacortes  
 Moontime Mushroom Co., Anderson Island  
 Lady of the Land, Arlington  
 Frey Family Farm, Ashford  
 Tani Creek Farm, Bainbridge Island  
 Lavender Lane Ranch, Battle Ground  
 Free Range Flowers, Bellingham  
 Living Earth Herbs, Bellingham  
 Uprising Seeds, Bellingham  
 Crow Haven Farm, Bothell  
 Bow Hill Blueberries, Bow  
 Shadow Mountain Katalidins, Buckley  
 Take Root Farm, Buckley  
 The Honest Bison, Camas  
 GateWay Farms, Centerville  
 Klekkitat Bison Company, Centerville  
 Vale Creek Farm, Chehalis  
 Jerzy Boyz Farm, Chelan  
 River's Edge Ranch LLC, Chewelah  
 Peah Point Ranch, Cle Elum  
 Bellini Family Farm, Colville  
 Berrypatch Farm, Coupeville  
 Five Elements Harvest, Custer  
 Seabland Farm, Davenport  
 Maxwell Sheep, Dayton  
 Faeryn Meadow, Deer Park  
 Misty Mountain Manor, Eatonville  
 Green Bow Farm, Ellensburg  
 Windy N Ranch, Ellensburg  
 Bee Organic Farm & Apiary, Elma  
 Bush Creek Farm, Elma  
 Tumbelle Farm, Ephrata  
 Alpacas of Strawberry Fields, Everett  
 Broomstick Farm, Everson  
 Nature's Last Stand, Fall City  
 Deep Harvest Farm, Freeland  
 Aurora Farms, Friday Harbor  
 Jennings Sheep, Friday Harbor  
 Snowberry Farm, Friday Harbor  
 Diamond Plus Ranch, Fruitland  
 Hoodsport Winery, Hoodsport  
 Persephone Farm, Indianola  
 Soos Creek Farm, Kent  
 Whidbey Island Vineyards and Winery, Langley
- Long Lake Kune Farm, Nine Mile Falls  
 Silva Family Farm, Oak Harbor  
 Swallow Lane Farm, Olalla  
 Amadeus Farm Management LLC, Olympia  
 Oh Goodness Homestead, Olympia  
 Urban Futures Farm, Olympia  
 Daryl Germann Farms, Onalaska  
 Clean Food Farm, Orting  
 Basin Farmworks, Othello  
 Khayyat Sheep, Pasco  
 Sawdust Hill Alpaca Farm, Poulsbo  
 Stottlemeyer Sheep, Poulsbo  
 Savory Shrooms, Puyallup  
 Cadillac Ranch, Rainier  
 The Root Connection, Redmond  
 Union Hill Grassfed Beef, Redmond  
 The Goat Farm—Goat Patrol, Republic  
 Twin Springs Farm, Rice  
 PearlJack Farm, Richland  
 Bone Dry Ridge Farm, Rochester  
 Helsing Junction Farm, Rochester  
 KLM Tree Farm, Rochester  
 Wobbly Cart Farm, Rochester  
 Palouse Pastured Poultry, Rosalia  
 Atlantis Acres Mini LaManchas, Roy  
 J&R Farms, Roy  
 Kune Kune Hill Livestock, Roy  
 Vinnocki Farm, Seabeck  
 Nota Bene Cellars, Seattle  
 Forest Cattle, Sedro Woolley  
 Hemlock Highlands, Sedro Woolley  
 Douglas Farms, Selah  
 V&K Farms, Selah  
 Back to Dirt Farm, Sequim  
 Harmony Heritage Farm, Silver Creek  
 Chinook Farms, Snohomish  
 Radicle Roots Farm, Snohomish  
 Skiple Farm, Snohomish  
 DiFarms, Soap Lake  
 Pleasant Prairie Farms, Spokane  
 Vinegar Flats Farm, Spokane  
 Rent's Due Ranch, Stanwood  
 Tieton Farm & Creamery, Tieton  
 Apple Cart Fruit, Tonasket

<sup>50</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QA-9UH3EZxrfC970OxMqxl-tDmJiCzC/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Hirschel Heritage Farm, Latah  
 River District Farm, Liberty Lake  
 Lopez Island Vineyards, Lopez Island  
 Glimmercroft, Lynnwood  
 Garden Gate Lavender Farms, Medical Lake  
 Abundant Family Pastures, Mica  
 Mountain Maus' Remedies LLC, Mineral  
 St. John Creamery, Monroe  
 PolkaDot Farm & Floral, Montesano  
 Ovis Aries Farm, Mossyrock  
 The Crows Farm, Mount Vernon

Mt. Harmony Farm, Asbury  
 Honey Do Farms of WV, Ashton  
 Boward Family Farm, Augusta  
 Day Spring Farm, Augusta  
 Good Time Ridge Farm, Augusta  
 The Market at Silver Lake Farms, Augusta  
 Creasy Jane's, Beckley  
 Glascock's Produce LLC, Berkeley Springs  
 Mr. Joe's Poultry Farming, Berwind  
 Ice's Farm at Blue Rock, Blue Rock  
 Bunner Dairy, Bridgeport  
 Evans Knob Farm, Bruceton Mills  
 Hillcross Farm, Bruceton Mills  
 Campbell Family Farm, Buffalo  
 Ridge View Farm, Bunker Hill  
 Fluffy Butt Farms, Cameron  
 Blooming Mtns Botanical Sanctuary, Capon Bridge  
 Kismet Acres Farm, Capon Bridge  
 The Grass is Greener Farm, Charles Town  
 Debbie's Corner & Greenhouse, Charleston  
 The Stoned Goat Homestead, Chloe  
 Kovaleski Apiary, Colliers  
 Daniel Vineyards, Crab Orchard  
 Meadow Bluff Farm, Crawley  
 Critchley Farms LLC, Danese  
 Cantrell Farm, Duck  
 Fincham Farms, Elizabeth  
 Hutchinson Farms, Elizabeth  
 Blueberry Ridge Farm, Fairmont  
 Salutaris Farm & Country Roads Creamery, Fairmont  
 The Mavis Institute, Flat Top  
 Sonny Brook Farm, Fort Ashby  
 Almost Heaven Homestead, Fort Gay  
 Greenbrier Bee Farm, Frankford  
 Munn Farm, Franklin  
 HillTop Herefords, Gay  
 Re:Source Sanctuary and Farm, Grafton  
 Double J KuneKune Farms, Grantsville  
 Fort Warwick Farm, Green Bank  
 Everything Green Spring WV, Green Spring  
 Awee Farm, Harpers Ferry  
 La Soledad Lavender Farm, Harpers Ferry  
 Victory Ridge Flower Farm, Harrisville  
 Back Creek Beef, Hedgesville  
 Turned Luck Farm, Hedgesville  
 Powder Keg Farms, High View  
 High Rocks Ruby Grow, Hillsboro  
 Yew Mountain Center, Hillsboro  
 Bluestone Mountain Farm, Hinton  
 Moonstruck Maple, Hinton  
 Barrier Ridge, Huntington  
 Cabell County Master Gardener Assoc., Inc., Huntington  
 New Wind Rising Farm, Huntington  
 LeJa Produce LLC, Hurricane  
 Stern's Berry Farm, Independence  
 Windy Meadows Farm, Laurel Branch  
 Swift Level Land & Cattle, Lewisburg

Red Clover Herbal Apothecary Farm, Amery  
 Whetstone Farm, Amery  
 Gather Farm & Flowers, Amherst  
 Lutz Family Farms, Amherst Junction  
 Krackow Sheep, Arcadia  
 Lucky Frank Farms, Arcadia  
 Seasonally Sourced Foods LLC, Ashland  
 Green Pastures, Athens  
 DragSmith Farms Inc., Barron  
 Bayfield Winery, Bayfield  
 Twisting Twig Gardens and Orchard, Bayfield  
 Snug Haven Farm LLC, Belleville  
 Blue Roof Orchard, Belmont  
 Dorothy's Range LLC, Blanchardville

River Valley Organics, Tonasket  
 Scented Acres Lavender Farm, Vancouver  
 Lavender Hill Farm, Vashon  
 Adam's Mushroom, Vaughn  
 Dalan Farm, Walla Walla  
 Willoughby Croft, Winlock  
 Trienta Farm, Winthrop  
 Songbird Haven Farm, Woodinville  
 Paradisos del Sol, Zillah  
 Tanjuli Winery, Zillah

#### 114 West Virginia-based Farms<sup>51</sup>

Birdsong Farm LLC, Lindside  
 Three Kettles Farm, Linn  
 L & M Farms, Lost Creek  
 McDonald's Polled Herefords, Lost Creek  
 Stenger Farms, Lost Creek  
 Almost Heaven Farms, MacFarlan  
 10 Spring Farms, Mannington  
 Graystone Acres, Mannington  
 Smokey Valley Farm, Mannington  
 Brightside Acres, Marlinton  
 S&S Farm, Marlinton  
 Shepherd's Whey Creamery, Martinsburg  
 McMillions Microgreens, Maxwelton  
 Berea Gardens, Minnora  
 Goatsbeard Market Farm, Morgantown  
 Griffith Farm, Morgantown  
 Flynn Flower Farm LLC, New Cumberland  
 Gibson Farm, New Cumberland  
 Heritage Mountain Farms, Northfork  
 Overlook Farm, Oak Hill  
 Circle "S" Farm Of Milton, Ona  
 Sugar Bottom Farm LLC, Ovapa  
 Mountain Moon Farm, Paw Paw  
 Rabbit Ridge Farm, Poca  
 Jim's Produce, Princeton  
 Scott Sheep, Princeton  
 Daniel Family Farm, Princewick  
 The Red Barn Farm, Reedy  
 Another Season Honey Farm, Renick  
 Sunshine Farm & Gardens, Renick  
 Tumbling Kill Farmstead, Renick  
 Eagleview Farms, Ridgeley  
 Lone Wolf Farm and Apiary, Rio  
 Blooming Blessings Greenhouse/Nursery, Ripley  
 Andor Peppers, Rowlesburg  
 Dorothy's Blueberry Patch, Rowlesburg  
 Country Roads Soap Company, Saint Albans  
 Honey Glen, Salem  
 Slippery Acres Livestock Co., Salt Rock  
 Free Earth Farm, Sandstone  
 RIP Farm in WV, Sandyville  
 Haven of Hope Greenhouse, Shanks  
 Westvirjeni, Shepherdstown  
 Happy Hollow Homestead, Springfield  
 Blackthorn Estates Nursery, Sugar Grove  
 Storybook Farm, Sugar Grove  
 Lillywhite Farm, Summersville  
 Shady Grove Farm, Summersville  
 Riffle Farms, Terra Alta  
 Backyard Shenanigans LLC, Tornado  
 M&S Maple, Upper Tract  
 Pleiadian Dreams, Walton  
 Bee Monks, Wayne  
 Peacefarm Greenhouse, West Union  
 Spotted Horse Farm, Weston  
 Redbud Hill Farm WV, Wheeling  
 Windswept Farm, Wheeling

#### 126 Wisconsin-based Farms<sup>52</sup>

Sullivan Family Farm, Manitowoc  
 Hidden-Vue Farm, Marengo  
 A&M Family Farm, Mauston  
 Aisling Brae Farm, Mayville  
 Marsden's Pure Honey, McFarland  
 HS Brand Registered Herefords, Medford  
 Red Stone Rice LLC, Mequon  
 Northwoods Maple Farm LLC, Merrill  
 Lakeview Berry Farm, Mosinee  
 Squashington Farm, Mount Horeb  
 Wonderfarm, Mount Horeb  
 Forever More Farm, New Glarus  
 Harmony Farm, New Glarus  
 Tremaine Angus, Oconomowoc

<sup>51</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Xp6V6PVEumFaRSicuXRIivAa4S5Nl6Io/view>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>52</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yX89spPBt5ATleEd9C7x1pELjmhkihMI/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Katharsis Meadows, Blanchardville  
 Utopia Gardens, Blanchardville  
 Hammen Family Orchard, Bonduel  
 Woolly View Farm, Brodhead  
 Brightonwoods Orchard, Burlington  
 River Valley Ranch Ltd., Burlington  
 The Honest Bison, Cadott  
 Of The Land Farm, Cedarburg  
 Cosmic Wheel Creamery, Clear Lake  
 Turnip Rock Farm, Clear Lake  
 Patz Maple and Honey Farm, Coleman  
 Copper Kettle Farm, Colgate  
 Emerald Meadows Family Farm, Columbus  
 Ecklor Farm Products, Coon Valley  
 Crossroads Community Farm, Cross Plains  
 Whitefeather Organics, Custer  
 13 Acres LLC, Deer Park  
 Rockin Highlands Farms, Dodgeville  
 Basswood Acres, Dresser  
 PoniesProduce, Edgerton  
 Abundant Acres Farm WI, Elk Mound  
 Little Miss Sweet Peas's Farm, Elkhorn  
 LotPotL Community Farm, Elkhorn  
 Silver Star Farm LLC, Elroy  
 Reimers Valley Farm, Ettrick  
 Lost Lake Acres Greenhouse, Fall River  
 In the Woods Market Garden, Foxboro  
 Jubilee Rock Farm, Frederic  
 Double Drumlin Farm, Fredonia  
 Willoway Farm, Fredonia  
 Genesis Generation Farm, Friendship  
 Full Harvest Farm LLC, Hartford  
 Magic Willows Alpacas, Hartford  
 Green En Vie Microgreens, Hartland  
 McCluskey Brothers Organic Farms, Hillpoint  
 D's Fresh Produce, Hortonville  
 Bird and the Bees Honey, Iola  
 Primitive Pastures LLC, Iola  
 White Winter Winery, Iron River  
 Southern Wisconsin Organics, Janesville  
 Jay's Feather Farm, Juneau  
 Produce With Purpose Farm, Kaukauna  
 Old Corbett Road Apiary, Kenosha  
 Golden Bear Farm, Kiel  
 Behnke's Grass Fed Beef & Pasture Pork, Lena  
 ElevenM Ranch, Leopolis  
 Narrows Creek Farm, Loganville  
 Anathoth Community Farm, Luck  
 Rank Homestead Farm Products, Luxemburg

Battle Creek Beef & Bison LLC, Oconomowoc  
 BearPaw Brook Farms LLC, Ojibwa  
 Echo Valley Farm, Ontario  
 Nordie Hills Farm, Ontario  
 Clark Family Mushrooms, Orfordville  
 Foxtail Farm, Osceola  
 Moseley Farms, Osseo  
 Buvala Farm LLC, Pepin  
 Cliffbrake Farm, Plain  
 Springdale Farm, Plymouth  
 Silver Sage Farm & Flowers, Port Wing  
 Young Earth Farm, Randolph  
 Agape Acres, Reedsville  
 Austere Homestead, Rhinelander  
 Diana's Eggs and Poultry, Ringle  
 Two Good Farms CSA, Rio  
 Land of Milk and Honey Farms, River Falls  
 Rehnelt Sheep, River Falls  
 Joan Arnold Farm, Rudolph  
 Sandhill Farm, Sinsinawa  
 Almost Eden Farms, Somers  
 Secret Keepers Ranch, South Range  
 Seven Seeds Farm, Spring Green  
 Winding Road Farm, St. Croix Falls  
 Threshing Table Farm, Star Prairie  
 Avodah Farm, Stockholm  
 Parisi Family Farm, Stoughton  
 Stock Family Farm, Sullivan  
 Tamarack Garlic Farm, Trempealeau  
 Grass Creek Farm Inc, Turtle Lake  
 CKH Herefords, Union Grove  
 Flynn Creek Farm, Verona  
 StoneHaus Farm, Verona  
 Singing Tree Farm, Viola  
 Liberty Ridge Farm, Viroqua  
 Circus Seed Flowers, Waterford  
 Now and Not Yet Farm, Waukesha  
 Christensen's Orchard, Waupaca  
 Dancing Bear Apiary, Waupaca  
 Sustainable Dreamer, Waupaca  
 [Crane Crest Farm, Waupun]  
 [Divine Hollow Mushrooms, Wautoma]  
 [Coulce View Family Farm, Wauzeka]  
 [Mountain Lane Farms, Wauzeka]  
 [Grounded LLC, West Bend]  
 [Paradise Farm, West Bend]  
 [Soap of the Earth, Whitewater]  
 [Miller Organics LLC, Wisconsin Rapids]  
 [Crooked Creek Herefords, Wonewoc]

**32 signers on *Senate letter*<sup>53</sup> opposing Food Security and Farm Protection Act, S. 1326**

Angela Alsobrooks (MD)  
 Richard Blumenthal (CT)  
 Lisa Blunt Rochester (DE)  
 Cory Booker (NJ)  
 Maria Cantwell (WA)  
 Chris Coons (DE)  
 Tammy Duckworth (IL)  
 John Fetterman (PA)  
 Ruben Gallego (AZ)  
 Kirsten Gillibrand (NY)  
 Maggie Hassan (NH)  
 Martin Heinrich (NM)  
 Mazie Hirono (HI)  
 Mark Kelly (AZ)  
 Andy Kim (NJ)  
 Angus King (ME)  
 Ben Ray Lujan (NM)  
 Ed Markey (MA)  
 Jeff Merkley (OR)  
 Chris Murphy (CT)  
 Patty Murray (WA)  
 Alex Padilla (CA)  
 Gary Peters (MI)  
 Jack Reed (RI)  
 Bernie Sanders (VT)  
 Brian Schatz (HI)  
 Adam Schiff (CA)  
 Chris Van Hollen (MD)  
 Elizabeth Warren (MA)  
 Peter Welch (VT)  
 Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)  
 Ron Wyden (OR)

**196 signers on *House letters*<sup>54</sup> opposing Save Our Bacon (SOB) Act, H.R. 4673, and related attacks:**

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. (NC)  
 Pete Aguilar (CA)  
 Gabe Amo (RI)  
 Yassamin Ansari (AZ)  
 Jake Auchincloss (MA)  
 Becca Balint (VT)  
 Nanette Diaz Barragan (CA)  
 Joyce Beatty (OH)  
 Wesley Bell (MO)  
 Ami Bera (CA)  
 Donald S. Beyer, Jr. (VA)  
 Michael Bilirakis (FL)  
 Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA)  
 John B. Larson (CT)  
 George Latimer (NY)  
 Michael Lawler (NY)  
 Susie Lee (NV)  
 Summer L. Lee (PA)  
 Mike Levin (CA)  
 Sam T. Liccardo (CA)  
 Ted W. Lieu (CA)  
 Zoe Lofgren (CA)  
 Anna Paulina Luna (FL)<sup>55</sup>  
 Stephen F. Lynch (MA)  
 Nancy Mace (SC)  
 Seth Magaziner (RI)

<sup>53</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/15C7yk8coFmIOVvM0tuz5kh7wHogCnvvb/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>54</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZCgxlOioLR4tKhdjpaZEAVSEccIy-xyN/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>55</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_oFFjSVbnzc\\_S0fee7FmOY9LXsq9BAn0/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_oFFjSVbnzc_S0fee7FmOY9LXsq9BAn0/view?usp=sharing).<sup>†</sup>

Suzanne Bonamici (OR)  
 Brendan F. Boyle (PA)  
 Shontel M. Brown (OH)  
 Julia Brownley (CA)  
 Vern Buchanan (FL)  
 Janelle S. Bynum (OR)  
 Salud Carbajal (CA)  
 André Carson (IN)  
 Troy A. Carter, Sr. (LA)  
 Greg Casar (TX)  
 Ed Case (HI)  
 Sean Casten (IL)  
 Kathy Castor (FL)  
 Joaquin Castro (TX)  
 Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick (FL)  
 Judy Chu (CA)  
 Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr. (CA)  
 Yvette D. Clarke (NY)  
 Steve Cohen (TN)  
 Herbert C. Conaway, Jr. (NJ)  
 J. Luis Correa (CA)  
 Jim Costa (CA)  
 Joe Courtney (CT)  
 Jasmine Crockett (TX)  
 Jason Crow (CO)  
 Sharice L. Davids (KS)  
 Danny K. Davis (IL)  
 Madeleine Dean (PA)  
 Diana DeGette (CO)  
 Rosa L. DeLauro (CT)  
 Suzan K. DelBene (WA)  
 Chris Deluzio (PA)  
 Mark DeSaulnier (CA)  
 Maxine Dexter (OR)  
 Debbie Dingell (MI)  
 Lloyd Doggett (TX)  
 Byron Donalds (FL)  
 Sarah Elfreth (MD)  
 Veronica Escobar (TX)  
 Adriano Espaillat (NY)  
 Dwight Evans (PA)  
 Cleo Fields (LA)  
 Brian Fitzpatrick (PA)  
 Lizzie Fletcher (TX)  
 Bill Foster (IL)  
 Valerie P. Foushee (NC)  
 Lois Frankel (FL)  
 Laura Friedman (CA)  
 Maxwell Alejandro Frost (FL)  
 John Garamendi (CA)  
 Andrew Garbarino (NY)  
 Robert Garcia (CA)  
 Jesús G. "Chuy" García (IL)  
 Sylvia R. Garcia (TX)  
 Mary Gay Scanlon (PA)  
 Laura A. Gillen (NY)  
 Carlos Gimenez (FL)  
 Dan Goldman (NY)  
 Jimmy Gomez (CA)  
 Maggie Goodlander (NH)  
 Josh Gottheimer (NJ)  
 Josh Harder (CA)  
 Jahana Hayes (CT)  
 Jim Himes (CT)  
 Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC)  
 Steven Horsford (NV)  
 Chrissy Houlahan (PA)  
 Steny H. Hoyer (MD)  
 Val Hoyle (OR)  
 Jared Huffman (CA)  
 Glenn Ivey (MD)  
 Sara Jacobs (CA)  
 Pramila Jayapal (WA)  
 Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr. (GA)  
 Julie Johnson (TX)  
 Sydney Kamlager-Dove (CA)  
 Tom Kean (NJ)  
 William R. Keating (MA)  
 Robin L. Kelly (IL)  
 Timothy M. Kennedy (NY)  
 Ro Khanna (CA)  
 Young Kim (CA)  
 Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL)  
 Greg Landsman (OH)  
 Rick Larsen (WA)  
 John W. Mannion (NY)  
 Doris Matsui (CA)  
 Lucy McBath (GA)  
 Sarah McBride (DE)  
 Betty McCollum (MN)  
 Morgan McGarvey (KY)  
 James P. McGovern (MA)  
 LaMonica McIver (NJ)  
 Robert J. Menendez (NJ)  
 Grace Meng (NY)  
 Kweisi Mfume (MD)  
 Dave Min (CA)  
 Joseph D. Morelle (NY)  
 Kelly Morrison (MN)  
 Jared Moskowitz (FL)  
 Seth Moulton (MA)  
 Kevin Mullin (CA)  
 Jerrold Nadler (NY)  
 Richard E. Neal (MA)  
 Joe Neguse (CO)  
 Donald Norcross (NJ)  
 Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY)  
 Johnny Olszewski, Jr. (MD)  
 Ilhan Omar (MN)  
 Frank Pallone, Jr. (NJ)  
 Jimmy Panetta (CA)  
 Chris Pappas (NH)  
 Nancy Pelosi (CA)  
 Scott H. Peters (CA)  
 Brittany Pettersen (CO)  
 Chellie Pingree (ME)  
 Mark Pocan (WI)  
 Nellie Pou (NJ)  
 Ayanna Pressley (MA)  
 Mike Quigley (IL)  
 Delia C. Ramirez (IL)  
 Emily Randall (WA)  
 Jamie Raskin (MD)  
 Luz M. Rivas (CA)  
 Deborah K. Ross (NC)  
 Raul Ruiz, M.D. (CA)  
 Patrick Ryan (NY)  
 Andrea Salinas (OR)  
 Linda T. Sánchez (CA)  
 Jan Schakowsky (IL)  
 Bradley Scott Schneider (IL)  
 Kim Schrier, M.D. (WA)  
 Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (VA)  
 Terri A. Sewell (AL)  
 Brad Sherman (CA)  
 Mikie Sherrill (NJ)  
 Lateefah Simon (CA)  
 Adam Smith (WA)  
 Chris Smith (NJ)  
 Darren Soto (FL)  
 Greg Stanton (AZ)  
 Haley M. Stevens (MI)  
 Marilyn Strickland (WA)  
 Suhas Subramanyam (VA)  
 Thomas R. Suozzi (NY)  
 Eric Swalwell (CA)  
 Mark Takano (CA)  
 Shri Thanedar (MI)  
 Mike Thompson (CA)  
 Bennie Thompson (MS)  
 Dina Titus (NV)  
 Rashida Tlaib (MI)  
 Jill Tokuda (HI)  
 Paul D. Tonko (NY)  
 Norma J. Torres (CA)  
 Ritchie Torres (NY)  
 Lori Trahan (MA)  
 Derek T. Tran (CA)  
 David Valadao (CA)  
 Jeff Van Drew (NJ)  
 Juan Vargas (CA)  
 Marc A. Veasey (TX)  
 Nydia M. Velázquez (NY)  
 James R. Walkinshaw (VA)  
 Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL)  
 Maxine Waters (CA)  
 Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ)  
 George Whitesides (CA)  
 Nikema Williams (GA)  
 Frederica S. Wilson (FL)

**31 signers on Senate letter<sup>56</sup> opposing Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act, S. 2019**

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Richard Blumenthal (CT)                   | Ed Markey (MA)          |
| Cory Booker (NJ)                          | Robert Menendez (NJ)    |
| <i>Laphonza Butler (CA)</i> <sup>57</sup> | Jeff Merkley (OR)       |
| Maria Cantwell (WA)                       | Chris Murphy (CT)       |
| Ben Cardin (MD)                           | Patty Murray (WA)       |
| Bob Casey (PA)                            | Alex Padilla (CA)       |
| Susan Collins (ME)                        | Gary Peters (MI)        |
| Tammy Duckworth (IL)                      | Jack Reed (RI)          |
| Dianne Feinstein (CA)                     | Bernie Sanders (VT)     |
| Maggie Hassan (NH)                        | Brian Schatz (HI)       |
| Martin Heinrich (NM)                      | Chris Van Hollen (MD)   |
| Mazie Hirono (HI)                         | Elizabeth Warren (MA)   |
| Kirsten Gillibrand (NY)                   | Peter Welch (VT)        |
| Mark Kelly (AZ)                           | Sheldon Whitehouse (RI) |
| Angus King (ME)                           | Ron Wyden (OR)          |
| Ben Ray Lujan (NM)                        |                         |

**193 signers on House letters<sup>58</sup> opposing Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act, H.R. 4417**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. (NC)                  | Michael Lawler (NY)                         |
| Pete Aguilar (CA)                          | Barbara Lee (CA)                            |
| Colin Allred (TX)                          | Summer Lee (PA)                             |
| Jake Auchincloss (MA)                      | Susie Lee (NV)                              |
| Becca Balint (VT)                          | Mike Levin (CA)                             |
| Nanette Barragan (CA)                      | Ted Lieu (CA)                               |
| Ami Bera (CA)                              | Zoe Lofgren (CA)                            |
| Don Beyer (VA)                             | <i>Anna Paulina Luna (FL)</i> <sup>60</sup> |
| Andy Biggs (AZ)                            | Stephen Lynch (MA)                          |
| Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA)                | Nancy Mace (SC)                             |
| Earl Blumenauer (OR)                       | Seth Magaziner (RI)                         |
| Suzanne Bonamici (OR)                      | Doris Matsui (CA)                           |
| Jamaal Bowman (NY)                         | Lucy McBath (GA)                            |
| Brendan Boyle (PA)                         | Betty McCollum (MN)                         |
| Shontel Brown (OH)                         | Morgan McGarvey (KY)                        |
| Julia Brownley (CA)                        | James P. McGovern (MA)                      |
| Vern Buchanan (FL)                         | Robert J. Menendez (NJ)                     |
| Tim Burchett (TN)                          | Grace Meng (NY)                             |
| Cori Bush (MO)                             | Kweisi Mfume (MD)                           |
| Salud Carbajal (CA)                        | Carol Miller (WV)                           |
| Tony Cardenas (CA)                         | Alex Mooney (WV)                            |
| André Carson (IN)                          | Jared Moskowitz (FL)                        |
| Earl "Buddy" Carter (GA)                   | Seth Moulton (MA)                           |
| Troy Carter, Sr. (LA)                      | Kevin Mullin (CA)                           |
| Matt Cartwright (PA)                       | Jerrold Nadler (NY)                         |
| Greg Casar (TX)                            | Grace F. Napolitano (CA)                    |
| Sean Casten (IL)                           | Richard Neal (MA)                           |
| Joaquin Castro (TX)                        | Joe Neguse (CO)                             |
| Lori Chavez-DeRemer (OR)                   | Donald Norcross (NJ)                        |
| Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick (FL)            | Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC)                  |
| Judy Chu (CA)                              | Ilhan Omar (MN)                             |
| Yvette Clarke (NY)                         | Frank Pallone (NJ)                          |
| Steve Cohen (TN)                           | Jimmy Panetta (CA)                          |
| Gerald E. Connolly (VA)                    | Chris Pappas (NH)                           |
| J. Luis Correa (CA)                        | Bill Pascrell (NJ)                          |
| Jim Costa (CA)                             | Donald Payne (NJ)                           |
| Joe Courtney (CT)                          | Nancy Pelosi (CA)                           |
| Jason Crow (CO)                            | Scott Peters (CA)                           |
| Sharice L. Davids (KS)                     | Brittany Pettersen (CO)                     |
| Madeleine Dean (PA)                        | Chellie Pingree (ME)                        |
| Diana DeGette (CO)                         | Mark Pocan (WI)                             |
| Rosa DeLauro (CT)                          | Katie Porter (CA)                           |
| Suzan DelBene (AL)                         | Ayanna Pressley (MA)                        |
| Chris Deluzio (PA)                         | Mike Quigley (IL)                           |
| Mark DeSaulnier (CA)                       | Delia Ramirez (IL)                          |
| Debbie Dingell (MI)                        | Jamie Raskin (MD)                           |
| Lloyd Doggett (TX)                         | Matt Rosendale (MT)                         |
| Byron Donalds (FL)                         | <i>Deborah Ross (NC)</i> <sup>61</sup>      |
| Veronica Escobar (TX)                      | Raul Ruiz (CA)                              |
| Anna Eshoo (CA)                            | C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (MD)               |
| Adriano Espaillat (NY)                     | Patrick Ryan (NY)                           |
| Dwight Evans (PA)                          | Gregorio Sablan (MP)                        |
| Brian Fitzpatrick (PA)                     | Andrea Salinas (OR)                         |
| Bill Foster (IL)                           | Linda Sanchez (CA)                          |
| Valerie Foushee (NC)                       | John Sarbanes (MD)                          |
| Lois Frankel (NY)                          | Mary Gay Scanlon (PA)                       |
| Maxwell Alejandro Frost (FL)               | Jan Schakowsky (IL)                         |
| Matt Gaetz (FL)                            | Adam Schiff (CA)                            |
| Ruben Gallego (AZ)                         | Brad Schneider (IL)                         |
| John Garamendi (CA)                        | Hillary Scholten (MI)                       |
| <i>Andrew Garbarino (NY)</i> <sup>59</sup> | Kim Schrier (WA)                            |

<sup>56</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ph6W\\_usg78Yj0FQjbHxjpKzMRdA95fR2/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ph6W_usg78Yj0FQjbHxjpKzMRdA95fR2/view?usp=sharing).†

<sup>57</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kJ-fANeMkNVX239TtHx7whL1asClZ5QU/view>.†

<sup>58</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dH9SDB7JYAJefQtJP3HfbAhq7RUuM6m1/view?usp=sharing>.†

<sup>60</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/15bnlqqkEWXJ5T5AgVNshkieD9DDqr\\_K/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/15bnlqqkEWXJ5T5AgVNshkieD9DDqr_K/view).†

<sup>61</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rHcvVjYKpVsFkQ9xpm3UQ3a7tkbC2buq/view>.†

<sup>59</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VWM5gqKyS8Rt8iANmcaJfWZVCclOPntUu/view>.†

Jesús “Chuy” García (IL)  
 Mike Garcia (CA)  
 Robert Garcia (CA)  
 Sylvia Garcia (TX)  
 Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (WA)  
 Dan Goldman (NY)  
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 Bob Good (VA)  
 Lance Gooden (TX)  
 Josh Gottheimer (NJ)  
 Al Green (TX)  
 Marjorie Taylor Greene (GA)  
 Raul Grijalva (AZ)  
 Josh Harder (CA)  
 Jahana Hayes (CT)  
 Brian Higgins (NY)  
 James Himes (CT)  
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 Jill Tokuda (HI)  
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 Norma Torres (CA)  
 Ritchie Torres (NY)  
 Lori Trahan (MA)  
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 David Valadao (CA)  
 Jefferson Van Drew (NJ)  
 Juan Vargas (CA)  
 Nydia Velázquez (NY)  
 Michael Waltz (FL)  
 Debbie Wasserman Schultz (FL)  
 Maxine Waters (CA)  
 Bonnie Watson Coleman (NJ)  
 Jennifer Wexton (VA)  
 Susan Wild (PA)  
 Nikema Williams (GA)  
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### 30 Law Professors<sup>62</sup>

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 Taimie L. Bryant, UCLA School of Law  
 David Cassuto, Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University  
 Amy Cohen, Temple University Beasley School of Law  
 Nicolas Cornell, University of Michigan Law School  
 David Dana, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law  
 Daniel Deacon, University of Michigan Law School  
 Michael Fakhri, University of Oregon School of Law  
 David Favre, Michigan State University College of Law  
 Pamela D. Frasch, Lewis & Clark Law School  
 Iselin Gambert, George Washington University Law School  
 Kathy Hessler, George Washington University Law School  
 Steven Heyman, Chicago Kent College of Law  
 Harold Krent, Chicago Kent College of Law  
 Douglas Kysar, Yale Law School  
 Matthew Liebman, University of San Francisco

Justin Marceau, University of Denver Sturm College of Law  
 Paul McGreal, Creighton University School of Law  
 Kathy Meyer, Harvard Law School  
 Janica Nadler, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law  
 Alan S. Nemeth, The American University Washington College of Law, The University of Baltimore School of Law  
 Rajesh K. Reddy, Lewis & Clark Law School  
 Daniel B. Rodriguez, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law  
 Ani B. Satz, Emory University School of Law  
 Joan Schaffner, The George Washington University Law School  
 Sarah Schindler, University of Denver Sturm College of Law  
 Kristen Stilt, Harvard Law School  
 Bruce Wagman, University of California School of Law, Berkeley  
 Law, Stanford Law School  
 Delcianna Winders, Vermont Law & Graduate School  
 Katrina Wyman, New York University School of Law

### 57[6] Veterinary Professionals<sup>63</sup>

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 Dr. Em Adam, West Lafayette, IN  
 Dr. Yen Adamenkova, San Diego, CA  
 Dr. Robert A Adelman, Silver Spring, MD  
 Dr. Mori Afraz, Palo Alto, CA  
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 Dr. Emily Altkorn, Madison, WI  
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 Dr. Monica Azzolini, Arlington, TX  
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 Josephine Hope Kotke, West Chicago, IL  
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<sup>62</sup> <https://animal.law.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/Law-Professor-EATS-letter.pdf>.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>63</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12ElXRkaxj98HqrMtyFI85MlFjWJLLx0a/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

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 Dr. Jim E Keen, Letcher, SD  
 Dr. Barry N Kellogg, Venice, FL  
 Dr. Susan M Kelly, West Halifax, VT  
 Dr. Todd Kelman, Davis, CA  
 Dr. Tim Kenety, East Lansing, MI  
 Renae Kennedy, McDonald, OH  
 Patricia Kent, Pocatello, ID  
 Dr. Jeanette Ingrid Kessler, Eugene, OR  
 Meher K Khalsa, Phoenix, AZ  
 Dr. Teri D. Kidd, Eureka, IL  
 Dr. Caroline Kiertivadthananond, Sacramento, CA
- 78 Veterinary Students<sup>64</sup>**
- Carissa Adrianson, Harlan, IN  
 Rachel Akin, Starkville, MS  
 Macy Andlinger, Bolingbrook, IL  
 Roberta A Bailey, Glendora, CA  
 Jamela Bazil, Raleigh, NC  
 Heather Olivia Bohl, Grafton, MA  
 Abbey Bos, Des Moines, IA  
 Savannah Bowles, Corvallis, OR  
 Maggy Adele Bowling, Columbia, MO
- Dr. Jennifer E Stokes, Knoxville, TN  
 Dr. Elizabeth M Stoltz, St. Paul, MN  
 Dr. Karen H Stuedemann, Lisle, IL  
 Carla Suarez, Oak Lawn, IL  
 Sandra A Sundberg, San Jose, CA  
 Dr. Wailani Sung, San Francisco, CA  
 Dr. Christine Julie Susumi, Bainbridge Island, WA  
 Dr. Alexandra Swanson, Monrovia, CA  
 Dr. David Sweet, East Greenwich, RI  
 Dr. Debra Teachout, Lemont, IL, IL  
 Dr. Neil Bruce Tenzer, Estes Park, CO  
 Dr. Jennifer Lee Thomas, Ferndale, MI  
 Julia M Thomas, Sacramento, CA  
 Dr. Richard Timmins, Freeland, WA  
 Marlene Todd, Streetsboro, OH  
 Dr. Lisa A Toolen, Forked River, NJ  
 Dr. Sharon Torrisi, Hermosa Beach, CA  
 Dr. Holly Trief, Piedmont, CA  
 Dr. Amanda Trompeta, Winter Springs, FL  
 Dr. Elizabeth A Uebelhor, Stamping Ground, KY  
 Dr. Sally Diehl Umlauf, Lenox, MA  
 Dr. Kristin Unverferth, Summerland, CA  
 Dr. April Uohara, Orinda, CA  
 Dr. Marjorie L Van Saun, Philadelphia, PA  
 Dr. Cailey Vandermark, Evanston, IL  
 Dr. Mardi Vargofcak-Apker, Burke, VA  
 Megan Vegas, Tinley Park, IL  
 Dr. Amanda Catherine Vegter, Fort Collins, CO  
 Dr. Peggy Ann Villanueva, Zionsville, IN  
 Dr. Tim Vleuten, Webster, NY  
 Shelly Vogt, Gunnison, CO  
 Katherine Marie Wagner, Lisle, IL  
 Dr. Lorelei A Wakefield, Victor, ID  
 Dr. Michelle Waldrop, Bradenton, FL  
 Dr. Dana Beth Walker, East Haven, CT  
 Dr. Danielle Walker, Valparaiso, IN  
 Donna Walters, Fair Oaks, CA  
 Dr. Mengyue Wang, San Carlos, CA  
 Dr. Stephen Watase, Thousand Oaks, CA  
 Dr. Carrie B. Waters, Arnold, MD  
 Dr. Gary L Weitzman, San Diego, CA  
 Rachel Wells, Portland, OR  
 Dr. Elizabeth G West, Lunenburg, MA  
 Dr. Rebecca Wheale, San Jose, CA  
 Margaret Ann Wheeler, Berwick, ME  
 Dr. David Taylor Whippy, Alamo, CA  
 Elizabeth G White, Los Angeles, CA  
 Dr. Beth Adrienne Wildermann, Boulder Creek, CA  
 Dr. Arnold R Williams, Acworth, GA  
 Dr. Catherine Susan Williams, White Heath, IL  
 Linda S Williams, Laguna Hills, CA  
 David A. Windsor, Crested Butte, CO  
 Dr. Dana Windsor, Fort Collins, CO  
 Dr. Tara Wineki, League City, TX  
 Dr. Rene Ann Wingerter, Elizabeth, IN  
 Holly Winters Deppe, Conifer, CO  
 Dr. Claire Shirin Witting, New York, NY  
 Dr. Gwendolyn Wollney, Churchville, NY  
 Dr. Robin M Woodley, Berkeley, CA  
 Dr. Robert E Woods, Santa Ana, CA  
 Dr. Donna S Woods, Edmond, OK  
 Dr. Carolyn Ann Wooley, Pennington, NJ  
 Dr. Jennifer A. Woolf, Dublin, CA  
 Dr. Sy Woon, Santa Monica, CA  
 Randi Jo Worth, Lansing, MI  
 Dr. Martha Worthington, Ayden, NC  
 Madeline J Wright, Los Angeles, CA  
 Linda L Wright, Castro Valley, CA  
 Dr. Emily Yacker, LaGrange, IL  
 Dr. Kelly Yang, Mt Shasta, CA  
 Marisa N. Yaniro, Albuquerque, NM  
 Dr. Laileena Yu, Brooklyn, NY  
 Dr. Erin Edele Zamzow, Ellensburg, WA  
 Dr. Loreen Zepf, Fair Lawn, NJ  
 Dr. Patricia A Zinna, Hazlet, NJ  
 Dr. Sylvia Sue Zinni, New Albany, OH
- Belinda J King, Fort Collins, CO  
 Autumn Klinge, Key West, FL  
 Rachel Lynn Rose Kuehl, Manhattan, KS  
 Aisling Kyne, Albany, OR  
 Sarah Lambert, Ewing, VA  
 Sierra Lepiane, Milton-Freewater, OR  
 Irene Liang, Pearl City, HI  
 Nyah March, Davis, CA  
 Megan JoAnn McConnell, Urbana, IL

<sup>64</sup> <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AABYfnc652hAsMztsUDEXSkoJhroyGaH/view?usp=sharing>.<sup>†</sup>

Casey Boyer, Urbana, IL  
 Hannah Burger, Costa Mesa, CA  
 Brooke Chauncey, Lansing, MI  
 Nicoletta Conti, Mystic, CT  
 Rachel Corin, Harrogate, TN  
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 Amy Wimmersberger, Middletown, PA  
 Alexa Wing, Fort Collins, CO  
 Heather Erin Woodruff, Gresham, OR  
 Chealin Yoon, East Lansing, MI

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*Lancaster Farming* (Lancaster, PA)—*op-ed* <sup>92</sup> (Brent Hershey)  
*Lancaster Farming* (Lancaster, PA)—*op-ed* <sup>93</sup> (Sauder's Eggs)  
*Lancaster Farming* (Lancaster, PA)—*op-ed* <sup>94</sup> (Giving Nature Foods)  
*Lancaster Farming* (Lancaster, PA)—*op-ed* <sup>95</sup> (Carrie Balkcom)  
*The Mercury News* (San Jose, CA)—*op-ed* <sup>96</sup>  
*Modern Farmer* (Hudson, NY)—*op-ed* <sup>97</sup>  
*The Modesto Bee* (Modesto, CA)—*op-ed* <sup>98</sup>  
*The Monitor News* (Rio Grand Valley, TX)—*op-ed* <sup>99</sup>  
*National Hog Farmer* (St. Charles, IL)—*op-ed* <sup>100</sup>  
*Newsmax.com* (New York, NY)—*op-ed* <sup>101</sup>  
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<sup>123</sup> [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1y56fXVGWUxrDQ\\_iasVfWXkLzuO9U-MdI/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1y56fXVGWUxrDQ_iasVfWXkLzuO9U-MdI/view?usp=sharing).†  
<sup>124</sup> [https://www.frontiersman.com/opinions/letters\\_to\\_editor/letters-to-the-editor/article\\_46760ea-5682-4985-8c84-f902f574bf8d.html](https://www.frontiersman.com/opinions/letters_to_editor/letters-to-the-editor/article_46760ea-5682-4985-8c84-f902f574bf8d.html).†  
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<sup>128</sup> <https://www.mercurynews.com/2024/08/23/letters-1842/>.†

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 CA, THE SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE—*State law protecting animals targeted in D.C.*<sup>130</sup>  
 CA, SANTA BARBARA INDEPENDENT—*Don't Gut Prop. 12's Humane Standards for Animals*<sup>131</sup>  
 CA, TIMES-STANDARD—*Thoughts on the 'Farm bill'*<sup>132</sup>  
 CO, DAILY CAMERA—*Keep EATS act out of Farm Bill*<sup>133</sup>  
 CO, DAILY CAMERA—*Keep animal-friendly state laws intact*<sup>134</sup>  
 CO, GREELEY TRIBUNE—*Farm Bill needs to protect farmers and independent farmers*<sup>135</sup>  
 DE, DELAWARE GAZETTE—*EATS Act is bad for America*<sup>136</sup>  
 FL, NAPLES DAILY NEWS - *How animals are treated*<sup>137</sup>  
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 IA, THE GAZETTE—*Congress should reject new food and agriculture bill*<sup>139</sup>  
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 IA, SOUTHEAST IOWA UNION—*Stop the EATS Act*<sup>141</sup>  
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 MA, THE EAGLE-TRIBUNE—*Proposed EATS Act should be opposed*<sup>146</sup>  
 MA, NEWBURYPORT DAILY NEWS—*Proposed EATS Act should be opposed*<sup>147</sup>  
 MA, THE SUN CHRONICLE—*EATS Act will strip animals of protection*<sup>148</sup>  
 ME, BANGOR DAILY NEWS—*EATS Act is a step backward*<sup>149</sup>  
 ME, PORTLAND PRESS HERALD—*EATS Act would endanger animal welfare laws, regulations*<sup>150</sup>  
 MI, CADILLAC NEWS—*Forest and Farm is concerned about pending legislation*<sup>151</sup>  
 MI, THE DETROIT NEWS—*Letters: Pigs deserve humane treatment*<sup>152</sup>  
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<sup>131</sup> <https://www.independent.com/2024/08/24/dont-gut-prop-12s-humane-standards-for-animals/>. †

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<sup>135</sup> <https://www.greeleytribune.com/2024/07/24/letters-to-the-editor-farm-bill-and-animal-protection/>. †

<sup>136</sup> <https://www.delgazette.com/2023/09/16/letter-eats-act-is-bad-for-america/>. †

<sup>137</sup> <https://www.naplesnews.com/story/opinion/2024/09/01/letters-to-the-editor-for-sunday-september-1-2024/74964472007/>. †

<sup>138</sup> <https://www.thegazette.com/letters-to-the-editor/california-hog-space-requirements-are-reasonable/>. †

<sup>139</sup> <https://www.thegazette.com/letters-to-the-editor/congress-should-reject-new-food-and-agriculture-bill/>. †

<sup>140</sup> <https://archive.ph/Tde44>.

<sup>141</sup> <https://www.southeastiowaunion.com/letters-to-the-editor/letters-to-the-editor-43/>. †

<sup>142</sup> <https://archive.ph/unLJg>.

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<sup>144</sup> [https://www.nwitimes.com/news/waldemar-traczyk/article\\_e535e630-3021-11ee-9df6-bbe132f3ce70.html](https://www.nwitimes.com/news/waldemar-traczyk/article_e535e630-3021-11ee-9df6-bbe132f3ce70.html)

<sup>145</sup> <https://www.gbtribune.com/opinion/eats-act-would-hurt-kansas-farmers/>. †

<sup>146</sup> [https://www.eagletribune.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/letter-proposed-eats-act-should-be-opposed/article\\_fca9f8b6-63d3-5f98-a2d4-3832b3e2fbfd.html](https://www.eagletribune.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/letter-proposed-eats-act-should-be-opposed/article_fca9f8b6-63d3-5f98-a2d4-3832b3e2fbfd.html). †

<sup>147</sup> [https://www.newburyportnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/letter-proposed-eats-act-should-be-opposed/article\\_a43fd086-2ae6-11ee-a812-d383f2b699e6c.html](https://www.newburyportnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/letter-proposed-eats-act-should-be-opposed/article_a43fd086-2ae6-11ee-a812-d383f2b699e6c.html). †

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- MT, BILLINGS GAZETTE—*Keeping fighting against confining animals*<sup>155</sup>
- MT, LAKE COUNTY LEADER—*Bills would undermine efforts to farm responsibly*<sup>156</sup>
- NE, LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR—*Act would remove rights from states*<sup>157</sup>
- NH, VALLEY NEWS—*Letter: Keep farming local, stop federal overreach*<sup>158</sup>
- NJ, NEWJERSEYHILLS.COM—*Farming bill contains a ‘power grab’ that violates Federalism*<sup>159</sup>
- NY, MID HUDSON NEWS—*Farmer and Veteran opposes the EATS Act*<sup>160</sup>
- NY, THE RIVERDALE PRESS—*Oppose the EATS Act*<sup>161</sup>
- OR, THE OREGONIAN—*Fight EATS Act in Congress*<sup>162</sup>
- OR, THE OREGONIAN—*Farm Bill shouldn’t threaten animal protection*<sup>163</sup>
- PA, CENTRE DAILY TIMES—*EATS Act could have disastrous consequences*<sup>164</sup>
- PA, CENTRE DAILY TIMES—*EATS Act Takes Away Opportunities*<sup>165</sup>
- PA, LANCASTER FARMING—*Defend States’ Right to Set Ag Standards*<sup>166</sup>
- PA, OBSERVER-REPORTER—*Animals deserve better than the EATS Act*<sup>167</sup>
- PA, PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW—*Oppose EATS Act, protect animals*<sup>168</sup>
- SC, HILTON HEAD ISLAND PACKET—*Mace right on this*<sup>169</sup>
- TX, THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS—*Oppose EATS Act*<sup>170</sup>
- VA, FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES—*Virginia’s consumer protection laws at risk*<sup>171</sup>
- VA, PRINCE WILLIAM TIMES—*Updated farm bill shouldn’t nix state protections for farm animals*<sup>172</sup>
- VA, THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT—*EATS Act*<sup>173</sup>
- VA, THE WINCHESTER STAR—*Urge Congress to Reject the EATS Act*<sup>174</sup>
- WA, THE SEATTLE TIMES—*Farm Bill: A step back on animal welfare*<sup>175</sup>

(List as of December 10, 2025).

#### ATTACHMENT 2

### House Democrats Letter Opposing the Save Our Bacon Act

November 17, 2025

- <sup>154</sup> <https://www.wctrib.com/opinion/letters/trisha-zachman-letter-please-oppose-legislation-supporting-mega-farms.†>
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- <sup>158</sup> <https://vnews.com/2025/09/26/letter-keep-farming-local-stop-federal-overreach/.†>
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- <sup>161</sup> <https://www.riverdalepress.com/stories/oppose-the-eats-act,181729.†>
- <sup>162</sup> <https://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/2023/11/readers-respond-fight-eats-act-in-congress.html>.
- <sup>163</sup> <https://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/2024/09/readers-respond-farm-bill-shouldnt-threaten-animal-protection.html>.
- <sup>164</sup> <https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article278785809.html.†>
- <sup>165</sup> <https://www.centredaily.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article278579999.html.†>
- <sup>166</sup> [https://www.lancasterfarming.com/defend-states-right-to-set-ag-standards-opinion/article\\_2827a85d-494f-5a44-81af-da6ef30f348b.html](https://www.lancasterfarming.com/defend-states-right-to-set-ag-standards-opinion/article_2827a85d-494f-5a44-81af-da6ef30f348b.html).
- <sup>167</sup> [https://observer-reporter.com/opinion/letters/letter-animals-deserve-better-than-the-eats-act/article\\_d1aafcf8-3df1-11ee-9138-ab1c5ebf39bc.html](https://observer-reporter.com/opinion/letters/letter-animals-deserve-better-than-the-eats-act/article_d1aafcf8-3df1-11ee-9138-ab1c5ebf39bc.html).
- <sup>168</sup> <https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-oppose-eats-act-protect-animals/.†>
- <sup>169</sup> <https://www.yahoo.com/news/leaders-risk-killing-golden-egg-100000606.html.†>
- <sup>170</sup> <https://www.dallasnews.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2023/09/16/letters-to-the-editor-ken-paxton-sen-tan-parker-death-penalty-landlords-farm-bill/.†>
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- <sup>173</sup> [https://www.pilotonline.com/2023/09/16/letters-for-sept-17-lets-be-more-patient-when-we-go-out-to-eat/.](https://www.pilotonline.com/2023/09/16/letters-for-sept-17-lets-be-more-patient-when-we-go-out-to-eat/)
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- <sup>175</sup> <https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/farm-bill-a-step-back-on-animal-welfare/.†>

Hon. GLENN THOMPSON,  
*Chairman,*  
 House Committee on Agriculture,  
 Washington, D.C.;

Hon. ANGIE CRAIG,  
*Ranking Minority Member,*  
 House Committee on Agriculture,  
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig,

We write today expressing our strong opposition to the inclusion of the Save Our Bacon (SOB) Act (H.R. 4673), which is simply the same language as Sec. 12007 of last year's Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024 (H.R. 8467); the Food Security and Farm Protection Act (S. 1306); or any similar legislation being considered as part of a "skinny" farm bill or other legislative vehicle. Modeled after former Representative Steve King's amendment, which was intensely controversial and ultimately excluded from the final 2014 and 2018 Farm Bills, the SOB Act and related proposals would harm America's farmers, threaten numerous state laws, and infringe on the fundamental rights of states to establish laws and regulations within their own borders.

Demand from consumers, food companies, and the farming community has propelled 15 states to enact public health, food safety, and humane standards for the in-state production and sale of products from egg-laying chickens, veal calves, and mother pigs.<sup>1\*</sup> Many pork and egg farmers have already invested significantly in transitioning to crate-free and cage-free production. The United Egg Producers, the egg industry's trade association, opposes reversing state cage-free laws, as do many pork producers who have embraced the new market opportunities that these laws have created.<sup>2</sup>

But the SOB Act and related measures are promoted with the primary goal of undermining these standards—particularly California's Proposition 12, which the U.S. Supreme Court upheld in a 2023 decision. In that decision, the Court affirmed that states have the authority to regulate the sale of products within their borders and noted that, "Companies that choose to sell products in various states must normally comply with the laws of those various states."<sup>3</sup> In June, the Supreme Court declined to hear yet another pork industry challenge to Proposition 12 when it denied *certiorari* to the Iowa Pork Producers Association. It is worth noting that Proposition 12 and all implementing regulations were in full effect as of January 1, 2024.

The SOB Act aims to undermine the basic principles of federalism by preempting hundreds of state and local laws, even where no Federal standards exist, creating a regulatory vacuum. In doing so, the SOB Act and similar iterations would drastically broaden the scope of Federal preemption and impede the ability of voters and elected officials to enact laws that address local concerns due to the unique nature of individual communities.

This is not a case of California and other states imposing their standards on out-of-state producers, as producers in any state can choose not to supply another state's consumers or to segregate animals for different markets. Pork industry economists noted this in an *amicus brief*, writing, "Only those producers for which compliance with Proposition 12 is economically beneficial will choose to do so, while all others will continue to supply the vast majority of the North American pork market beyond California's border and face little or no economic impact."<sup>4</sup> Additionally, a recent empirical study by three USDA-affiliated economists found no evidence that Proposition 12 impacted pork products outside of California.<sup>5</sup> Using Circana retail scanner data, the study examined early price impacts on covered pork products in both California and the broader U.S. market, concluding there were none.

Notably, the importance of trade markets abroad lies in providing key opportunities for pork and other meat producers, particularly those who opt not to sell within the United States. Key export destinations such as China, Mexico, and Canada ac-

<sup>1</sup> CageFreeLaws.com, *Ensure That Your Business Meets Cage-Free Laws*, † available at <https://cagefreelaws.com/>.

<sup>2</sup> **Editor's note:** references annotated with † are retained in Committee file.

<sup>3</sup> Letter from United Egg Producers to Agriculture Secretary Rollins, † pp. 2–3, available at [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fv\\_I3xhDv\\_xMzhkKCYBqtOd4U\\_ZWXj7F/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fv_I3xhDv_xMzhkKCYBqtOd4U_ZWXj7F/view?usp=sharing).

<sup>4</sup> *National Pork Producers Council v. Ross*, 143 S. Ct. 1142, 1142 (2023).†

<sup>5</sup> Brief of Agricultural and Resource Economics Professors as *Amicus Curiae*, p. 24, *National Pork Producers Council v. Ross*, 143 S. Ct. 1142 (2023), † available at [https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-468/228373/20220617170252460\\_21-468AgriculturalAndResourceEconomicProfessors.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-468/228373/20220617170252460_21-468AgriculturalAndResourceEconomicProfessors.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> Hawkins, H., Arita, S., & Meyer, S. (2024). *Proposition 12 pork retail price impacts on California consumers*. † Berkeley (CA): Giannini Found. Agric. Econ., Univ. Calif. [https://s.giannini.ucop.edu/uploads/pub/2024/03/19/v27n3\\_2\\_e40mBEN.pdf](https://s.giannini.ucop.edu/uploads/pub/2024/03/19/v27n3_2_e40mBEN.pdf).

counted for a total trade value of \$4.852 billion at the end of 2024, according to data from the Meat Institute.<sup>6</sup>

At the same time, many large pork producers, including Clemens,<sup>7</sup> JBS,<sup>8</sup> Hormel,<sup>9</sup> Perdue,<sup>10</sup> Tyson,<sup>11</sup> and Smithfield,<sup>12</sup> as well as many independent farmers and producers, are following Proposition 12's standards and supplying state markets. A joint *amicus brief* submitted by independent farming businesses, farm advocacy organizations including the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, and state farmers unions for Indiana, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Oregon and Washington stated, "Independent farmers are willing to meet this demand, and in doing so, can access some of the wealth and power that has accumulated only for pork integrators, and redistribute it back to local communities, businesses, and families."<sup>13</sup> The SOB Act would undermine this progress and devalue the investments that farmers have already made to comply with Proposition 12 and similar laws.


Besides attacking sales laws related to animal welfare, the SOB Act and related measures could jeopardize how states set standards for disease and quarantine control, toxic materials, and more.

We believe that Congress should not usurp the longstanding power of states to regulate food and agricultural products within their borders. We need not agree with every law or rule adopted by each state to adhere to this core principle of federalism. We urge you to reject the inclusion of this provision in any form in any legislative vehicle. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Hon. LATEEFAH SIMON,  
Member of Congress



Hon. JAMES P. MCGOVERN,  
Member of Congress



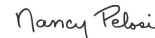
Hon. JIM COSTA,  
Member of Congress



Hon. TERRI A. SEWELL,  
Member of Congress



Hon. JIMMY PANETTA,  
Member of Congress



Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Member of Congress



Hon. RICHARD E. NEAL,  
Member of Congress



Hon. STEPHEN F. LYNCH,  
Member of Congress



Hon. WILLIAM R. KEATING,  
Member of Congress



Hon. DAVE MIN,  
Member of Congress



Hon. JAHANA HAYES,  
Member of Congress



Hon. MAGGIE GOODLANDER,  
Member of Congress

<sup>6</sup>North American Meat Institute, *Meat and Poultry Trade with Canada, Mexico and China*, † [https://www.meatinstitute.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20and%20Poultry%20Trade%20with%20Canada%20Mexico%20and%20China\\_0.pdf](https://www.meatinstitute.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20and%20Poultry%20Trade%20with%20Canada%20Mexico%20and%20China_0.pdf).

<sup>7</sup>Farm Progress, "Pennsylvania Producers Concerned over EATS Act," † Farm Progress, available at <https://www.farmprogress.com/animal-health/pennsylvania-producers-concerned-over-eats-act->.

<sup>8</sup>California Department of Food and Agriculture, *Registered Distributors: California Department of Food and Agriculture—Animal Care Program*, † available at [https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/AHFSS/AnimalCare/docs/Registered\\_Distributors.pdf](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/AHFSS/AnimalCare/docs/Registered_Distributors.pdf).

<sup>9</sup>Hormel Foods, *Hormel Foods Company Information About California Proposition 12*, † <https://www.hormelfoods.com/newsroom/news/hormel-foods-company-information-about-california-proposition-12/>.

<sup>10</sup>California Department of Food and Agriculture, *Registered Distributors*.

<sup>11</sup>California Department of Food and Agriculture, *Registered Distributors*.

<sup>12</sup>Investigate Midwest, "With California's Prop 12 Now Law, Pork Producers Adapt While Lobbying Groups Continue to Fight," † available at <https://investigatemiwest.org/2024/03/06/with-californias-prop-12-now-law-pork-producers-adapt-while-lobbying-groups-continue-to-fight/>.

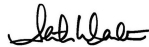
<sup>13</sup>Brief of Small and Independent Farming Businesses, State Farmers Unions, and Farm Advocacy Organizations as *Amicus Curiae*, † p. 16, *National Pork Producers Council v. Ross*, 143 S. Ct. 1142 (2023), available at [https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-468/233586/20220815-212509809\\_IndFarmers\\_Ross\\_Amicus%20Document%20August%2015%202022%20EFile.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/21/21-468/233586/20220815-212509809_IndFarmers_Ross_Amicus%20Document%20August%2015%202022%20EFile.pdf).



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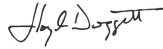
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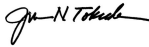
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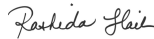
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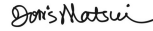
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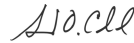
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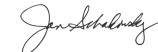
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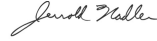
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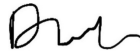
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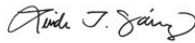
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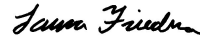
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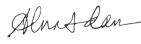
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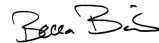
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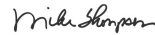
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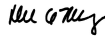
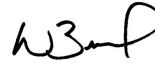
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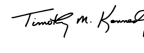
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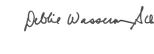
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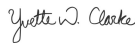
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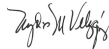
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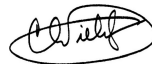
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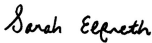
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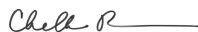
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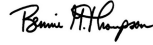
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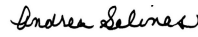
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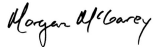
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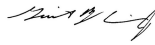


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<sup>1</sup> Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Federal Lands.



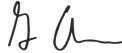
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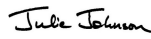
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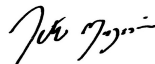
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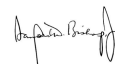
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**H.R. 4999, Exposing Agricultural Trade Suppression Act**



117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4999

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 10, 2021

Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. FEENSTRA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Exposing Agricultural  
5 Trade Suppression Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST INTERFERENCE BY STATE**  
2 **AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH PRODUC-**  
3 **TION OR MANUFACTURE OF ITEMS IN OTHER**  
4 **STATES.**

5 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
6 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
7 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
8 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

9 (b) PROHIBITION.—Consistent with the Commerce  
10 Clause of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the  
11 United States, the government of a State or a unit of local  
12 government within a State shall not impose a standard  
13 or condition on the production or manufacture of any agri-  
14 cultural products sold or offered for sale in interstate com-  
15 merce if—

16 (1) the production or manufacture occurs in an-  
17 other State; and

18 (2) the standard or condition is in addition to  
19 the standards and conditions applicable to the pro-  
20 duction or manufacture pursuant to—

21 (A) Federal law; and

22 (B) the laws of the State and unit of local  
23 government in which the production or manu-  
24 facture occurs.

1 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CAUSE OF ACTION TO CHALLENGE STATE**  
2 **REGULATION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE.**

3 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
4 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
5 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
6 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

7 (b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—A person, includ-  
8 ing a producer, a transporter, a distributor, a consumer,  
9 a laborer, a trade association, the Federal Government,  
10 a State government, or a unit of local government, that  
11 is affected by a regulation of a State or unit of local gov-  
12 ernment that regulates any aspect of 1 or more agricul-  
13 tural products that are sold in interstate commerce, in-  
14 cluding any aspect of the method of production, or any  
15 means or instrumentality through which 1 or more agri-  
16 cultural products are sold in interstate commerce may  
17 bring an action in the appropriate court to invalidate that  
18 regulation and seek damages for economic loss resulting  
19 from that regulation.

20 (c) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION.—On a motion of the  
21 plaintiff in an action brought under subsection (b), the  
22 court shall issue a preliminary injunction to preclude the  
23 applicable State or unit of local government from enforce-  
24 ing the regulation at issue until such time as the court  
25 enters a final judgment in the case, unless the State or

1 unit of local government proves by clear and convincing  
2 evidence that—

3 (1) the State or unit of local government is like-  
4 ly to prevail on the merits at trial; and

5 (2) the injunction would cause irreparable harm  
6 to the State or unit of local government.

7 (d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No action shall be  
8 maintained under this section unless the action is com-  
9 menced not later than 10 years after the cause of action  
10 arose.

11 (e) JURISDICTION.—A person described in subsection  
12 (b) may bring an action under that subsection in—

13 (1) the district court of the United States for  
14 the judicial district in which the person—

15 (A) is affected by a regulation described in  
16 that subsection; or

17 (B) resides, operates, or does business; or

18 (2) any other appropriate court otherwise hav-  
19 ing jurisdiction.

**S. 2619, Exposing Agricultural Trade Suppression Act**



II

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 2619**

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2021

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CORNYN, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

---

**A BILL**

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Exposing Agricultural  
5 Trade Suppression Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST INTERFERENCE BY STATE**  
2 **AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH PRODUC-**  
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5 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
6 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
7 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
8 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

9 (b) PROHIBITION.—Consistent with the Commerce  
10 Clause of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the  
11 United States, the government of a State or a unit of local  
12 government within a State shall not impose a standard  
13 or condition on the production or manufacture of any agri-  
14 cultural products sold or offered for sale in interstate com-  
15 merce if—

16 (1) the production or manufacture occurs in an-  
17 other State; and

18 (2) the standard or condition is in addition to  
19 the standards and conditions applicable to the pro-  
20 duction or manufacture pursuant to—

21 (A) Federal law; and

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24 facture occurs.

1 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CAUSE OF ACTION TO CHALLENGE STATE**  
2 **REGULATION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE.**

3 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
4 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
5 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
6 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

7 (b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—A person, includ-  
8 ing a producer, a transporter, a distributor, a consumer,  
9 a laborer, a trade association, the Federal Government,  
10 a State government, or a unit of local government, that  
11 is affected by a regulation of a State or unit of local gov-  
12 ernment that regulates any aspect of 1 or more agricul-  
13 tural products that are sold in interstate commerce, in-  
14 cluding any aspect of the method of production, or any  
15 means or instrumentality through which 1 or more agri-  
16 cultural products are sold in interstate commerce may  
17 bring an action in the appropriate court to invalidate that  
18 regulation and seek damages for economic loss resulting  
19 from that regulation.

20 (c) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION.—On a motion of the  
21 plaintiff in an action brought under subsection (b), the  
22 court shall issue a preliminary injunction to preclude the  
23 applicable State or unit of local government from enforce-  
24 ing the regulation at issue until such time as the court  
25 enters a final judgment in the case, unless the State or

1 unit of local government proves by clear and convincing  
2 evidence that—

3 (1) the State or unit of local government is like-  
4 ly to prevail on the merits at trial; and

5 (2) the injunction would cause irreparable harm  
6 to the State or unit of local government.

7 (d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No action shall be  
8 maintained under this section unless the action is com-  
9 menced not later than 10 years after the cause of action  
10 arose.

11 (e) JURISDICTION.—A person described in subsection  
12 (b) may bring an action under that subsection in—

13 (1) the district court of the United States for  
14 the judicial district in which the person—

15 (A) is affected by a regulation described in  
16 that subsection; or

17 (B) resides, operates, or does business; or

18 (2) any other appropriate court otherwise hav-  
19 ing jurisdiction.

○

**H.R. 4197, Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Reauthorization Act of 2023**



I

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4197

To amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to reauthorize the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 16, 2023

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Ms. SCHRIER, and Ms. SALINAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to reauthorize the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Collaborative Forest  
5 Landscape Restoration Program Reauthorization Act of  
6 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. COLLABORATIVE FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORA-**  
2 **TION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION.**

3 Section 4003 of the Omnibus Public Land Manage-  
4 ment Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b)(3)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “spe-  
7 cies;” and inserting “species or pathogens;”;

8 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking  
9 “and” at the end;

10 (C) in subparagraph (H), by adding “and”  
11 after the semicolon at the end; and

12 (D) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(I) address standardized monitoring ques-  
14 tions and indicators;”;

15 (2) in subsection (c)(3)(A)—

16 (A) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the  
17 end;

18 (B) in clause (ii), by adding “and” at the  
19 end; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(iii) include a Federal Government  
22 staffing plan for providing support to  
23 collaboratives established pursuant to sub-  
24 section (b)(2);”;

25 (3) in subsection (d)—

26 (A) in paragraph (2)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (E), by striking  
2 “and” at the end;

3 (ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking  
4 the period at the end and inserting “;  
5 and”; and

6 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 “(G) proposals that seek to use innovative  
9 implementation mechanisms, including con-  
10 servation finance agreements, good neighbor  
11 agreements entered into under section 8206 of  
12 the Agricultural Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C.  
13 2113a), and similar implementation mecha-  
14 nisms;

15 “(H) proposals that seek to reduce the risk  
16 of uncharacteristic wildfire or increase ecologi-  
17 cal restoration activities—

18 “(i) within areas across land owner-  
19 ships, including State, Tribal, and private  
20 land; and

21 “(ii) within the wildland-urban inter-  
22 face (as defined in section 101 of the  
23 Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003  
24 (16 U.S.C. 6511)); and

1           “(I) proposals that seek to enhance water-  
2           shed health and drinking water sources.”; and  
3           (B) in paragraph (3)—  
4           (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
5           “10” and inserting “20”; and  
6           (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
7           “2” and inserting “4”;  
8           (4) in subsection (e)(3), by inserting “conflict  
9           resolution or collaborative governance,” before “and  
10          woody”; and  
11          (5) in subsection (f)—  
12          (A) in paragraph (4)(B)(ii), by striking  
13          “\$4,000,000” and inserting “\$8,000,000”; and  
14          (B) in paragraph (6), by striking “2019  
15          through 2023” and inserting “2023 through  
16          2032”.

○

**H.R. 4417, Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act**

I

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 4417**

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

JUNE 30, 2023

Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. GOSAR, and Mrs. FISCHBACH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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**A BILL**

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ending Agricultural  
5 Trade Suppression Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST INTERFERENCE BY STATE**  
2 **AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH PRODUC-**  
3 **TION OF ITEMS IN OTHER STATES.**

4 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
5 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
6 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
7 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

8 (b) PROHIBITION.—The government of a State or a  
9 unit of local government within a State shall not impose  
10 a standard or condition on the preharvest production of  
11 any agricultural products sold or offered for sale in inter-  
12 state commerce if—

13 (1) the production occurs in another State; and

14 (2) the standard or condition is in addition to  
15 the standards and conditions applicable to the pro-  
16 duction pursuant to—

17 (A) Federal law; and

18 (B) the laws of the State and unit of local  
19 government in which the production occurs.

20 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—If no standards or  
21 conditions are applicable to the production of an agricul-  
22 tural product pursuant to Federal law, or the laws of a  
23 State or unit of local government in which the production  
24 occurs, that lack of standards and conditions shall be  
25 deemed to be the standards and conditions applicable to

1 the production of the agricultural product for purposes of  
2 subsection (b)(2).

3 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CAUSE OF ACTION TO CHALLENGE STATE**  
4 **REGULATION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE.**

5 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
6 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
7 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
8 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

9 (b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—A person, includ-  
10 ing a producer, a transporter, a distributor, a consumer,  
11 a laborer, a trade association, the Federal Government,  
12 a State government, or a unit of local government, that  
13 is affected by a regulation of a State or unit of local gov-  
14 ernment that regulates any aspect of 1 or more agricul-  
15 tural products that are sold in interstate commerce, in-  
16 cluding any aspect of the method of production, or any  
17 means or instrumentality through which 1 or more agri-  
18 cultural products are sold in interstate commerce may  
19 bring an action in the appropriate court to invalidate that  
20 regulation and seek damages for economic loss resulting  
21 from that regulation.

22 (c) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION.—On a motion of the  
23 plaintiff in an action brought under subsection (b), the  
24 court shall issue a preliminary injunction to preclude the  
25 applicable State or unit of local government from enforce-

1 ing the regulation at issue until such time as the court  
2 enters a final judgment in the case, unless the State or  
3 unit of local government proves by clear and convincing  
4 evidence that—

5 (1) the State or unit of local government is like-  
6 ly to prevail on the merits at trial; and

7 (2) the injunction would cause irreparable harm  
8 to the State or unit of local government.

9 (d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No action shall be  
10 maintained under this section unless the action is com-  
11 menced not later than 10 years after the cause of action  
12 arose.

13 (e) JURISDICTION.—A person described in subsection  
14 (b) may bring an action under that subsection in—

15 (1) the district court of the United States for  
16 the judicial district in which the person—

17 (A) is affected by a regulation described in  
18 that subsection; or

19 (B) resides, operates, or does business; or

20 (2) any other appropriate court otherwise hav-  
21 ing jurisdiction.

○

**H.R. 5242, Connecting Our Neighbors to Networks and Ensuring Competitive Telecommunications Act of 2023 (CONNECT Act of 2023)**



I

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5242

To amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to reform broadband permitting, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 18, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN (for herself and Mr. CISCOMANI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to reform broadband permitting, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Connecting Our Neigh-  
5 bors to Networks and Ensuring Competitive Tele-  
6 communications Act of 2023” or the “CONNECT Act of  
7 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. RECONNECT PROGRAM.**

2 Title VI of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7  
3 U.S.C. 950bb et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
4 the following:

5 **“SEC. 607. RECONNECT PROGRAM.**

6 “(a) **DEFINITION OF RECONNECT PROGRAM.**—In  
7 this section, the term ‘ReConnect Program’ means the  
8 broadband loan and grant pilot program authorized under  
9 section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropria-  
10 tions Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141; 132 Stat. 399) (or  
11 a successor provision of law that authorizes that program).

12 “(b) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND APPLICATIONS**  
13 **SUPPORT.**—

14 “(1) **OFFICE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—

15 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall  
16 establish under the ReConnect Program an Of-  
17 fice of Technical Assistance (referred to in this  
18 paragraph as the ‘Office’).

19 “(B) **STAFF.**—The Office shall employ an  
20 appropriate number of staff dedicated to pro-  
21 viding technical assistance with respect to Re-  
22 Connect Program applications.

23 “(C) **DUTIES.**—The Office shall assist ap-  
24 plicants for the ReConnect Program that serve  
25 not more than 20,000 subscribers with—

1           “(i) completing paperwork to be sub-  
2           mitted to the Department of Agriculture;

3           “(ii) identifying Federal, State, or  
4           local agencies that will need to grant a per-  
5           mit or right-of-way with respect to a pro-  
6           posed project; and

7           “(iii) such other matters as the Sec-  
8           retary determines to be appropriate.

9           “(D) EVALUATION CRITERIA POINTS.—In  
10          providing evaluation criteria points to applica-  
11          tions for the ReConnect Program, the Secretary  
12          shall provide an additional 5 points to an appli-  
13          cation if the applicant has consulted with the  
14          Office.

15          “(E) FUNDING.—Of the amounts appro-  
16          priated to the Secretary to carry out the Re-  
17          Connect Program for each fiscal year, the Sec-  
18          retary shall make available to the Office to  
19          carry out this paragraph \$10,000,000.

20          “(2) MINI-GRANT PROGRAM.—

21          “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
22          establish under the ReConnect Program a pro-  
23          gram to provide grants to providers that serve  
24          fewer than 20,000 individuals to obtain assist-  
25          ance in—

1           “(i) preparing an application for the  
2           ReConnect Program; and

3           “(ii) developing an initial plan for a  
4           project carried out under the ReConnect  
5           Program.

6           “(B) LIMITATION.—The amount of a  
7           grant under subparagraph (A) shall be not  
8           more than \$20,000.

9           “(C) RECOUPMENT.—If a provider that re-  
10          ceives a grant under subparagraph (A) subse-  
11          quently applies for and receives funding under  
12          the ReConnect Program, the provider shall  
13          repay to the Secretary the amount of the grant  
14          received under subparagraph (A).

15          “(D) FUNDING.—Of the amounts appro-  
16          priated to the Secretary to carry out the Re-  
17          Connect Program for each fiscal year, the Sec-  
18          retary shall make available to carry out this  
19          paragraph \$10,000,000.

20          “(c) APPLICATION REVIEW AND UPDATE.—

21                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

22                         “(A) review the application requirements  
23                         for the ReConnect Program in effect on the  
24                         date of enactment of this section; and

1           “(B) not later than 2 years after that date  
2           of enactment, issue regulations to revise the ap-  
3           plication requirements for the ReConnect Pro-  
4           gram to reduce the time and expense required  
5           to complete an application.

6           “(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out para-  
7           graph (1), the Secretary shall consult with—

8           “(A) providers serving not more than  
9           20,000 subscribers;

10           “(B) industry groups, including nonprofit  
11           organizations, local governments, and coopera-  
12           tives;

13           “(C) civil society members; and

14           “(D) technical experts.

15           “(d) SUPPORT FOR COOPERATIVES AND NONPROFIT  
16 ORGANIZATIONS.—

17           “(1) PRIORITY.—In reviewing applications for  
18           the ReConnect Program, the Secretary shall give  
19           priority to an application submitted by a local gov-  
20           ernment, a nonprofit organization, or a cooperative  
21           (including for a project involving a public-private  
22           partnership where the local government, nonprofit  
23           organization, or cooperative is the applicant).

24           “(2) EVALUATION CRITERIA POINTS.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
2           graph (B), in providing evaluation criteria  
3           points to applications for the ReConnect Pro-  
4           gram, the Secretary shall provide 20 points to  
5           an application submitted by a local government,  
6           a nonprofit organization, or a cooperative.

7           “(B) REQUIREMENT.—Before providing 20  
8           points to an application under subparagraph  
9           (A), the Secretary shall consider the degree to  
10          which the applicant can reasonably be expected  
11          to meet construction and deployment obliga-  
12          tions, including project timelines, building and  
13          construction material needs, and labor needs  
14          necessary for the completion of the project.

15          “(C) REPORTING.—The Secretary shall  
16          take appropriate steps to ensure that the ad-  
17          ministration of the requirement under subpara-  
18          graph (B) does not increase the reporting bur-  
19          den of an applicant.

20          “(e) ELIGIBILITY.—A rural area shall be eligible for  
21          funding under the ReConnect Program if the area—

22                 “(1) has no fixed wireline service provider with-  
23                 in the area covered by an application for a grant  
24                 under that Program; or

1           “(2) has been designated as served due to a  
2           pending broadband development project, if, 3 years  
3           after the date on which the project becomes a pend-  
4           ing broadband development project, the project has  
5           yet to begin significant construction or meet major  
6           deployment obligations for the project.”.

7 **SEC. 3. USDA PERMITTING REFORM.**

8           (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph  
9           (3)(A) of section 6409(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief  
10          and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(b)), not  
11          later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary  
12          of Agriculture receives a duly filed application under that  
13          section for an easement, right-of-way, or lease to install,  
14          construct, modify, or maintain a communications facility  
15          installation for the provision of broadband internet access  
16          service (as defined in section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of  
17          Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation)) using  
18          funding provided under a program of the Department of  
19          Agriculture, the Secretary of Agriculture shall—

20                 (1) conduct any environmental or other reviews  
21                 necessary to determine whether to grant or deny the  
22                 application, including under section 306108 of title  
23                 54, United States Code;

24                 (2) grant or deny, on behalf of the Federal  
25                 Government, the application; and

1 (3) notify the applicant of the grant or denial.

2 (b) APPLICABILITY OF LAWS.—Section 6409(b) of  
3 the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012  
4 (47 U.S.C. 1455(b)) (other than paragraph (3)(A) of that  
5 section) shall apply to the requirements under subsection  
6 (a).

7 **SEC. 4. BROADBAND REQUIREMENTS COUNCIL.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
11 mittees” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
13 and Transportation of the Senate;

14 (B) the Committee on Committee on Agri-  
15 culture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

16 (C) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
17 merce of the House of Representatives; and

18 (D) the Committee on Agriculture of the  
19 House of Representatives.

20 (2) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—  
21 The term “broadband internet access service” has  
22 the meaning given the term in section 8.1(b) of title  
23 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor  
24 regulation.

1           (3) COUNCIL.—The term “Council” means the  
2 interagency council established under subsection (b).

3           (4) COVERED BROADBAND SERVICE.—The term  
4 “covered broadband service” means broadband inter-  
5 net access service that is provided using infrastruc-  
6 ture built with Federal funds.

7           (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNCIL.—The Federal  
8 Communications Commission shall establish an inter-  
9 agency council to recommend uniform—

10           (1) speed requirements for covered broadband  
11 service; and

12           (2) requirements for applications for Federal  
13 broadband funds.

14           (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Council shall be composed of  
15 the following members:

16           (1) A representative of the Federal Communica-  
17 tions Commission.

18           (2) A representative of the Department of Com-  
19 merce.

20           (3) A representative of the Department of Agri-  
21 culture.

22           (4) A representative of the Department of the  
23 Interior.

24           (5) A representative of the Department of the  
25 Treasury.

1           (6) A representative of the National Science  
2           Foundation.

3           (d) DUTIES.—

4           (1) MEETINGS.—Not later than 180 days after  
5           the date of enactment of this Act, and not less fre-  
6           quently than semiannually thereafter, the Council  
7           shall meet to evaluate speed requirements for cov-  
8           ered broadband service.

9           (2) REPORTS.—

10           (A) IN GENERAL.—Before each meeting,  
11           other than the initial meeting, the Council shall  
12           publish and submit to the appropriate congres-  
13           sional committees a report that recommends—

14           (i) speed and latency requirements for  
15           covered broadband service in both rural  
16           and urban areas, taking into account the  
17           needs of served, unserved, and underserved  
18           communities;

19           (ii) requirements for a standardized  
20           application form for Federal broadband  
21           funds, including any required documents,  
22           financial reports, engineering studies, or  
23           other materials; and

24           (iii) opportunities for combining or  
25           better streamlining existing Federal

1 broadband programs that have similar or  
2 duplicative missions.

3 (B) CATEGORIES.—For purposes of sub-  
4 paragraph (A)(i), the Council may establish  
5 new categories, such as—

6 (i) rural areas that are unserved or  
7 underserved by broadband internet access  
8 service; or

9 (ii) urban areas that are unserved or  
10 underserved by broadband internet access  
11 service.

12 (3) APPEARANCES BEFORE CONGRESS.—Not  
13 later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this  
14 Act, and not less frequently than annually there-  
15 after, 1 or more members of the Council shall ap-  
16 pear before each appropriate congressional com-  
17 mittee for a hearing on the work of the Council.

18 (4) REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.—Before the  
19 first meeting of each year, the Council shall issue a  
20 request for information to collect feedback from  
21 stakeholders in the broadband industry and civil so-  
22 ciety about—

23 (A) existing broadband technology;

24 (B) recommended speed and latency re-  
25 quirements for covered broadband service;

1 (C) recommended requirements for appli-  
2 cations for Federal broadband funds;

3 (D) the needs of broadband consumers;  
4 and

5 (E) the definitions of relevant terms, such  
6 as “served”, “unserved”, “underserved”,  
7 “rural”, and “urban”.

8 **SEC. 5. LEASING REFORM TO ALLOW FOR BROADBAND OR**  
9 **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES ON**  
10 **LAND SUBJECT TO CERTAIN FEDERAL EASE-**  
11 **MENTS OR RIGHTS-OF-WAY.**

12 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 (1) CRITICAL DEFENSE FACILITY.—The term  
14 “critical defense facility” means a facility designated  
15 as a critical defense facility by the Secretary of En-  
16 ergy under section 215A(e) of the Federal Power  
17 Act (16 U.S.C. 824o-1(e)).

18 (2) DEFENSE CRITICAL ELECTRIC INFRASTRUC-  
19 TURE.—The term “defense critical electric infra-  
20 structure” has the meaning given the term in section  
21 215A(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 824o-  
22 1(a)).

23 (3) DEFENSE SITE.—The term “defense site”  
24 has the meaning given the term in section 2710(e)  
25 of title 10, United States Code.

1           (4) ELECTRIC UTILITY.—The term “electric  
2 utility” has the meaning given the term in section  
3 3 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796).

4           (5) LAST MILE WIRING.—The term “last mile  
5 wiring” means the distribution facilities that connect  
6 to middle-mile infrastructure and serve as the final  
7 connection to provide individual consumer  
8 connectivity to the network of a service provider.

9           (6) MILITARY INSTALLATION.—The term “mili-  
10 tary installation” has the meaning given the term in  
11 section 2801(c) of title 10, United States Code.

12           (7) TRANSMITTING UTILITY.—The term “trans-  
13 mitting utility” has the meaning given the term in  
14 section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796).

15           (b) WAIVER OF FEDERAL PERMITTING REQUIRE-  
16 MENTS FOR THE LEASING OF EXCESS FIBER CAPAC-  
17 ITY.—

18           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2)  
19 but notwithstanding any other provision of law, in  
20 any case in which an electric utility or transmitting  
21 utility seeks to expand, for the purpose of leasing ex-  
22 isting excess fiber capacity, the scope of an existing  
23 Federal easement or right-of-way held by that elec-  
24 tric utility or transmitting utility, all Federal permit-  
25 ting requirements relating to that expansion or the

1 leasing of that existing excess capacity shall be  
2 waived.

3 (2) NATIONAL SECURITY.—Paragraph (1) does  
4 not apply to any Federal permitting requirement  
5 that, in the determination of the Federal official re-  
6 sponsible for administering the permitting require-  
7 ment, directly relates to—

8 (A) the national security of the United  
9 States;

10 (B) the security of defense critical electric  
11 infrastructure; or

12 (C) the security of a military installation,  
13 defense site, or critical defense facility.

14 (c) USE OF EXISTING FIBER INFRASTRUCTURE.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2)  
16 and (3) but notwithstanding any other provision of  
17 law, except as otherwise provided expressly in a writ-  
18 ten easement, with respect to any fiber infrastruc-  
19 ture existing and installed as of the date of enact-  
20 ment of this Act (such as fiber infrastructure in-  
21 stalled by a grid operator to monitor the operation  
22 of the applicable grid or network) on land subject to  
23 an easement or right-of-way granted by the Federal  
24 Government for the location and use of electric  
25 transmission or distribution facilities, the operation,

1 leasing, repairing, and servicing of that fiber infra-  
2 structure for broadband or other communications  
3 services—

4 (A) shall be deemed to be an allowed use  
5 within the scope of the easement or right-of-  
6 way;

7 (B) shall not be considered to be a change  
8 in the physical use of the easement or right-of-  
9 way;

10 (C) shall not be considered to interfere  
11 with, impair, or take any vested or other rights  
12 of the owner or occupant of the servient estate;

13 (D) shall be considered to impose not more  
14 than a de minimis burden on the servient es-  
15 tate; and

16 (E) shall be considered to have value to the  
17 owner or occupant of the servient estate in an  
18 amount that is greater than any de minimis  
19 burden imposed.

20 (2) NATIONAL SECURITY.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) does not  
22 apply to an easement or right-of-way that—

23 (i) is located on a military installa-  
24 tion, defense site, or critical defense facil-  
25 ity; or

1           (ii) in the determination of the Fed-  
2           eral official responsible for administering  
3           the servient estate, directly relates to a  
4           matter described in any of subparagraphs  
5           (A) through (C) of subsection (b)(2).

6           (B) **AUTHORITY.**—Notwithstanding any  
7           other provision of law, with respect to an ease-  
8           ment or right-of-way described in subparagraph  
9           (A), the Federal official responsible for admin-  
10          istering the servient estate shall have the au-  
11          thority to expand the scope of the easement or  
12          right-of-way to include the operation, leasing,  
13          repairing, and servicing of broadband or other  
14          communications services in a manner consistent  
15          with national security, if the official determines  
16          such an expansion to be appropriate.

17          (3) **LIMITATION.**—Paragraph (1) does not  
18          apply to any new construction or installation occur-  
19          ring after the date of enactment of this Act, includ-  
20          ing the laying of cables, the placement of supporting  
21          infrastructure, or the completion of last mile wiring  
22          to households.

○

**H.R. 8467, Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024**<sup>1</sup>

I

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION**H. R. 8467**

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2029, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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**A BILL**

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2029, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.  
Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—COMMODITIES

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<sup>1</sup> **Editor’s note:** due to the size of H.R. 8467, 954 pages, it is not reproduced herein in its entirety (it is retained in Committee file). Only the referenced parts, and Table of Contents, are treated as submitted: Title VI—Rural Development, Subtitle B—Connecting Rural Americans to High Speed Broadband, Sec. 6201. Rural broadband program loans and grants. (pp. 381–394); Title VIII—Forestry, Subtitle D—Forest Management, Part II—Forest Management Activities, Sec. 8413. Collaborative forest landscape restoration program. (pp. 639–641); Title XII—Miscellaneous Provisions, Subtitle A—Livestock and Other Animals, Part I—Animal Health and Production, Sec. 12007. Ensuring the free movement of livestock-derived products in interstate commerce. (pp. 869–871).

Subtitle A—Commodity Policy

- Sec. 1101. Reference prices.
- Sec. 1102. 1-time opportunity to add base acres.
- Sec. 1103. Producer election.
- Sec. 1104. Price loss coverage.
- Sec. 1105. Agriculture risk coverage.

Subtitle B—Marketing Loans

- Sec. 1201. Loan rates for nonrecourse marketing assistance loans.
- Sec. 1202. Repayment rates for upland cotton, long grain rice, and medium grain rice.
- Sec. 1203. Repayment rates for extra long staple cotton.
- Sec. 1204. Modifications to storage credits.
- Sec. 1205. Economic adjustment assistance for textile mills.

Subtitle C—Sugar

- Sec. 1301. Loan rate modifications.
- Sec. 1302. Adjustments to commodity credit corporation storage rates.
- Sec. 1303. Modernizing beet sugar allotments.
- Sec. 1304. Reallocations of tariff rate quota shortfall.
- Sec. 1305. Clarification of tariff rate quota adjustments.

Subtitle D—Dairy

- Sec. 1401. Dairy margin coverage production history.
- Sec. 1402. Premiums for dairy margins.
- Sec. 1403. Mandatory reporting of dairy product processing costs.
- Sec. 1404. Class I skim milk price.
- Sec. 1405. Extensions.
- Sec. 1406. Dairy reports.

Subtitle E—Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs

- Sec. 1501. Livestock indemnity payment rates.
- Sec. 1502. Emergency assistance for honeybees.
- Sec. 1503. Tree assistance program.
- Sec. 1504. Assistance in the form of block grants.

Subtitle F—Administration

- Sec. 1601. Suspension of permanent price support authority.
- Sec. 1602. Implementation.
- Sec. 1603. Equitable treatment of certain entities.
- Sec. 1604. Payment limitation.
- Sec. 1605. Adjusted gross income limitation.
- Sec. 1606. Storage facility loans.
- Sec. 1607. Strengthening domestic food production supply chains.
- Sec. 1608. Limitation on CCC authority.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION

Subtitle A—Definitions

- Sec. 2001. Definitions.

Subtitle B—Conservation Reserve Program

Sec. 2101. Definitions.  
Sec. 2102. Conservation reserve.  
Sec. 2103. Partnership initiatives.  
Sec. 2104. Duties of owners and operators.  
Sec. 2105. Duties of the Secretary.  
Sec. 2106. Payments.  
Sec. 2107. Contracts.

Subtitle C—Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Sec. 2201. Definitions.  
Sec. 2202. Establishment and administration.  
Sec. 2203. Limitation on payments.  
Sec. 2204. Conservation innovation grants and payments.

Subtitle D—Conservation Stewardship Program

Sec. 2301. Conservation stewardship program.  
Sec. 2302. Duties of the Secretary.  
Sec. 2303. State assistance for soil health.

Subtitle E—Other Conservation Programs

Sec. 2401. Conservation of private grazing land.  
Sec. 2402. Feral swine eradication and control program.  
Sec. 2403. Grassroots source water protection program.  
Sec. 2404. Voluntary public access and habitat incentive program.  
Sec. 2405. Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act.  
Sec. 2406. Emergency conservation program.  
Sec. 2407. Emergency watershed program.  
Sec. 2408. National agriculture flood vulnerability study.

Subtitle F—Funding and Administration

Sec. 2501. Commodity Credit Corporation.  
Sec. 2502. Rescissions.  
Sec. 2503. Delivery of technical assistance.  
Sec. 2504. Administrative requirements for conservation programs.  
Sec. 2505. Experienced services program.

Subtitle G—Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

Sec. 2601. Definitions.  
Sec. 2602. Agricultural land easements.  
Sec. 2603. Wetland reserve easements.  
Sec. 2604. Administration.

Subtitle H—Forest Conservation Easement Program

Sec. 2701. Forest conservation easement program.

Subtitle I—Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Sec. 2801. Establishment and purposes.  
Sec. 2802. Definitions.  
Sec. 2803. Regional conservation partnerships.  
Sec. 2804. Assistance to producers.  
Sec. 2805. Funding.

- Sec. 2806. Administration.
- Sec. 2807. Critical conservation areas.

Subtitle J—Repeals and Transitional Provisions

- Sec. 2901. Superseded conservation reserve program authorities.
- Sec. 2902. Healthy Forests Reserve Program.

TITLE III—TRADE

Subtitle A—Food for Peace Act

- Sec. 3101. Food aid quality assurance.
- Sec. 3102. Minimum levels of assistance.
- Sec. 3103. Food aid consultative group.
- Sec. 3104. Issuance of regulations; oversight, monitoring, and evaluation.
- Sec. 3105. International food relief partnership.
- Sec. 3106. Use of commodity credit corporation.
- Sec. 3107. Pre-positioning of agricultural commodities and annual report regarding food aid programs and activities.
- Sec. 3108. Deadline for agreements to finance sales or to provide other assistance.
- Sec. 3109. Minimum level of nonemergency food assistance.
- Sec. 3110. Termination date for micronutrient fortification programs.
- Sec. 3111. John Ogonowski and Doug Bereuter farmer-to-farmer program.

Subtitle B—Agricultural Trade Act of 1978

- Sec. 3201. Agricultural trade promotion and facilitation.
- Sec. 3202. Preserving foreign markets for goods using common names.
- Sec. 3203. Interagency seasonal and perishable fruits and vegetable working group.

Subtitle C—Other Agricultural Trade Laws

- Sec. 3301. Growing American food exports.
- Sec. 3302. Food for progress act of 1985.
- Sec. 3303. Bill Emerson humanitarian trust act.
- Sec. 3304. Promotion of agricultural exports to emerging markets.
- Sec. 3305. International agricultural education fellowship program.
- Sec. 3306. International agriculture cultural immersion and exchange program.
- Sec. 3307. International food security technical assistance.
- Sec. 3308. McGovern-Dole international food for education and child nutrition program.
- Sec. 3309. Global crop diversity trust.
- Sec. 3310. Local and regional food aid procurement projects.
- Sec. 3311. Agricultural trade enforcement task force.

TITLE IV—NUTRITION

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- Sec. 4101. Declaration of policy.
- Sec. 4102. Food distribution program on Indian reservations.
- Sec. 4103. Exclusions from income and resources.
- Sec. 4104. Earned income deduction.
- Sec. 4105. SNAP employment and training provider service referrals.
- Sec. 4106. Prohibited fees.

- Sec. 4107. Prohibition on benefit redemption by owners of retail food stores.
- Sec. 4108. Supplemental nutrition assistance program benefit transfer transaction data report.
- Sec. 4109. Public availability of State plans.
- Sec. 4110. National accuracy clearinghouse.
- Sec. 4111. SNAP staffing flexibility.
- Sec. 4112. Updates to administrative processes for SNAP retailers.
- Sec. 4113. Adjustment to percentage of recovered funds retained by States.
- Sec. 4114. Tolerance level for payment errors.
- Sec. 4115. Public comment on quality control guidance.
- Sec. 4116. Office of program integrity.
- Sec. 4117. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 4118. Assistance for community food projects.
- Sec. 4119. Emergency food assistance program.
- Sec. 4120. Nutrition education.
- Sec. 4121. Retail food store and recipient trafficking.
- Sec. 4122. Repeal of denial of benefits for certain drug-related convictions.
- Sec. 4123. Residents of Institutions.
- Sec. 4124. Block grants for Puerto Rico and American Samoa.
- Sec. 4125. Elderly simplified application program.
- Sec. 4126. Amendment to Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023.
- Sec. 4127. Modification of State plan requirement.
- Sec. 4128. Food security and diet quality report.
- Sec. 4129. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine study and report.

#### Subtitle B—Commodity Distribution Programs

- Sec. 4201. Commodity distribution program.
- Sec. 4202. Commodity supplemental food program.
- Sec. 4203. Distribution of surplus commodities to special nutrition projects.
- Sec. 4204. Commodity supplemental food program demonstration project for Tribal organizations.

#### Subtitle C—Miscellaneous

- Sec. 4301. Purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables for distribution to schools and service institutions.
- Sec. 4302. Food box pilot program.
- Sec. 4303. Nutrition standards for food distribution programs.
- Sec. 4304. Guidance regarding notifying certain students regarding SNAP benefits.
- Sec. 4305. Buy American requirements for certain school meals.
- Sec. 4306. Reauthorization of the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive program.
- Sec. 4307. Food loss and waste reduction liaison annual report.
- Sec. 4308. Healthy food financing initiative.
- Sec. 4309. Micro-grants for food security.
- Sec. 4310. Healthy fluid milk incentives projects.

### TITLE V—CREDIT

#### Subtitle A—Farm Ownership Loans

- Sec. 5101. Persons eligible for real estate loans.
- Sec. 5102. Experience requirements.
- Sec. 5103. Conservation loan and loan guarantee program.

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- Sec. 5104. Limitations on amount of farm ownership loans.
- Sec. 5105. Inflation percentage.
- Sec. 5106. Authority of Farm Credit System institutions to provide financial support for essential rural community facilities projects.
- Sec. 5107. Down payment loan program.
- Sec. 5108. Heirs property.
- Sec. 5109. Prompt approval of loans and loan guarantees.
- Sec. 5110. Farmer loan pilot projects.
- Sec. 5111. Refinancing of guaranteed loans into direct loans.

## Subtitle B—Operating Loans

- Sec. 5201. Persons eligible for operating loans.
- Sec. 5202. Limitations on amount of operating loans.
- Sec. 5203. Limitation on microloan amounts.
- Sec. 5204. Cooperative lending pilot projects.

## Subtitle C—Emergency Loans

- Sec. 5301. Persons eligible for emergency loans.

## Subtitle D—Administrative Provisions

- Sec. 5401. Beginning farmer and rancher individual development accounts pilot program.
- Sec. 5402. Loan authorization levels.
- Sec. 5403. Loan fund set-asides.
- Sec. 5404. Use of additional funds for direct operating microloans under certain conditions.

## Subtitle E—Miscellaneous

- Sec. 5501. Export finance authority.
- Sec. 5502. Support for rural water and waste systems.
- Sec. 5503. Farmer loan data collection.
- Sec. 5504. Loan guarantees.
- Sec. 5505. Standards for qualified loans.
- Sec. 5506. State agricultural mediation programs.
- Sec. 5507. Technical corrections.

## TITLE VI—RURAL DEVELOPMENT

## Subtitle A—Improving Health Outcomes in Rural America

- Sec. 6101. Prioritizations for distance learning and telemedicine and community facilities program.
- Sec. 6102. Distance learning and telemedicine loans and grants.

## Subtitle B—Connecting Rural Americans to High Speed Broadband

- Sec. 6201. Rural broadband program loans and grants.
- Sec. 6202. Expansion of middle mile infrastructure into rural areas.
- Sec. 6203. Innovative broadband advancement program.
- Sec. 6204. Community connect grants.
- Sec. 6205. Rate regulation.
- Sec. 6206. Public notice, assessments, technical assistance, and reporting requirements.
- Sec. 6207. Limitation on overbuilding.

## Subtitle C—Miscellaneous

- Sec. 6301. Rural energy savings program.
- Sec. 6302. Regional commission reauthorization.
- Sec. 6303. Promoting precision agriculture.
- Sec. 6304. Food supply chain guaranteed loans.
- Sec. 6305. New, mobile, and expanded meat processing and rendering grants.
- Sec. 6306. Expanding Childcare in Rural America Initiative.
- Sec. 6307. Technical assistance for geographically underserved and distressed areas.
- Sec. 6308. Establishment of the Rural Development Innovation Center.
- Sec. 6309. Rural Health Liaison report.
- Sec. 6310. Precision Agriculture Task Force amendments.

## Subtitle D—Additional Amendments to the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act

- Sec. 6401. Water, waste disposal, and wastewater facility grants.
- Sec. 6402. Rural water and wastewater circuit rider program.
- Sec. 6403. Zero and low interest loans for distressed water systems.
- Sec. 6404. Tribal college and university essential community facilities.
- Sec. 6405. Emergency and imminent community water assistance grant program.
- Sec. 6406. Water systems for rural and native villages in Alaska.
- Sec. 6407. Rural decentralized water systems.
- Sec. 6408. Assistance to rural entities.
- Sec. 6409. Solid waste management grants.
- Sec. 6410. Rural business development grants.
- Sec. 6411. Rural cooperative development grants.
- Sec. 6412. Lender fees in guaranteed loan programs.
- Sec. 6413. Locally or regionally produced agricultural food products.
- Sec. 6414. Appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program.
- Sec. 6415. Rural economic area partnership zones.
- Sec. 6416. Intermediary relending program.
- Sec. 6417. Rural health care facility assistance.
- Sec. 6418. Elimination of prohibition on use of loans for certain purposes.
- Sec. 6419. Rural Business-Cooperative Service programs technical assistance and training.
- Sec. 6420. National Rural Development Partnership.
- Sec. 6421. Grants for NOAA weather radio transmitters.
- Sec. 6422. Rural microentrepreneur assistance program.
- Sec. 6423. Health care services.
- Sec. 6424. Strategic economic and community development.
- Sec. 6425. Rural innovation stronger economy grant program.
- Sec. 6426. Delta Regional Authority.
- Sec. 6427. Limitation on rural business investment companies controlled by Farm Credit System institutions.
- Sec. 6428. Rural business investment program.
- Sec. 6429. Technical corrections.
- Sec. 6430. Rural water and wastewater technical assistance and training programs.

## Subtitle E—Additional Amendments to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936

- Sec. 6501. Guarantees for bonds and notes issued for utility infrastructure purposes.

- Sec. 6502. Extension of the rural economic development loan and grant program.
- Sec. 6503. Expansion of 911 access.

TITLE VII—RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND RELATED MATTERS

Subtitle A—National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977

- Sec. 7101. National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.
- Sec. 7102. Specialty crop committee.
- Sec. 7103. Veterinary medicine loan repayment.
- Sec. 7104. Veterinary services grant program.
- Sec. 7105. Grants and fellowships for food and agriculture sciences education.
- Sec. 7106. Agricultural and food policy research centers.
- Sec. 7107. Education grants to Alaska Native serving institutions and Native Hawaiian serving institutions.
- Sec. 7108. Nutrition education program.
- Sec. 7109. Continuing animal health and disease research programs.
- Sec. 7110. Extension and agricultural research at 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University.
- Sec. 7111. Scholarships for students at 1890 Institutions.
- Sec. 7112. Grants to upgrade agricultural and food sciences facilities at 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University.
- Sec. 7113. Grants to upgrade agriculture and food sciences facilities and equipment and support tropical and subtropical agricultural research at insular area land-grant colleges and universities.
- Sec. 7114. Matching funds requirement for research and extension activities at eligible institutions.
- Sec. 7115. New Beginning for Tribal Students.
- Sec. 7116. Education grants programs for Hispanic-serving institutions.
- Sec. 7117. Binational agricultural research and development.
- Sec. 7118. Grants and partnerships for international agricultural research, extension, and education.
- Sec. 7119. Research equipment grants.
- Sec. 7120. University research.
- Sec. 7121. Extension service.
- Sec. 7122. Supplemental and alternative crops.
- Sec. 7123. Grants for community college agriculture and natural resources programs.
- Sec. 7124. Capacity building grants for NLGCA institutions.
- Sec. 7125. Agriculture advanced research and development authority.
- Sec. 7126. Aquaculture assistance programs.
- Sec. 7127. Special authorization for biosecurity planning and response.
- Sec. 7128. Agriculture and food protection grant program.
- Sec. 7129. Distance education grants for insular areas.
- Sec. 7130. Resident instruction grants for insular areas.
- Sec. 7131. Repeals.

Subtitle B—Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990

- Sec. 7201. Sustainable agriculture research and education.
- Sec. 7202. National Genetics Resources Program.
- Sec. 7203. Agricultural genome to phenome initiative.
- Sec. 7204. High-priority research and extension initiatives.

- Sec. 7205. Organic agriculture research and extension initiative.
- Sec. 7206. Farm business management.
- Sec. 7207. Urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural production research, education, and extension initiative.
- Sec. 7208. Centers of excellence.
- Sec. 7209. ThinkDIFFERENTLY National AgrAbility Project.
- Sec. 7210. Farming opportunities training and outreach.
- Sec. 7211. National Rural Information Center Clearinghouse.
- Sec. 7212. Repeal.

Subtitle C—Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998

- Sec. 7301. National food safety training, education, extension, outreach, and technical assistance program.
- Sec. 7302. Integrated research, education, and extension competitive grants program.
- Sec. 7303. Support for research regarding diseases of wheat, triticale, and barley caused by *fusarium graminearum* or by *tilletia indica*.
- Sec. 7304. Grants for youth organizations.
- Sec. 7305. Specialty crop research initiative.
- Sec. 7306. Agriculture grants for veteran education and training services.
- Sec. 7307. Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database program.
- Sec. 7308. Office of Pest Management Policy.
- Sec. 7309. Forestry products advanced utilization research.
- Sec. 7310. Repeals.

Subtitle D—Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008

- Sec. 7401. Grazinglands research laboratory.
- Sec. 7402. Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network.
- Sec. 7403. Sun grant program.
- Sec. 7404. Repeals.

Subtitle E—Amendments to Other Laws

- Sec. 7501. Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994.
- Sec. 7502. Research Facilities Act.
- Sec. 7503. Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.
- Sec. 7504. Extension design and demonstration initiative.
- Sec. 7505. Biomass research and development.
- Sec. 7506. Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978.
- Sec. 7507. National Aquaculture Act of 1980.
- Sec. 7508. Reports on disbursement of funds for agricultural research and extension at 1862 and 1890 land-grant colleges, including Tuskegee University.
- Sec. 7509. Repeal.

Subtitle F—Other Matters

- Sec. 7601. Foundation for food and agriculture research.
- Sec. 7602. Agriculture innovation center demonstration program.
- Sec. 7603. Livestock insects laboratory.
- Sec. 7604. Hatch Act of 1887.
- Sec. 7605. Commission on national agricultural statistics service modernization.
- Sec. 7606. Restoration of 4–H name and emblem authority.

- Sec. 7607. Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics.  
 Sec. 7608. Agricultural Innovation Corps.

## TITLE VIII—FORESTRY

## Subtitle A—Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978

- Sec. 8101. Support for State assessments and strategies for forest resources.  
 Sec. 8102. Forest Legacy Program technical correction.  
 Sec. 8103. State and private forest landscape-scale restoration program.

## Subtitle B—Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003

- Sec. 8201. Definition of at-risk community.  
 Sec. 8202. Promoting cross-boundary wildfire mitigation.  
 Sec. 8203. Authorization of appropriations for hazardous fuel reduction on Federal land.  
 Sec. 8204. Water source protection program.  
 Sec. 8205. Watershed condition framework technical corrections.  
 Sec. 8206. Authorization of appropriations to combat insect infestations and related diseases.  
 Sec. 8207. Insect and disease infestation.  
 Sec. 8208. Stewardship end result contracting projects.

## Subtitle C—Other Forestry Programs

- Sec. 8301. National and Regional Agroforestry Centers.  
 Sec. 8302. National Forest Foundation Act.  
 Sec. 8303. Conveyances and leases of Forest Service administrative sites.  
 Sec. 8304. Forest inventory and analysis.  
 Sec. 8305. Reforestation, nursery, and seed orchard support.

## Subtitle D—Forest Management

## PART I—NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

- Sec. 8401. Categorical exclusion for high priority hazard trees.  
 Sec. 8402. Collaborative restoration projects.  
 Sec. 8403. Wildfire resilience project size.  
 Sec. 8404. Fuel breaks in forests and other wildland vegetation.  
 Sec. 8405. Greater sage-grouse and mule deer habitat.

## PART II—FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Sec. 8411. No additional consultation required.  
 Sec. 8412. Good neighbor authority.  
 Sec. 8413. Collaborative forest landscape restoration program.  
 Sec. 8414. Public-private wildfire technology deployment and testbed partnership.  
 Sec. 8415. Forest Service participation in Experienced Services Program.  
 Sec. 8416. Timber sales on National Forest System land.  
 Sec. 8417. Permits and agreements with electrical utilities.  
 Sec. 8418. Cooperative agreements and contracts for prescribed fire.  
 Sec. 8419. Utilizing grazing for wildfire risk reduction.  
 Sec. 8420. Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program.  
 Sec. 8421. Tribal Forest Management program technical correction.

## PART III—TIMBER INNOVATION

- Sec. 8431. Community wood facilities program.
- Sec. 8432. Wood innovation grant program.
- Sec. 8433. Forest and wood products data tracker.
- Sec. 8434. Biochar application demonstration project.

## Subtitle E—Save Our Sequoias

- Sec. 8501. Short title.
- Sec. 8502. Definitions.
- Sec. 8503. Shared stewardship agreement for giant sequoias.
- Sec. 8504. Giant sequoia lands coalition.
- Sec. 8505. Giant sequoia health and resiliency assessment.
- Sec. 8506. Giant sequoia emergency response.
- Sec. 8507. Giant sequoia reforestation and rehabilitation strategy.
- Sec. 8508. Giant sequoia strike teams.
- Sec. 8509. Giant sequoia collaborative restoration grants.
- Sec. 8510. Good neighbor authority for giant sequoias.
- Sec. 8511. Stewardship contracting for giant sequoias.
- Sec. 8512. Giant Sequoia Emergency Protection Program and Fund.
- Sec. 8513. Authorization of appropriations.

## Subtitle F—Other Matters

- Sec. 8701. Rural revitalization technologies.
- Sec. 8702. Resource advisory committees.
- Sec. 8703. Accurate hazardous fuels reduction reports.
- Sec. 8704. Special use authorization rental fee waiver.
- Sec. 8705. Charges and fees for harvest of forest botanical products.
- Sec. 8706. Forest Service Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program transparency.
- Sec. 8707. Direct hire authority.
- Sec. 8708. Improving the emergency forest restoration program.

## TITLE IX—ENERGY

- Sec. 9001. Definition of advanced biofuel.
- Sec. 9002. Biobased markets program.
- Sec. 9003. Biorefinery assistance.
- Sec. 9004. Bioproduct labeling report.
- Sec. 9005. Bioenergy program for advanced biofuels.
- Sec. 9006. Biodiesel Fuel Education Program.
- Sec. 9007. Rural Energy for America Program.
- Sec. 9008. Feedstock flexibility.
- Sec. 9009. Biomass Crop Assistance Program.
- Sec. 9010. Carbon utilization and biogas education program.
- Sec. 9011. Study on effects of solar panel installations on covered farmland.
- Sec. 9012. Limitation on USDA funding for ground mounted solar systems.

## TITLE X—HORTICULTURE, MARKETING, AND REGULATORY REFORM

## Subtitle A—Horticulture

- Sec. 10001. Plant pest and disease management and disaster prevention.
- Sec. 10002. Specialty crop block grants.

- Sec. 10003. Specialty crops market news allocation.
- Sec. 10004. Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production.
- Sec. 10005. National plant diagnostics network.
- Sec. 10006. Hemp production.
- Sec. 10007. Pilot Program for the Intra-Organizational Movement of Genetically Engineered Microorganisms by Certain Authorized Parties.

#### Subtitle B—Marketing

- Sec. 10101. Marketing orders.
- Sec. 10102. Local agriculture market program.
- Sec. 10103. Acer access and development program.
- Sec. 10104. Organic production and market data initiative.
- Sec. 10105. Organic certification.
- Sec. 10106. National organic certification cost-share program.
- Sec. 10107. Report on procurement.

#### Subtitle C—Regulatory Reform

#### PART I—FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE ACT

- Sec. 10201. Exclusion of certain substances.
- Sec. 10202. Coordination.
- Sec. 10203. Interagency working group.
- Sec. 10204. Uniformity of Pesticide Labeling Requirements.
- Sec. 10205. Authority of States.

#### PART II—OTHER REGULATORY REFORM PROVISIONS

- Sec. 10211. Multiple crop and pesticide use survey.
- Sec. 10212. Critical minerals.
- Sec. 10213. Safe harbor for certain discharges of wildland fire chemicals.
- Sec. 10214. Science Advisory Board of the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Sec. 10215. Office of Biotechnology Policy.

#### TITLE XI—CROP INSURANCE

- Sec. 11001. Specialty Crop Advisory Committee.
- Sec. 11002. Identification of holders of substantial interests.
- Sec. 11003. Actuarial soundness of certain new products.
- Sec. 11004. Coverage of revenue losses.
- Sec. 11005. Supplemental and aggregate coverage enhancements.
- Sec. 11006. Limitation on farm program participation.
- Sec. 11007. Limitation on interest accrual.
- Sec. 11008. Crop insurance support for beginning and veteran farmers and ranchers.
- Sec. 11009. Marketability.
- Sec. 11010. Reinsurance.
- Sec. 11011. Revenue insurance.
- Sec. 11012. Pilot program to review effectiveness of coverage penalty.
- Sec. 11013. Program compliance and integrity.
- Sec. 11014. Reviews, compliance, and integrity.
- Sec. 11015. Whole Farm improvements.
- Sec. 11016. Research and development priorities.

#### TITLE XII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

## Subtitle A—Livestock and Other Animals

## PART I—ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION

- Sec. 12001. Animal disease prevention and management.
- Sec. 12002. Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program review and report.
- Sec. 12003. Dog detection training center.
- Sec. 12004. Regionalization, zoning, and compartmentalization agreements.
- Sec. 12005. Importation of live dogs.
- Sec. 12006. Sheep production and marketing grant program.
- Sec. 12007. Ensuring the free movement of livestock-derived products in interstate commerce.
- Sec. 12008. Report on support for livestock and poultry producers during a foreign animal disease outbreak.

## PART II—MEAT AND POULTRY PROCESSING AND INSPECTION

- Sec. 12111. Amplifying Processing of Livestock in the United States (A-PLUS).
- Sec. 12112. Hazard analysis and critical control point guidance and resources for small and very small poultry and meat establishments.
- Sec. 12113. Outreach on cooperative interstate shipment.
- Sec. 12114. Pilot program to support custom slaughter establishments.

## Subtitle B—Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994

- Sec. 12201. Office of Homeland Security.
- Sec. 12202. Farm Service Agency.
- Sec. 12203. Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement.
- Sec. 12204. Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- Sec. 12205. Burden of proof for national appeals division hearings.
- Sec. 12206. Termination of authority.
- Sec. 12207. Functions of the Office of Tribal Relations.
- Sec. 12208. Office of the Ombudsman.

## Subtitle C—National Security

- Sec. 12301. Agricultural foreign investment disclosure improvements.
- Sec. 12302. Report on agricultural land purchasing activities in the United States by countries designated as state sponsors of terrorism and certain other countries.
- Sec. 12303. Investigative actions.
- Sec. 12304. Digitization and consolidation of foreign land ownership data collection and publication.

## Subtitle D—Other Miscellaneous Provisions

- Sec. 12401. Thrifty food plan.
- Sec. 12402. Establishment of dietary guidelines.
- Sec. 12403. Organic or non-organic Whole milk permissible.
- Sec. 12404. Commission on Farm Transitions—Needs for 2050.
- Sec. 12405. Report on personnel.
- Sec. 12406. Improvements to United States Drought Monitor.
- Sec. 12407. Agricultural fiber products trust fund.
- Sec. 12408. Reports on land access and farmland ownership data collection.
- Sec. 12409. Increasing transparency regarding detention of imported plants.
- Sec. 12410. Enhancement of pet protections.

- Sec. 12411. Protecting animals with shelter.  
 Sec. 12412. Report on available assistance to agricultural producers in the State of Texas that have suffered economic losses due to the failure of Mexico to deliver water.  
 Sec. 12413. Experienced services program.  
 Sec. 12414. Agricultural Labor Survey.  
 Sec. 12415. Extension of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.  
 Sec. 12416. Commodity futures trading commission whistleblower program.  
 Sec. 12417. Qualified renewable biomass.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”  
 4 means the Department of Agriculture.

5 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
 6 the Secretary of Agriculture.

7 **TITLE I—COMMODITIES**  
 8 **Subtitle A—Commodity Policy**

9 **SEC. 1101. REFERENCE PRICES.**

10 Section 1111 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7  
 11 U.S.C. 9011) is amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (4), by striking “September  
 13 30, 2013” and inserting “September 30, 2024”; and

14 (2) in paragraph (19)—

15 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
 16 “\$5.50” and inserting “\$6.35”;

17 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
 18 “\$3.70” and inserting “\$4.10”;

19 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
 20 “\$3.95” and inserting “\$4.40”;

1 **SEC. 6102. DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE**  
2 **LOANS AND GRANTS.**

3 Section 2335A of the Food, Agriculture, Conserva-  
4 tion, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa–5) is  
5 amended by striking “\$82,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
6 2019 through 2023” and inserting “\$82,000,000 for each  
7 of fiscal years 2025 through 2029, to remain available for  
8 2 fiscal years after the fiscal year for which appropriated”.

9 **Subtitle B—Connecting Rural**  
10 **Americans to High Speed**  
11 **Broadband**

12 **SEC. 6201. RURAL BROADBAND PROGRAM LOANS AND**  
13 **GRANTS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601 of the Rural Elec-  
15 trification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb) is amended—

16 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**AC-**  
17 **CESS TO BROADBAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**  
18 **SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS**” and inserting “**RE-**  
19 **CONNECT RURAL BROADBAND PROGRAM**”;

20 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “The purpose”  
21 and all that follows through “provide funds for” and  
22 inserting “The Secretary shall establish a program,  
23 which shall be known as the ‘ReConnect Rural  
24 Broadband Program’, to provide grants, loans, and  
25 loan guarantees to finance”;

26 (3) in subsection (c)—

1 (A) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-  
2 ing the following:

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make  
4 grants, loans, and loan guarantees to eligible entities  
5 described in subsection (d) for the purpose of financ-  
6 ing the construction, improvement, or acquisition of  
7 facilities and equipment necessary for delivering  
8 broadband service in rural areas.”;

9 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking subpara-  
10 graphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In making grants,  
12 making loans, and guaranteeing loans under  
13 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give the  
14 highest priority to applications for projects to  
15 provide broadband service to unserved rural  
16 communities that do not have any residential  
17 broadband service of at least—

18 “(i) a 25-Mbps downstream trans-  
19 mission capacity; and

20 “(ii) a 3-Mbps upstream transmission  
21 capacity.

22 “(B) OTHER.—After giving priority to the  
23 applications described in subparagraph (A), the  
24 Secretary shall then give priority to applica-  
25 tions—

1                   “(i) for projects to provide broadband  
2 service to rural communities—

3                   “(I) with a population of less  
4 than 10,000 inhabitants; or

5                   “(II) in geographically under-  
6 served and distressed areas, includ-  
7 ing—

8                   “(aa) a socially vulnerable  
9 community (as determined by the  
10 Secretary);

11                   “(bb) a persistent poverty  
12 county (as determined by the  
13 Secretary); or

14                   “(cc) in an economically dis-  
15 tressed area (as determined by  
16 the Secretary);

17                   “(ii) that were developed with the par-  
18 ticipation of, and will receive a substantial  
19 portion of the funding or in-kind assistance  
20 for the project from, 2 or more stake-  
21 holders, including—

22                   “(I) State, local, and tribal gov-  
23 ernments;

24                   “(II) nonprofit institutions;

1                   “(III) community anchor institu-  
2                   tions, such as—  
3                         “(aa) public libraries;  
4                         “(bb) elementary schools  
5                         and secondary schools (as defined  
6                         in section 8101 of the Elemen-  
7                         tary and Secondary Education  
8                         Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801));  
9                         “(cc) institutions of higher  
10                        education (including 1862 Land-  
11                        Grant Institutions, 1890 Land-  
12                        Grant Institutions, 1994 Land-  
13                        Grant Institutions, Hispanic-  
14                        Serving Institutions, and Histori-  
15                        cally Black Colleges and Univer-  
16                        sities);  
17                        “(dd) health care facilities;  
18                        and  
19                        “(ee) facilities essential for  
20                        local or regional commerce or for  
21                        the movement of goods;  
22                        “(IV) private entities;  
23                        “(V) philanthropic organizations;  
24                        and  
25                        “(VI) cooperatives; or

1           “(iii) that are submitted by an eligible  
2           entity or is owned by an entity that has  
3           provided broadband service or other utility  
4           service for at least 5 years in rural areas  
5           in the State in which the project would be  
6           carried out.”;

7           (C) in paragraph (3)—

8           (i) in subparagraph (B)—

9           (I) by striking “and” at the end  
10          of clause (i);

11          (II) by striking the period at the  
12          end of clause (ii) and inserting “;  
13          and”; and

14          (III) by adding at the end the  
15          following:

16          “(iii) shall be subject to a grant  
17          agreement of not less than 10 years.”;

18          (ii) by striking subparagraphs (C) and  
19          (D) and inserting the following:

20          “(C) APPLICATIONS.—

21          “(i) GRANT-ONLY APPLICATIONS.—

22          The Secretary shall establish an applica-  
23          tion process that permits an application for  
24          a grant-only award.

1                   “(ii) COMBINED APPLICATIONS.—The  
2                   Secretary shall establish an application  
3                   process that—

4                                 “(I) permits a single application  
5                                 for a grant and a loan under title I or  
6                                 II, or this title, that is associated with  
7                                 the grant; and

8                                 “(II) provides a single decision to  
9                                 award the grant and the loan.”;

10                                (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
11                                (E) as subparagraph (D); and

12                                (iv) by striking subparagraph (F); and  
13                                (D) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-  
14                                ing the following:

15                                “(4) FEES.—

16                                        “(A) INITIAL GUARANTEE FEE.—The Sec-  
17                                        retary may assess an initial guarantee fee for  
18                                        any insured or guaranteed loan issued or modi-  
19                                        fied under this section in an amount that does  
20                                        not exceed 3 percent of the guaranteed prin-  
21                                        cipal portion of the loan.

22                                        “(B) PERIODIC RETENTION FEE.—The  
23                                        Secretary may assess a periodic retention fee  
24                                        for any insured or guaranteed loan or modified  
25                                        under this section in an amount that does not

1 exceed 0.75 percent of the outstanding principal  
2 of the guarantee loan.

3 “(C) DISCLOSURE.—In altering any fee  
4 charged for any insured or guaranteed loan  
5 issued or modified under this section, the Sec-  
6 retary, not less than 30 days in advance of any  
7 fee change, shall provide a public disclosure, of  
8 the financial data, economic and behavioral as-  
9 sumptions, calculations, and other factors used  
10 to determine the new fee rates.”;

11 (4) in subsection (d)—

12 (A) in paragraph (1)—

13 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

14 (I) in clause (i), by adding “and”  
15 at the end; and

16 (II) by striking “require; and”  
17 and all that follows through “agree”  
18 and insert “require, and agree”;

19 (ii) by redesignating subparagraph  
20 (B) as subparagraph (E) and inserting  
21 after subparagraph (A) the following:

22 “(B) INCLUSIONS.—An entity eligible to  
23 obtain assistance under subsection (c) may in-  
24 clude—

1           “(i) a State or local government, in-  
2           cluding any agency, subdivision, instru-  
3           mentality, or political subdivision of a  
4           State or local government;

5           “(ii) a territory or possession of the  
6           United States;

7           “(iii) an Indian Tribe (as defined in  
8           section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination  
9           and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.  
10          5304));

11          “(iv) a cooperative or mutual organi-  
12          zation;

13          “(v) an organization of 2 or more in-  
14          corporated areas that have established an  
15          intermunicipal legal agreement for the pur-  
16          poses of delivering communication services  
17          to residents;

18          “(vi) a corporation; or

19          “(vii) a limited liability company or  
20          limited liability partnership.

21          “(C) INELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An indi-  
22          vidual or legal general partnership that is  
23          formed with individuals shall not be eligible to  
24          obtain a grant, loan, or grant and loan com-  
25          bination under subsection (c).

1           “(D) AFFILIATED OWNED AND OPERATED  
2 NETWORKS.—Under this subsection, the Sec-  
3 retary may fund the construction of networks  
4 owned and operated by an affiliate of an eligible  
5 entity receiving the grant, loan, or loan guar-  
6 antee, if the eligible entity, the affiliate, or  
7 both, as determined necessary by the Secretary,  
8 furnishes adequate security for the grant, loan,  
9 or loan guarantee.”; and

10           (iii) in subparagraph (E) (as so reded-  
11 icated by clause (ii) of this subpara-  
12 graph), by inserting “, directly or in con-  
13 junction with any combination of affili-  
14 ates,” before “may not”;

15           (B) in paragraph (2)—

16           (i) in subparagraph (A)—

17           (I) by striking “subparagraphs  
18 (B) and (C)” and inserting “subpara-  
19 graph (B)”;

20           (II) by striking “is submitted—”  
21 and all that follows through “(i) not  
22 less than 50” and inserting “is sub-  
23 mitted not less than 75” ; and

24           (III) by striking “(e); and” and  
25 all that follows and inserting “(e).”;

- 1 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
2 “(A)(i)” and inserting “(A)”; and  
3 (iii) by striking subparagraph (C);  
4 and  
5 (C) by striking paragraphs (4) and (5);  
6 (5) in subsection (e)—  
7 (A) in paragraph (1)—  
8 (i) by striking “Subject to paragraph  
9 (2), for” and inserting “For”;  
10 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
11 “25” and inserting “50”; and  
12 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
13 “3” and inserting “25”;  
14 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-  
15 ing the following:  
16 “(2) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary may ad-  
17 just, through a 30-day public notice and comment  
18 period published in the Federal Register, an increase  
19 in the minimum level of broadband service under  
20 paragraph (1) of no more than 50 percent from the  
21 preceding year, if less than 95 percent of the funds  
22 of the program are obligated in the preceding 2  
23 funding rounds.”; and  
24 (C) in paragraph (4)—

1 (i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-  
2 ing “BUILDOUT” and inserting “PROJECT  
3 AGREEMENT”; and

4 (ii) by striking subparagraphs (B)  
5 through (D) and inserting the following:

6 “(B) BROADBAND BUILDOUT STANDARDS  
7 DEFINED.—A project must meet the following  
8 applicable broadband standard in order to be  
9 considered for assistance;

10 “(i) A project with an award term of  
11 less than 8 years must provide service at  
12 2 times the minimum broadband speed es-  
13 tablished in subsection (e)(1).

14 “(ii) A project with an award term of  
15 at least 8 years and less than 14 years  
16 must provide service at 5 times the min-  
17 imum broadband speed established in sub-  
18 section (e)(1).

19 “(iii) A project with an award term of  
20 14 or more years must provide service at  
21 10 times the minimum broadband speed  
22 established in subsection (e)(1).

23 “(C) NETWORK UPGRADE PLANNING.—  
24 The Secretary may prioritize an applicant seek-  
25 ing to meet the broadband buildout standards

1 under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (B) if  
2 the applicant submits information regarding the  
3 potential for the physical infrastructure of the  
4 network to be upgraded to meet the broadband  
5 buildout standards under subparagraph (B)(iii)  
6 at the time of the application, assuming reason-  
7 able progress in relevant networking tech-  
8 nologies.”;

9 (6) by striking subsection (j) and inserting the  
10 following:

11 “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
12 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
13 out this section \$350,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025  
14 through 2029, to remain available until expended.”; and

15 (7) in subsection (k), by striking “2023” and  
16 inserting “2029”.

17 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 270 days after  
18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall  
19 promulgate rules to carry out the amendments made by  
20 subsection (a) of this section, and complete the biennial  
21 review process required by section 601(e)(2) of the Rural  
22 Electrification Act of 1936.

23 (c) SUNSET.—The authorities provided by section  
24 779 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public

1 Law 115–141) shall have no force or effect beginning 270  
2 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

3 (d) TRANSITION RULES.—

4 (1) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRA-  
5 TIVE COSTS.—Not more than 1 percent of the unob-  
6 ligated balances of amounts made available, as of  
7 the date that is 270 days after the date of the enact-  
8 ment of this Act, to carry out the pilot program de-  
9 scribed in section 779 of the Consolidated Appro-  
10 priations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141) may be  
11 used for the costs of transitioning from the pilot  
12 program to the program under section 601 of the  
13 Rural Electrification Act of 1936, as amended by  
14 this Act.

15 (2) CONSOLIDATION OF FUNDS.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—The unobligated bal-  
17 ances of all amounts made available on or be-  
18 fore June 30, 2025, to carry out the pilot pro-  
19 gram described in section 779 of the Consoli-  
20 dated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law  
21 115–141) that are in excess of the amount de-  
22 scribed in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph  
23 are hereby transferred to and merged with  
24 amounts made available to carry out the pro-

1           gram authorized under section 601 of the Rural  
2           Electrification Act of 1936.

3                   (B) UNFUNDED APPROVALS.—The amount  
4           described in this subparagraph is the amount  
5           required to fully fund each project approved as  
6           of the date that is 270 days after the date of  
7           the enactment of this Act, under the pilot pro-  
8           gram described in such section 779 for which  
9           amounts were not obligated or partially obli-  
10          gated as of such date.

11 **SEC. 6202. EXPANSION OF MIDDLE MILE INFRASTRUCTURE**  
12                   **INTO RURAL AREAS.**

13          Section 602(g) of the Rural Electrification Act of  
14          1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb-1(g)) is amended by striking “2018  
15          through 2023” and inserting “2025 through 2029”.

16 **SEC. 6203. INNOVATIVE BROADBAND ADVANCEMENT PRO-**  
17                   **GRAM.**

18          Section 603 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936  
19          (7 U.S.C. 950bb-2) is amended to read as follows:

20 **“SEC. 603. INNOVATIVE BROADBAND ADVANCEMENT PRO-**  
21                   **GRAM.**

22          “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a  
23          program to be known as the ‘Innovative Broadband Ad-  
24          vancement Program’, under which the Secretary may pro-  
25          vide a grant, a loan, or both to an eligible entity for the

1 (1) before the date of enactment of this Act, if  
2 the project was initiated after the date of enactment  
3 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public  
4 Law 115–334; 132 Stat. 4490); or

5 (2) on or after the date of enactment of this  
6 Act.

7 **SEC. 8413. COLLABORATIVE FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORA-**  
8 **TION PROGRAM.**

9 Section 4003 of the Omnibus Public Land Manage-  
10 ment Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b)(3)—

12 (A) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “or  
13 pathogens” after “species”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (G), by striking  
15 “and” at the end;

16 (C) in subparagraph (H), by adding “and”  
17 after the semicolon at the end; and

18 (D) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(I) address standardized monitoring ques-  
20 tions and indicators;”;

21 (2) in subsection (d)—

22 (A) in paragraph (2)—

23 (i) in subparagraph (E), by striking  
24 “and” at the end;

1 (ii) in subparagraph (F), by striking  
2 the period at the end and inserting “;  
3 and”; and

4 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 “(G) proposals that seek to use innovative  
7 implementation mechanisms, including con-  
8 servation finance agreements, good neighbor  
9 agreements entered into under section 8206 of  
10 the Agricultural Act of 2014 (16 U.S.C.  
11 2113a), and similar implementation mecha-  
12 nisms; and

13 “(H) proposals that seek to reduce the risk  
14 of uncharacteristic wildfire or increase ecologi-  
15 cal restoration activities—

16 “(i) within areas across land owner-  
17 ships, including State, Tribal, and private  
18 land; and

19 “(ii) within the wildland-urban inter-  
20 face; and

21 “(I) proposals that seek to enhance water-  
22 shed health and drinking water sources.”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (3)—

24 (i) by amending subparagraph (A) to  
25 read as follows:

1           “(A) 4 proposals in any 1 region of the  
2           National Forest System to be funded during  
3           any fiscal year; and”;

4                   (ii) by striking subparagraph (B); and

5                   (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
6                   (C) as subparagraph (B); and

7           (3) in subsection (f)(6), by striking “2019  
8           through 2023” and inserting “2025 through 2029”.

9   **SEC. 8414. PUBLIC-PRIVATE WILDFIRE TECHNOLOGY DE-**  
10                   **PLOYMENT AND TESTBED PARTNERSHIP.**

11   (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12           (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES.—The term  
13           “appropriate committees” means—

14                   (A) the Committees on Agriculture, Nat-  
15                   ural Resources, and Science, Space, and Tech-  
16                   nology of the House of Representatives; and

17                   (B) the Committees on Agriculture, Nutri-  
18                   tion, and Forestry, Energy and Natural Re-  
19                   sources, and Commerce, Science, and Transpor-  
20                   tation of the Senate.

21           (2) COVERED AGENCY.—The term “covered  
22           agency” means—

23                   (A) the National Park Service;

24                   (B) the United States Fish and Wildlife  
25                   Service;

1           (2) TRANSITION PERIOD DEFINED.—In this  
2 subsection, the term “transition period” means the  
3 period beginning on the date of enactment of this  
4 Act and ending on the date on which final regula-  
5 tions are promulgated under such section 10404A.

6           (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 18 of the  
7 Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2148) is repealed.

8 **SEC. 12006. SHEEP PRODUCTION AND MARKETING GRANT**  
9 **PROGRAM.**

10          Section 209(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of  
11 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1627a(c)) is amended—

12           (1) by striking “\$2,000,000 for fiscal year  
13 2019, and”; and

14           (2) by inserting “, and \$3,000,000 for fiscal  
15 year 2025” after “fiscal year 2024”.

16 **SEC. 12007. ENSURING THE FREE MOVEMENT OF LIVE-**  
17 **STOCK-DERIVED PRODUCTS IN INTERSTATE**  
18 **COMMERCE.**

19          (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to—

20           (1) protect the free movement in interstate  
21 commerce of products derived from covered live-  
22 stock;

23           (2) encourage a national market of such prod-  
24 ucts;

1           (3) ensure that producers of covered livestock  
2           are not subject to a patchwork of State laws restrict-  
3           ing access to a national market; and

4           (4) ensure that the United States continues to  
5           uphold its international trade obligations.

6           (b) IN GENERAL.—Producers of covered livestock  
7           have a Federal right to raise and market their covered  
8           livestock in interstate commerce and therefore no State  
9           or subdivision thereof may enact or enforce, directly or  
10          indirectly, a condition or standard on the production of  
11          covered livestock other than for covered livestock phys-  
12          ically raised in such State or subdivision.

13          (c) PROTECTING INTERSTATE COMMERCE.—Pro-  
14          ducers of covered livestock have a Federal right to raise  
15          and market their covered livestock in interstate commerce  
16          and therefore no State or subdivision thereof may enact  
17          or enforce, directly or indirectly, as a condition for sale  
18          or consumption, any condition or standard of production  
19          on products derived from covered livestock not physically  
20          raised in such State or subdivision that is in addition to,  
21          or different from, the conditions or standards of produc-  
22          tion in the State in which the production occurs.

23          (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24                (1) COVERED LIVESTOCK.—The term “covered  
25                livestock”—

1 (A) means any domestic animal raised for  
2 the purpose of—

3 (i) slaughter for human consumption;

4 or

5 (ii) producing products manufactured  
6 for human consumption which are derived  
7 from the processing of milk, including fluid  
8 milk products; and

9 (B) does not include domestic animals  
10 raised for the primary purpose of egg produc-  
11 tion.

12 (2) PRODUCTION.—The term “production”—

13 (A) means the raising (including breeding)  
14 of covered livestock; and

15 (B) does not include the movement, har-  
16 vesting, or further processing of covered live-  
17 stock.

18 **SEC. 12008. REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR LIVESTOCK AND**  
19 **POULTRY PRODUCERS DURING A FOREIGN**  
20 **ANIMAL DISEASE OUTBREAK.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the  
22 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall sub-  
23 mit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-  
24 resentatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,  
25 and Forestry of the Senate a report on the Department’s

**S. 2019, Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act**

II

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 2019**

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 15, 2023

Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. HAGERTY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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**A BILL**

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ending Agricultural  
5 Trade Suppression Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST INTERFERENCE BY STATE**  
2 **AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH PRODUC-**  
3 **TION OF ITEMS IN OTHER STATES.**

4 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
5 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
6 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
7 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

8 (b) PROHIBITION.—The government of a State or a  
9 unit of local government within a State shall not impose  
10 a standard or condition on the preharvest production of  
11 any agricultural products sold or offered for sale in inter-  
12 state commerce if—

13 (1) the production occurs in another State; and

14 (2) subject to subsection (c), the standard or  
15 condition is in addition to the standards and condi-  
16 tions applicable to the production pursuant to—

17 (A) Federal law; and

18 (B) the laws of the State and unit of local  
19 government in which the production occurs.

20 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—If no standards or  
21 conditions are applicable to the production of an agricul-  
22 tural product pursuant to Federal law, or the laws of a  
23 State or unit of local government in which the production  
24 occurs, that lack of standards and conditions shall be  
25 deemed to be the standards and conditions applicable to

1 the production of the agricultural product for purposes of  
2 subsection (b)(2).

3 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CAUSE OF ACTION TO CHALLENGE STATE**  
4 **REGULATION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE.**

5 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
6 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
7 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
8 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

9 (b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—A person, includ-  
10 ing a producer, a transporter, a distributor, a consumer,  
11 a laborer, a trade association, the Federal Government,  
12 a State government, or a unit of local government, that  
13 is affected by a regulation of a State or unit of local gov-  
14 ernment that regulates any aspect of 1 or more agricul-  
15 tural products that are sold in interstate commerce, in-  
16 cluding any aspect of the method of production, or any  
17 means or instrumentality through which 1 or more agri-  
18 cultural products are sold in interstate commerce may  
19 bring an action in the appropriate court to invalidate that  
20 regulation and seek damages for economic loss resulting  
21 from that regulation.

22 (c) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION.—On a motion of the  
23 plaintiff in an action brought under subsection (b), the  
24 court shall issue a preliminary injunction to preclude the  
25 applicable State or unit of local government from enforce-

1 ing the regulation at issue until such time as the court  
2 enters a final judgment in the case, unless the State or  
3 unit of local government proves by clear and convincing  
4 evidence that—

5 (1) the State or unit of local government is like-  
6 ly to prevail on the merits at trial; and

7 (2) the injunction would cause irreparable harm  
8 to the State or unit of local government.

9 (d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No action shall be  
10 maintained under this section unless the action is com-  
11 menced not later than 10 years after the cause of action  
12 arose.

13 (e) JURISDICTION.—A person described in subsection  
14 (b) may bring an action under that subsection in—

15 (1) the district court of the United States for  
16 the judicial district in which the person—

17 (A) is affected by a regulation described in  
18 that subsection; or

19 (B) resides, operates, or does business; or

20 (2) any other appropriate court otherwise hav-  
21 ing jurisdiction.

○

**H.R. 605, Headwaters Protection Act of 2025**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 605

To amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to reauthorize and improve the Water Source Protection Program, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 22, 2025

Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. PETERSEN, Ms. STANSBURY, and Ms. PEREZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to reauthorize and improve the Water Source Protection Program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Headwaters Protection  
5 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. WATER SOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAM REAU-**  
2 **THORIZATION AND IMPROVEMENTS.**

3 Section 303 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act  
4 of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6542) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) in paragraph (1)—

7 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs  
8 (G) and (H) as subparagraphs (K) and  
9 (L), respectively; and

10 (ii) by inserting after subparagraph  
11 (F) the following:

12 “(G) an acequia association;

13 “(H) a local, regional, or other public enti-  
14 ty that manages stormwater or wastewater re-  
15 sources or other related water infrastructure;

16 “(I) a land-grant mercedes;

17 “(J) a local, regional, or other private enti-  
18 ty that has water delivery authority;”;

19 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (1)  
20 through (7) as paragraphs (2) through (8), re-  
21 spectively; and

22 (C) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as  
23 so redesignated) the following:

24 “(1) ADJACENT LAND.—The term ‘adjacent  
25 land’ means non-Federal land, including State, local,  
26 and private land, that is adjacent to, and within the

1 same watershed as, National Forest System land on  
2 which a watershed protection and restoration project  
3 is carried out under this section.”;

4 (2) in subsection (b)—

5 (A) by inserting “and adjacent land” be-  
6 fore the period at the end;

7 (B) by striking “The Secretary shall” and  
8 inserting the following:

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall”; and

10 (C) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—A watershed protection  
12 and restoration project under the Program shall—

13 “(A) protect and restore watershed health,  
14 water supply and quality, a municipal or agri-  
15 cultural water supply system, and water-related  
16 infrastructure;

17 “(B) protect and restore forest health from  
18 insect infestation and disease or wildfire; or

19 “(C) advance any combination of the pur-  
20 poses described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

21 “(3) PRIORITIES.—In selecting watershed pro-  
22 tection and restoration projects under the Program,  
23 the Secretary shall give priority to projects that  
24 would—

1           “(A) provide risk management benefits as-  
2           sociated with drought, wildfire, post-wildfire  
3           conditions, extreme weather, or flooding, includ-  
4           ing minimizing risks to watershed health, water  
5           supply and quality, and water-related infra-  
6           structure, including municipal and agricultural  
7           water supply systems;

8           “(B) be designed to support aquatic res-  
9           toration and conservation efforts that com-  
10          plement existing or planned forest restoration  
11          or wildfire risk reduction efforts;

12          “(C) include—

13                 “(i) partners with demonstrated ca-  
14                 pacity and success in designing and imple-  
15                 menting ecological restoration projects,  
16                 wildfire risk reduction efforts, or post-wild-  
17                 fire restoration projects; or

18                 “(ii) in the case of disadvantaged  
19                 communities that have historically lacked  
20                 access to adequate resources, partners with  
21                 a strong likelihood of success in designing  
22                 and implementing a watershed protection  
23                 and restoration project; and

24                 “(D)(i) include a contribution of funds or  
25                 in-kind support from non-Federal partners in

1 an amount greater than the amount required  
2 under subsection (g)(2);

3 “(ii) provide quantifiable benefits to water  
4 supply or quality and include the use of nature-  
5 based solutions, such as restoring wetland and  
6 riparian ecosystems;

7 “(iii) be designed to improve—

8 “(I) resilience to climate change; or

9 “(II) watershed and fire resilience; or

10 “(iv) include such other characteristics as  
11 the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

12 “(4) CONDITIONS FOR PROJECTS ON ADJACENT  
13 LAND.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—No project or activity  
15 may be carried out under this section on adja-  
16 cent land unless the owner of the adjacent land  
17 provides express support for, and is a willing  
18 and engaged partner in, carrying out that  
19 project or activity.

20 “(B) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section  
21 authorizes any change in—

22 “(i) the ownership of adjacent land on  
23 which a project or activity is carried out  
24 under this section; or

1           “(ii) the management of adjacent land  
2           on which a project or activity is carried out  
3           under this section, except during the car-  
4           rying out of that project or activity.”;

5           (3) in subsection (c)—

6           (A) in paragraph (1)—

7           (i) by inserting “and adjacent land”  
8           after “watersheds”;

9           (ii) by striking the period at the end  
10          and inserting “; or”;

11          (iii) by striking “with end water  
12          users” and inserting the following: “with—  
13          “(A) end water users”; and

14          (iv) by adding at the end the fol-  
15          lowing:

16          “(B) end waters users to protect and re-  
17          store the condition of National Forest water-  
18          sheds and adjacent land that provide water for  
19          the benefit of another end water user.”;

20          (B) in paragraph (2)—

21          (i) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
22          “or” after the semicolon;

23          (ii) by redesignating subparagraph  
24          (D) as subparagraph (E); and

1 (iii) by inserting after subparagraph  
2 (C) the following:

3 “(D) a good neighbor agreement entered  
4 into under section 8206 of the Agricultural Act  
5 of 2014 (16 U.S.C. 2113a); or”; and

6 (C) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(3) LEADERSHIP BY NON-FEDERAL PART-  
8 NERS.—The Secretary shall facilitate a leadership  
9 role for non-Federal partners in carrying out assess-  
10 ments, planning, project design, and project imple-  
11 mentation under this section.”;

12 (4) in subsection (d)—

13 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “shall be  
14 conducted” and inserting the following: “shall  
15 be—

16 “(A) designed to protect and restore eco-  
17 logical integrity (as defined in section 219.19 of  
18 title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (as in ef-  
19 fect on the date of enactment of this subpara-  
20 graph));

21 “(B) based on the best available scientific  
22 information; and

23 “(C) conducted”; and

24 (B) by adding at the end the following:

1           “(4) REDUCING REDUNDANCY.—An existing  
2 watershed plan, such as a watershed protection and  
3 restoration action plan developed under section  
4 304(a)(3), or other applicable watershed planning  
5 documents may be used as the basis for a water  
6 source management plan under this subsection.”;

7           (5) in subsection (e)(1), by striking “purpose  
8 of—” in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) and  
9 all that follows through the period at the end of sub-  
10 paragraph (C) and inserting “purpose of advancing  
11 any of the purposes described in subsection (b)(2).”;  
12 and

13           (6) in subsection (g)—

14           (A) in paragraph (2)—

15           (i) by striking “at least equal to” and  
16 inserting “not less than 20 percent of”;

17           (ii) by striking “The Secretary” and  
18 inserting the following:

19           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
20 graph (B), the Secretary”;

21           (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
22 lowing:

23           “(B) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive  
24 the requirement under subparagraph (A) in the  
25 discretion of the Secretary.”; and

1 (B) in paragraph (4)—

2 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
3 “\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019  
4 through 2023” and inserting “\$30,000,000  
5 for each of fiscal years 2025 through  
6 2033”; and

7 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
8 lowing:

9 “(D) SET-ASIDE FOR PARTNER PARTICIPA-  
10 TION IN PLANNING AND CAPACITY.—Of the  
11 amounts made available under subparagraph  
12 (B) to carry out this section for each fiscal  
13 year, the Secretary shall use not less than 10  
14 percent for non-Federal partner technical as-  
15 sistance participation and capacity-building ef-  
16 forts in developing or implementing a water  
17 source management plan under subsection  
18 (d).”.

19 **SEC. 3. WATERSHED CONDITION FRAMEWORK IMPROVE-**  
20 **MENTS.**

21 Section 304 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act  
22 of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6543) is amended—

23 (1) in subsection (a)—

24 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at  
25 the end;

1 (B) in paragraph (6), by striking the pe-  
2 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(7) that ensures that management activities  
5 and authorizations do not result in long-term deg-  
6 radation of watershed health or lower the classifica-  
7 tion under paragraph (1) of any watershed in a Na-  
8 tional Forest.”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
11 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
12 \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029.”.

13 **SEC. 4. EFFECT.**

14 Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this  
15 Act shall be construed—

16 (1) to supersede or in any manner affect or  
17 conflict with State water law, Federal water law,  
18 interstate compacts, or treaty obligations; or

19 (2) to authorize any acquisition of land by the  
20 Federal Government or any exertion of Federal con-  
21 trol over non-Federal land.

○

**H.R. 1084, Ski Hill Resources for Economic Development Act**

I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 1084**

To amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

FEBRUARY 6, 2025

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. MOORE of Utah, and Mr. PAPPAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and for other purposes.

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Ski Hill Resources for  
3 Economic Development Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF SKI AREA FEE RETENTION AC-**  
2 **COUNT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 701 of division I of the  
4 Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of  
5 1996 (16 U.S.C. 497e) is amended by adding at the end  
6 the following:

7 “(k) SKI AREA FEE RETENTION ACCOUNT.—

8 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

9 “(A) ACCOUNT.—The term ‘Account’  
10 means the Ski Area Fee Retention Account es-  
11 tablished under paragraph (2).

12 “(B) COVERED UNIT.—The term ‘covered  
13 unit’ means the unit of the National Forest  
14 System that collects the ski area permit rental  
15 charge under this section.

16 “(C) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’  
17 means the Secretary of Agriculture.

18 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the  
19 Treasury shall establish a special account in the  
20 Treasury, to be known as the ‘Ski Area Fee Reten-  
21 tion Account’.

22 “(3) DEPOSITS.—Subject to paragraphs (4)  
23 and (5), a ski area permit rental charge collected by  
24 the Secretary under this section shall—

25 “(A) be deposited in the Account;

1           “(B) be available to the Secretary for use,  
2           without further appropriation; and

3           “(C) remain available for the period of 4  
4           fiscal years beginning with the first fiscal year  
5           after the fiscal year in which the ski area per-  
6           mit rental charge is deposited in the Account  
7           under subparagraph (A).

8           “(4) DISTRIBUTION OF AMOUNTS IN THE AC-  
9           COUNT.—

10           “(A) LOCAL DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—

11           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-  
12           vided in subparagraph (C), the Secretary  
13           shall expend 80 percent of the ski area  
14           permit rental charges deposited in the Ac-  
15           count from a covered unit at the covered  
16           unit in accordance with clause (ii).

17           “(ii) DISTRIBUTION.—Of the amounts  
18           made available for expenditure under  
19           clause (i)—

20           “(I) 75 percent shall be used at  
21           the covered unit for activities de-  
22           scribed in paragraph (5)(A); and

23           “(II) 25 percent shall be used for  
24           activities at the covered unit described  
25           in paragraph (5)(B).

1           “(B) AGENCY-WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF  
2 FUNDS.—The Secretary shall expend 20 percent  
3 of the ski area permit rental charges deposited  
4 in the Account from a covered unit at any unit  
5 of the National Forest System for an activity  
6 described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of para-  
7 graph (5).

8           “(C) REDUCTION OF PERCENTAGE.—

9           “(i) REDUCTION.—The Secretary  
10 shall reduce the percentage otherwise ap-  
11 plicable under subparagraph (A)(i) to not  
12 less than 60 percent if the Secretary deter-  
13 mines that the amount otherwise made  
14 available under that subparagraph exceeds  
15 the reasonable needs of the covered unit  
16 for which expenditures may be made in the  
17 applicable fiscal year.

18           “(ii) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—The  
19 balance of the ski area permit rental  
20 charges that are collected at a covered  
21 unit, deposited into the Account, and not  
22 distributed in accordance with subpara-  
23 graph (A) or (B) shall be available to the  
24 Secretary for expenditure at any other unit

1 of the National Forest System in accord-  
2 ance with the following:

3 “(I) 75 percent shall be used for  
4 activities described in paragraph  
5 (5)(A).

6 “(II) 25 percent shall be used for  
7 activities described in paragraph  
8 (5)(B).

9 “(5) EXPENDITURES.—Amounts available to  
10 the Secretary for expenditure from the Account shall  
11 be only used for—

12 “(A)(i) the administration of the Forest  
13 Service ski area program, including—

14 “(I) the processing of an application  
15 for a new ski area or a ski area improve-  
16 ment project, including staffing and con-  
17 tracting for the processing; and

18 “(II) administering a ski area permit  
19 described in subsection (a);

20 “(ii) staff training for—

21 “(I) the processing of an application  
22 for—

23 “(aa) a new ski area;

24 “(bb) a ski area improvement  
25 project; or

- 1 “(cc) a special use permit; or  
2 “(II) administering—  
3 “(aa) a ski area permit described  
4 in subsection (a); or  
5 “(bb) a special use permit;  
6 “(iii) an interpretation activity, National  
7 Forest System visitor information, a visitor  
8 service, or signage;  
9 “(iv) direct costs associated with collecting  
10 a ski area permit rental charge or other fee col-  
11 lected by the Secretary related to recreation;  
12 “(v) planning for, or coordinating to re-  
13 spond to, a wildfire in or adjacent to a recre-  
14 ation site, particularly a ski area; or  
15 “(vi) reducing the likelihood of a wildfire  
16 starting, or the risks posed by a wildfire, in or  
17 adjacent to a recreation site, particularly a ski  
18 area, except through hazardous fuels reduction  
19 activities; or  
20 “(B)(i) the repair, maintenance, or enhance-  
21 ment of a Forest Service-owned facility, road, or  
22 trail directly related to visitor enjoyment, visitor ac-  
23 cess, or visitor health or safety;  
24 “(ii) habitat restoration directly related to  
25 recreation;

- 1           “(iii) law enforcement related to public use and  
2 recreation;
- 3           “(iv) the construction or expansion of parking  
4 areas;
- 5           “(v) the processing or administering of a recre-  
6 ation special use permit;
- 7           “(vi) avalanche information and education ac-  
8 tivities carried out by the Secretary or nonprofit  
9 partners;
- 10          “(vii) search and rescue activities carried out by  
11 the Secretary, a local government, or a nonprofit  
12 partner; or
- 13          “(viii) the administration of leases under—
- 14               “(I) the Forest Service Facility Realign-  
15 ment and Enhancement Act of 2005 (16 U.S.C.  
16 580d note; Public Law 109–54); and
- 17               “(II) section 8623 of the Agriculture Im-  
18 provement Act of 2018 (16 U.S.C. 580d note;  
19 Public Law 115–334).
- 20          “(6) LIMITATION.—Amounts in the Account  
21 may not be used for—
- 22               “(A) the conduct of wildfire suppression;
- 23               or
- 24               “(B) the acquisition of land for inclusion  
25 in the National Forest System.

1 “(7) EFFECT.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this sub-  
3 section affects the applicability of section 7 of  
4 the Act of April 24, 1950 (commonly known as  
5 the ‘Granger-Thye Act’) (16 U.S.C. 580d), to  
6 ski areas on National Forest System land.

7 “(B) SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING.—Rental  
8 charges retained and expended under this sub-  
9 section shall supplement (and not supplant) ap-  
10 propriated funding for the operation and main-  
11 tenance of each covered unit.

12 “(C) COST RECOVERY.—Nothing in this  
13 subsection affects any cost recovery under any  
14 provision of law (including regulations) for  
15 processing an application for or monitoring  
16 compliance with a ski area permit or other  
17 recreation special use permit.”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section (including the  
19 amendments made by this section) shall take effect on the  
20 date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this  
21 Act.

○

**H.R. 1086, Agriculture Export Promotion Act of 2025**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1086

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to extend and expand the Market Access Program and the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 6, 2025

Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MANN, Mr. FINSTAD, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. COSTA, and Ms. PINGREE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to extend and expand the Market Access Program and the Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Agriculture Export  
5 Promotion Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) between 1977 and 2019, the export pro-  
2 motion programs of the Department of Agri-  
3 culture—

4 (A) have added an average of  
5 \$9,600,000,000 annually to the value of United  
6 States agricultural exports, equal to a total of  
7 nearly \$648,000,000,000, or 13.7 percent, in  
8 additional export revenue; and

9 (B) have generated a net return of \$24.50  
10 for every dollar invested;

11 (2) between 2002 and 2019, the export pro-  
12 motion programs of the Department of Agri-  
13 culture—

14 (A) have contributed to the creation of up  
15 to 225,800 full- and part-time jobs across the  
16 United States economy; and

17 (B) have added up to \$45,000,000,000 in  
18 gross economic output and \$22,300,000,000 in  
19 gross domestic product;

20 (3) communities across the United States pro-  
21 ducing agricultural commodities as varied as apples,  
22 cotton, beef, soybeans, rice, wheat, dairy, corn, cit-  
23 rus, wine, pork, peanuts, cranberries, lentils, tree  
24 nuts, timber, poultry, potatoes, and seafood have uti-  
25 lized the export promotion programs of the Depart-

1 ment of Agriculture to increase access to foreign  
2 markets;

3 (4) private sector contributions have helped  
4 maintain the public-private partnership between the  
5 Department of Agriculture and private agricultural  
6 groups as available funds from the Department of  
7 Agriculture have declined, with private contributions  
8 representing approximately 70 to 77 percent of the  
9 funds available for export promotion from 2013 to  
10 2019;

11 (5) foreign competitors have expanded their ag-  
12 ricultural export promotion programs at a far faster  
13 rate than the United States, placing United States  
14 producers at a competitive disadvantage in inter-  
15 national markets;

16 (6) the economic impact of the export pro-  
17 motion programs of the Department of Agriculture  
18 has eroded in recent years, as funding for the Mar-  
19 ket Access Program has remained static since 2006  
20 and funding for the Foreign Market Development  
21 Cooperator Program has remained static since 2002,  
22 while inflation has increased; and

23 (7) a recent academic analysis found that dou-  
24 bling public funding for the Market Access Program  
25 and the Foreign Market Development Cooperator

1 Program, coupled with increasing private contribu-  
2 tions ranging from 10 to 20 percent, would result in  
3 average annual gains in agricultural exports of ap-  
4 proximately \$7,400,000,000.

5 **SEC. 3. AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROMOTION AND FACILITA-**  
6 **TION.**

7 Section 203(f) of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978  
8 (7 U.S.C. 5623(f)) is amended—

9 (1) by striking “2019 through 2023” each place  
10 it appears and inserting “2025 through 2029”;

11 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking  
12 “\$255,000,000” and inserting “\$489,500,000”;

13 (3) in paragraph (3)(A)(i), by striking  
14 “\$200,000,000” and inserting “\$400,000,000”;

15 (4) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), by striking  
16 “\$34,500,000” and inserting “\$69,000,000”; and

17 (5) in paragraph (4), by striking “during the  
18 period in which that memorandum is in effect” and  
19 inserting “during the period in which the directives  
20 in such memorandum are in effect”.

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**H.R. 2405, The White Oak Resilience Act**

I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 2405**

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to carry out activities to provide for white oak restoration, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

MARCH 27, 2025

Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. COMER, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. BERA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to carry out activities to provide for white oak restoration, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “The White Oak Resil-

5 ience Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1           (1) GOVERNOR.—The term “Governor” means  
2           the Governor or any appropriate executive official of  
3           an affected State or Indian Tribe or the Common-  
4           wealth of Puerto Rico.

5           (2) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe”  
6           has the meaning given that term in section 4 of the  
7           Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance  
8           Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

9           (3) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
10          the several States, the District of Columbia, and  
11          each territory of the United States.

12 **SEC. 3. WHITE OAK RESTORATION INITIATIVE COALITION.**

13          (a) IN GENERAL.—The White Oak Restoration Ini-  
14          tiative Coalition shall be established—

15               (1) as a voluntary collaborative group of Fed-  
16               eral, State, Tribal, and local governments and pri-  
17               vate and non-governmental organizations to carry  
18               out the duties described in subsection (b); and

19               (2) in accordance with the charter titled “White  
20               Oak Initiative Coalition Charter” adopted by the  
21               White Oak Initiative Board of Directors on March  
22               21, 2023 (or a successor charter).

23          (b) DUTIES.—In addition to the duties specified in  
24          the charter described in subsection (a)(2), the duties of  
25          the White Oak Restoration Initiative Coalition are—

1 (1) to coordinate Federal, State, Tribal, local,  
2 private, and non-governmental restoration of white  
3 oak in the United States; and

4 (2) to make program and policy recommenda-  
5 tions, consistent with applicable forest management  
6 plans, with respect to—

7 (A) changes necessary to address Federal  
8 and State policies that impede activities to im-  
9 prove the health, resiliency, and natural regen-  
10 eration of white oak;

11 (B) adopting or modifying Federal and  
12 State policies to increase the pace and scale of  
13 white oak regeneration and resiliency of white  
14 oak;

15 (C) options to enhance communication, co-  
16 ordination, and collaboration between forest  
17 land owners, particularly for cross-boundary  
18 projects, to improve the health, resiliency, and  
19 natural regeneration of white oak;

20 (D) research gaps that should be ad-  
21 dressed to improve the best available science on  
22 white oak;

23 (E) outreach to forest landowners with  
24 white oak or white oak regeneration potential;  
25 and

1 (F) options and policies necessary to im-  
2 prove the quality and quantity of white oak in  
3 tree nurseries.

4 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT, TECHNICAL SERV-  
5 ICES, AND STAFF SUPPORT.—The Secretary of the Inte-  
6 rior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall make such per-  
7 sonnel available to the White Oak Restoration Initiative  
8 Coalition for administrative support, technical services,  
9 and development and dissemination of educational mate-  
10 rials as the Secretaries determine necessary to carry out  
11 this section.

12 (d) PRIVATE FUNDING OF WHITE OAK RESTORA-  
13 TION PROJECTS.—Subject to the availability of appropria-  
14 tions made in advance for such purpose, the Secretary of  
15 Agriculture may make funds available to the White Oak  
16 Restoration Initiative Coalition to carry out this section  
17 from the account established pursuant to section 1241(f)  
18 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(f)).

19 **SEC. 4. FOREST SERVICE PILOT PROGRAM.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture, act-  
21 ing through the Chief of the Forest Service, shall establish  
22 and carry out 5 pilot projects in national forests to restore  
23 white oak in such forests through white oak restoration  
24 and natural regeneration practices that are consistent with  
25 applicable forest management plans.

1 (b) NATIONAL FORESTS RESERVED OR WITHDRAWN  
2 FROM THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.—At least 3 pilot projects re-  
3 quired under subsection (a) shall be carried out on na-  
4 tional forests reserved or withdrawn from the public do-  
5 main.

6 (c) AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE  
7 AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary of Agriculture may enter  
8 into cooperative agreements to carry out the pilot projects  
9 required under subsection (a).

10 (d) SUNSET.—The authority under this section shall  
11 terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of  
12 enactment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 5. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR WHITE OAK RE-**  
14 **VIEW AND RESTORATION.**

15 (a) ASSESSMENT.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-  
17 rior shall carry out an assessment of land under the  
18 administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the  
19 Interior, including fish and wildlife refuges and  
20 abandoned mine land, to evaluate—

21 (A) whether white oak is present on such  
22 land; and

23 (B) the potential to restore white oak for-  
24 ests on such land.

1           (2) USE OF INFORMATION.—In carrying out the  
2           assessment under paragraph (1), the Secretary may  
3           use information from sources other than the Depart-  
4           ment of the Interior, including from the White Oak  
5           Initiative and the Forest Service.

6           (3) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the  
7           date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall  
8           submit to Congress, and make publicly available on  
9           the website of the Department of the Interior, a re-  
10          port regarding the results of the assessment carried  
11          out under this subsection.

12          (b) PILOT PROJECTS.—After the date on which the  
13          report required under subsection (a)(3) is submitted, the  
14          Secretary shall establish and carry out 5 pilot projects in  
15          different areas of land described in subsection (a)(1) to  
16          restore and naturally regenerate white oak.

17          (c) AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO COOPERATIVE  
18          AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into cooperative  
19          agreements to carry out the pilot projects required under  
20          subsection (b).

21          (d) SUNSET.—The authority under this section shall  
22          terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of  
23          enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 6. WHITE OAK REGENERATION AND UPLAND OAK**  
2 **HABITAT.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after  
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agri-  
5 culture shall establish a non-regulatory program to be  
6 known as the “White Oak and Upland Oak Habitat Re-  
7 generation Program” (in this section referred to as the  
8 “Program”).

9 (b) DUTIES.—In carrying out the Program, the Sec-  
10 retary shall—

11 (1) draw upon the best available science and  
12 management plans for species of white oak to iden-  
13 tify, prioritize, and implement restoration and con-  
14 servation activities that will improve the growth of  
15 white oak within the United States;

16 (2) collaborate and coordinate with the White  
17 Oak Restoration Initiative Coalition to prioritize  
18 white oak restoration initiatives;

19 (3) adopt a white oak restoration strategy  
20 that—

21 (A) supports the implementation of a  
22 shared set of science-based restoration and con-  
23 servation activities developed in accordance with  
24 paragraph (1);

25 (B) targets cost effective projects with  
26 measurable results; and

1 (C) maximizes restoration outcomes with  
2 no net gain of Federal full-time equivalent em-  
3 ployees; and

4 (4) establish the voluntary grant and technical  
5 assistance programs in accordance with subsection  
6 (e).

7 (e) COORDINATION.—In establishing the Program,  
8 the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Forest Serv-  
9 ice, shall consult with—

10 (1) the heads of Federal agencies, including—

11 (A) the Director of the United States Fish  
12 and Wildlife Service; and

13 (B) the Chief of the Natural Resources  
14 Conservation Service; and

15 (2) the Governor of each State in which res-  
16 toration efforts will be carried out pursuant to the  
17 Program.

18 (d) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Program in-  
19 clude—

20 (1) coordinating restoration and conservation  
21 activities among Federal, State, local, and Tribal en-  
22 tities and conservation partners to address white oak  
23 restoration priorities;

1           (2) improving and regenerating white oak and  
2 upland oak forests and the wildlife habitat such for-  
3 ests provide;

4           (3) carrying out coordinated restoration and  
5 conservation activities that lead to the increased  
6 growth of species of white oak in native white oak  
7 regions on Federal, State, Tribal, and private land;

8           (4) facilitating strategic planning to maximize  
9 the resilience of white oak systems and habitats  
10 under changing climate conditions;

11          (5) engaging the public through outreach, edu-  
12 cation, and citizen involvement to increase capacity  
13 and support for coordinated restoration and con-  
14 servation activities for species of white oak; and

15          (6) increasing scientific capacity to support the  
16 planning, monitoring, and research activities nec-  
17 essary to carry out such coordinated restoration and  
18 conservation activities.

19 (e) GRANTS AND ASSISTANCE.—

20          (1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent that funds are  
21 available to carry out this section, the Secretary  
22 shall establish a voluntary grant and technical as-  
23 sistance program (in this section referred to as the  
24 “grant program”) to achieve the purposes of the  
25 Program described in subsection (d).

1 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
3 enter into a cooperative agreement with the Na-  
4 tional Fish and Wildlife Foundation (in this  
5 subsection referred to as the “Foundation”) to  
6 manage and administer the grant program.

7 (B) FUNDING.—Subject to the availability  
8 of appropriations made in advance for such  
9 purpose, after the Secretary enters into a coop-  
10 erative agreement with the Foundation under  
11 subparagraph (A), the Foundation shall for  
12 each fiscal year, receive amounts to carry out  
13 this subsection in an advance payment of the  
14 entire amount on October 1, or as soon as prac-  
15 ticable thereafter, of that fiscal year.

16 (3) APPLICATION OF NATIONAL FISH AND  
17 WILDLIFE FOUNDATION ESTABLISHMENT ACT.—  
18 Amounts received by the Foundation to carry out  
19 the grant program shall be subject to the National  
20 Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act (16  
21 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.), excluding section 10(a) of that  
22 Act (16 U.S.C. 3709(a)).

23 (f) SUNSET.—The authority under this section shall  
24 terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of  
25 enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 7. TREE NURSERY SHORTAGES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
3 date of enactment of this section, the Secretary of Agri-  
4 culture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service,  
5 shall—

6 (1) develop and implement a national strategy  
7 to increase the capacity of Federal, State, Tribal,  
8 and private tree nurseries to address the nationwide  
9 shortage of tree seedlings; and

10 (2) coordinate such strategy with—

11 (A) the national reforestation strategy of  
12 the Forest Service; and

13 (B) each regional implementation plan for  
14 National Forests.

15 (b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required under sub-  
16 section (a) shall—

17 (1) be based on the best available science and  
18 data; and

19 (2) identify and address—

20 (A) regional seedling shortages of bareroot  
21 and container tree seedlings;

22 (B) regional reforestation opportunities  
23 and the seedling supply necessary to fulfill such  
24 opportunities;

25 (C) opportunities to enhance seedling di-  
26 versity and close gaps in seed inventories; and

1 (D) barriers to expanding, enhancing, or  
2 creating new infrastructure to increase nursery  
3 capacity.

4 **SEC. 8. WHITE OAK RESEARCH.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture may  
6 enter into a memorandum of understanding with an In-  
7 dian Tribe or institution, including a covered land grant  
8 college, to collaboratively conduct research on—

9 (1) white oak genes with resistance or tolerance  
10 to stress;

11 (2) white oak trees that exhibit vigor for the  
12 purpose of increasing survival and growth;

13 (3) establishing a genetically diverse white oak  
14 seeds bank capable of responding to stressors;

15 (4) providing a sustainable supply of white oak  
16 seedlings and genetic resources;

17 (5) improved methods for aligning seed sources  
18 with the future climate at planting sites;

19 (6) reforestation of white oak through natural  
20 and artificial regeneration;

21 (7) improved methods for retaining and increas-  
22 ing white oak trees in forests;

23 (8) improved methods for reforesting aban-  
24 doned mine land sites; and

1           (9) economic and social aspects of white oak  
2       forest management across land ownerships.

3       (b) CONSULT.—In carrying out the research under  
4 subsection (a), the Indian Tribe or institution, including  
5 a covered land grant college, that enters into the memo-  
6 randum of understanding under such subsection may con-  
7 sult with such States, nonprofit organizations, institutions  
8 of higher education, and other scientific bodies, as the en-  
9 tity subject to such memorandum determines appropriate.

10       (c) SUNSET.—The authority under this section shall  
11 terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of  
12 enactment of this Act.

13       (d) COVERED LAND GRANT COLLEGE DEFINED.—  
14 In this section, the term “covered land grant college”  
15 means an 1862 Institution, an 1890 Institution, or a 1994  
16 Institution (as such terms are defined, respectively, in sec-  
17 tion 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Edu-  
18 cation Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7601)).

19 **SEC. 9. USDA FORMAL INITIATIVE.**

20       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture, act-  
21 ing through the Chief of the Natural Resources Conserva-  
22 tion Service and in coordination with the Chief of the For-  
23 est Service, shall establish a formal initiative on white oak  
24 to—

1 (1) re-establish white oak forests where appro-  
2 priate;

3 (2) improve management of existing white oak  
4 forests to foster natural regeneration of white oak;

5 (3) provide technical assistance to private land-  
6 owners to re-establish, improve management of, and  
7 naturally regenerate white oak;

8 (4) improve and expand white oak nursery  
9 stock; and

10 (5) adapt and improve white oak seedlings.

11 (b) SUNSET.—The authority under this section shall  
12 terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of  
13 enactment of this Act.

14 **SEC. 10. AUTHORITIES.**

15 To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary of  
16 the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall use the  
17 authorities provided under this title in combination with  
18 other authorities to carry out projects, including—

19 (1) good neighbor agreements entered into  
20 under section 8206 of the Agricultural Act of 2014  
21 (16 U.S.C. 2113a); and

22 (2) stewardship contracting projects entered  
23 into under section 604 of the Healthy Forests Res-  
24 toration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591e).

○

**H.R. 2496, Dairy Nutrition Incentives Program Act of 2025**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2496

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to establish a dairy nutrition incentive program, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2025

Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. RILEY of New York, and Mr. EVANS of Colorado) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to establish a dairy nutrition incentive program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Dairy Nutrition Incen-  
5 tive Program Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. DAIRY NUTRITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Food and Nutrition Act of  
8 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) is amended by adding at  
9 the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 31. DAIRY NUTRITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM.**

2 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

3 “(1) DAIRY PRODUCT.—The term ‘dairy prod-  
4 uct’ means a product for which cow’s milk is listed  
5 as—

6 “(A) the first ingredient on the labeled in-  
7 gredients list of the product; or

8 “(B) the second ingredient on the labeled  
9 ingredients list of the product, if the first listed  
10 ingredient is water.

11 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-  
12 tity’ means—

13 “(A) a State or local governmental entity;  
14 and

15 “(B) a nonprofit organization.

16 “(3) FLUID MILK.—The term ‘fluid milk’  
17 means any variety of pasteurized cow’s milk that—

18 “(A) is packaged in liquid form; and

19 “(B) contains vitamins A and D at levels  
20 consistent with the Food and Drug Administra-  
21 tion standards, and applicable State and local  
22 standards, for fluid milk.

23 “(4) NATURALLY NUTRIENT-RICH DAIRY.—The  
24 term ‘naturally nutrient-rich dairy’ means—

25 “(A) fluid milk;

1           “(B) yogurt and other cultured cow’s milk  
2           dairy products; and

3           “(C) cheese (including nonstandardized  
4           cheese) made from cow’s milk.

5           “(5) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means  
6           the dairy nutrition incentive program established  
7           under subsection (b).

8           “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days  
9           after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary  
10          shall establish a dairy nutrition incentive program under  
11          which the Secretary shall develop and test methods to in-  
12          crease the purchase and consumption of naturally nutri-  
13          ent-rich dairy by members of households that receive bene-  
14          fits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program  
15          by providing an incentive for the purchase of naturally nu-  
16          trient-rich dairy at the point of purchase to members of  
17          households purchasing food using those benefits.

18          “(c) GRANTS OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

19                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the program,  
20                 the Secretary shall enter into cooperative agreements  
21                 with, or provide grants to, eligible entities, on a com-  
22                 petitive basis, for projects that meet the purpose of  
23                 the program described in subsection (b).

24                 “(2) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity seeking  
25                 to enter into a cooperative agreement or receive a

1 grant under the program shall submit to the Sec-  
2 retary an application at such time, in such manner,  
3 and containing such information as the Secretary  
4 may require.

5 “(3) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary  
6 shall develop and make public criteria for evaluating  
7 proposed projects in applications submitted under  
8 paragraph (2), which shall incorporate a scientif-  
9 ically based strategy designed to improve diet quality  
10 and nutritional outcomes through the increased pur-  
11 chase of naturally nutrient-rich dairy.

12 “(4) PRIORITY.—In entering into cooperative  
13 agreements and awarding grants under the program,  
14 the Secretary shall give priority to projects that—

15 “(A) maximize the percentage of funds  
16 used for direct incentives for participants in the  
17 supplemental nutrition assistance program;

18 “(B) include a project design—

19 “(i) that provides incentives when nat-  
20 urally nutrient-rich dairy is purchased  
21 using benefits under the supplemental nu-  
22 trition assistance program; and

23 “(ii) in which the incentives earned  
24 may be used only to purchase naturally nu-  
25 trient-rich dairy;

1           “(C) include project sites that serve mem-  
2           bers of households that participate in the sup-  
3           plemental nutrition assistance program; and

4           “(D) incorporate the use of point-of-sale  
5           systems that can electronically issue incentives  
6           earned under the program.

7           “(5) ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—An  
8           eligible entity may request funds from the Secretary,  
9           pursuant to section 16, to offset initial costs to en-  
10          able electronic benefits transfer technology for elec-  
11          tronic point-of-sale systems described in paragraph  
12          (4)(D) for projects sites selected under the program.

13          “(d) EVALUATION.—

14          “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide  
15          for an independent evaluation of each project carried  
16          out under the program that measures, to the max-  
17          imum extent practicable, the effect of incentives on  
18          purchases of naturally nutrient-rich dairy by mem-  
19          bers of households that receive benefits under the  
20          supplemental nutrition assistance program.

21          “(2) METHODOLOGY REQUIREMENT.—The  
22          independent evaluation under paragraph (1) shall  
23          use rigorous methodologies, such as random assign-  
24          ment or other methods that are capable of producing

1 scientifically valid information regarding activities  
2 that are effective.

3 “(3) DISCONTINUANCE.—

4 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
5 subparagraph (B), subject to availability of  
6 funds, nothing in this section shall limit the  
7 continuation of a project carried out under the  
8 program.

9 “(B) NONCOMPLIANCE.—The Secretary  
10 may discontinue a project or close a project site  
11 under the program if the project—

12 “(i) does not comply with the require-  
13 ments under this section;

14 “(ii) does not comply with the require-  
15 ments of the grant awarded or cooperative  
16 agreement entered into under the program,  
17 as applicable; or

18 “(iii) if the Secretary determines that  
19 the results of the independent evaluation of  
20 the project under paragraph (1) are not  
21 satisfactory.

22 “(4) PUBLIC DISSEMINATION.—The Secretary  
23 shall make publicly available the results of each  
24 independent evaluation carried out under paragraph  
25 (1).

1 “(e) REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of the  
2 first full calendar year following the date of establishment  
3 of the program, and biennially thereafter, the Secretary  
4 shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,  
5 and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agri-  
6 culture of the House of Representatives a report that in-  
7 cludes a description of—

8 “(1) the status of each project carried out  
9 under the program; and

10 “(2) the results of each completed evaluation  
11 under paragraph (1) during the period covered by  
12 the report.

13 “(f) FUNDING.—

14 “(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—There is appro-  
15 priated to the Secretary, out of any funds in the  
16 Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$10,000,000  
17 for each fiscal year to carry out this section.

18 “(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the  
20 funds made available under paragraph (1),  
21 there is authorized to be appropriated to the  
22 Secretary to carry out this section \$10,000,000  
23 for fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year there-  
24 after.

1           “(B) APPROPRIATIONS IN ADVANCE.—  
2           With respect to any funds made available under  
3           subparagraph (A), only funds appropriated in  
4           advance specifically to carry out this section  
5           shall be available to carry out this section.

6           “(3) EVALUATION COSTS.—Of the funds made  
7           available to carry out this section for a fiscal year,  
8           the Secretary shall use not more than 7 percent to  
9           carry out subsection (d).

10          “(4) LIMITATION ON USE.—Funds made avail-  
11          able to carry out this section shall not be used for  
12          any project that limits the use of benefits under the  
13          supplemental nutrition assistance program.”.

14          (b) TRANSITION FROM HEALTHY FLUID MILK IN-  
15          CENTIVES PROJECTS.—

16               (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
17               (referred to in this subsection as the “Secretary”)  
18               shall transition projects carried out under section  
19               4208 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018  
20               (7 U.S.C. 2026a) to be carried out as part of the  
21               dairy nutrition incentive program established under  
22               section 31 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

23               (2) NO INTERRUPTION.—In carrying out para-  
24               graph (1), the Secretary shall ensure that—

1           (A) there is no interruption in projects  
2           being carried out under section 4208 of the Ag-  
3           riculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C.  
4           2026a) during the transition described in that  
5           paragraph; and

6           (B) any additional authorities or flexibili-  
7           ties under the dairy nutrition incentive program  
8           established under section 31 of the Food and  
9           Nutrition Act of 2008 shall be applied to the  
10          projects described in subparagraph (A).

11          (3) REPEAL.—Effective 1 year after the date  
12          on which the Secretary certifies that the Secretary  
13          has completed carrying out paragraph (1), section  
14          4208 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018  
15          (7 U.S.C. 2026a) is repealed.

○

**H.R. 3112, Better Collaboration, Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement for Animals Act of 2025 (Better CARE for Animals Act of 2025)**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3112

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2025

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Better Collaboration,  
5 Accountability, and Regulatory Enforcement for Animals  
6 Act of 2025” or the “Better CARE for Animals Act of  
7 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. STRENGTHENING ANIMAL WELFARE ENFORCE-**  
2 **MENT.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the Animal Welfare  
4 Act (7 U.S.C. 2132) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “of the United  
6 States or his representative who shall be an em-  
7 ployee of the United States” and inserting “or a  
8 representative of the Secretary of Agriculture, who  
9 shall be an employee of the”;

10 (2) in subsection (c)(1), by adding “or” at the  
11 end after the semicolon; and

12 (3) in each of subsections (a) through (o)—

13 (A) by inserting a subsection heading, the  
14 text of which comprises the term defined in the  
15 subsection;

16 (B) by reordering the subsections so as to  
17 appear in alphabetical order based on the sub-  
18 section headings (as so added); and

19 (C) by redesignating the subsections (as so  
20 reordered) appropriately.

21 (b) SALE OR TRANSPORTATION WITHOUT LI-  
22 CENSE.—Section 4 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C.  
23 2134) is amended to read as follows:

24 **“SEC. 4. SALE OR TRANSPORTATION WITHOUT LICENSE.**

25 “No dealer or exhibitor shall do any of the following  
26 in commerce: exhibit, purchase, offer to purchase, sell,

1 offer to sell, transport, or offer for transportation any ani-  
2 mal, unless the dealer or exhibitor has a valid license from  
3 the Secretary that has not been suspended.”.

4 (c) INVESTIGATIONS AND INSPECTIONS.—Section  
5 16(c) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2146(c)) is  
6 amended in the fourth sentence by striking “enforce, and  
7 to prevent and restrain violations of this Act,” and insert-  
8 ing “enforce, prevent, and restrain violations of this Act,  
9 or any rule, standard, or regulation promulgated pursuant  
10 to this Act,”.

11 (d) CIVIL PENALTY.—Section 19 of the Animal Wel-  
12 fare Act (7 U.S.C. 2149) is amended—

13 (1) in subsection (d), in the first sentence, by  
14 inserting “, or any rule, standard, or regulation pro-  
15 mulgated thereunder,” before “shall”; and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(e) REWARDS AND CERTAIN INCIDENTAL EX-  
18 PENSES.—With respect to the sums received by the Sec-  
19 retary or the Attorney General as penalties or fines for  
20 any violation of this Act or any rule, standard, or regula-  
21 tion promulgated thereunder, the Secretary or the Attor-  
22 ney General, as applicable, shall use those sums to pay  
23 the reasonable and necessary costs incurred by any person  
24 in providing temporary care for any animal pending the

1 disposition of any civil or criminal proceeding alleging a  
2 violation of this Act with respect to that animal.”.

3 (e) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The  
4 Animal Welfare Act is amended by inserting after section  
5 19 (7 U.S.C. 2149) the following:

6 **“SEC. 20. ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.**

7 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may bring  
8 a civil action in the appropriate district court of the  
9 United States for appropriate relief, including a temporary  
10 restraining order, preliminary or permanent injunction  
11 (including for removal or relocation of animals), license  
12 revocation, and civil penalties of up to \$10,000 for each  
13 violation for each day during which the violation con-  
14 tinues, against any person who violates any provision of  
15 this Act or any rule, standard, or regulation promulgated  
16 thereunder.

17 “(b) SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE OF ANIMALS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any animal that is sub-  
19 jected to conduct that constitutes a violation of this  
20 Act, or any rule, standard, or regulation promul-  
21 gated thereunder, shall be subject to seizure and for-  
22 feiture to the United States in accordance with  
23 chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code.

24 “(2) COSTS.—Any person whose act or omis-  
25 sion is the basis for a seizure authorized by subpara-

1 graph (1) may be charged a reasonable fee for ex-  
2 penses to the United States relating to the transfer  
3 and care of the seized animal.

4 “(c) WARRANTS.—The judges of the district courts  
5 of the United States and United States magistrate judges  
6 may, within their respective jurisdictions, on proper oath  
7 or affirmation showing probable cause, issue such war-  
8 rants or other processes as may be required for enforce-  
9 ment of this Act and any rule, standard, or regulation pro-  
10 mulgated thereunder.

11 “(d) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—

12 “(1) ATTORNEY GENERAL.—No action taken by  
13 the Attorney General pursuant to this section shall  
14 affect or limit the authority of the Secretary to en-  
15 force any provision of this Act or any rule, standard,  
16 or regulation thereunder.

17 “(2) SECRETARY.—No action taken by the Sec-  
18 retary shall affect or limit the authority of the At-  
19 torney General under this Act.”.

20 (f) AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR INJUNCTIONS.—Sec-  
21 tion 29(b) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2159(b))  
22 is amended by striking the second sentence.

23 (g) SEVERABILITY.—The Animal Welfare Act (7  
24 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
25 the following:

1 **“SEC. 30. SEVERABILITY.**

2 “If any provision of this Act, or the application there-  
3 of, is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this  
4 Act and the application of such provision to other persons  
5 and circumstances shall not be affected.”.

6 (h) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Not later  
7 than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act,  
8 the Secretary of Agriculture shall enter into a memo-  
9 randum of understanding with the Attorney General to  
10 carry out the authorities granted by the amendments  
11 made by this section, including an agreement to provide  
12 the Attorney General with timely information about viola-  
13 tors who have multiple citations that seriously or adversely  
14 affect the health or well-being of an animal.

15 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

16 It is the sense of Congress that—

17 (1) section 16(e) of the Animal Welfare Act (7  
18 U.S.C. 2146(c)) establishes the jurisdiction of Fed-  
19 eral courts to address violations of, and cases arising  
20 from violations of, that Act and provides the Attor-  
21 ney General with the authority to bring such cases  
22 in Federal court; and

23 (2) the enforcement jurisdiction of the Federal  
24 courts, and the corresponding enforcement authority  
25 of the Attorney General, include violations of the

1 rules, standards, and regulations promulgated under  
2 that Act.

○

**H.R. 4272, Prioritizing Rural Hospitals Act**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 4272**

To prioritize health care facilities and mental or behavioral health facilities in the Community Facilities program for fiscal years 2026 through 2031, and allow loans and grants under the program to be used for medical supplies, increasing telehealth capabilities, supporting staffing needs, or renovating and remodeling closed facilities.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 2, 2025

Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself and Mr. MANN) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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**A BILL**

To prioritize health care facilities and mental or behavioral health facilities in the Community Facilities program for fiscal years 2026 through 2031, and allow loans and grants under the program to be used for medical supplies, increasing telehealth capabilities, supporting staffing needs, or renovating and remodeling closed facilities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Prioritizing Rural Hos-  
5 pitals Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING RURAL HEALTH CARE ACCESS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal years 2026 through  
3 2031, in selecting recipients of direct loans or grants for  
4 the development of essential community facilities under  
5 section 306(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Devel-  
6 opment Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)), the Secretary of Agri-  
7 culture shall give priority to entities eligible for the direct  
8 loans or grants to develop—

9 (1) health care facilities; or

10 (2) mental or behavioral health facilities, in-  
11 cluding certified community behavioral health clinics  
12 described in section 223 of the Protecting Access to  
13 Medicare Act of 2014 (42 U.S.C. 1396a note; Public  
14 Law 113–93).

15 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity referred to  
16 in subsection (a) that receives a direct loan or grant pur-  
17 suant to this section may use the direct loan or grant  
18 funds to—

19 (1) provide medical supplies;

20 (2) increase telehealth capabilities, including  
21 underlying health care information systems;

22 (3) support staffing needs, subject to the condi-  
23 tion that the eligible entity shall not use more than  
24 25 percent of the direct loan or grant funds for this  
25 purpose; or

1           (4) renovate or remodel closed health care fa-  
2           cilities.

3           (e) LIMITATION ON OTHER REPRIORITIZATIONS.—

4 For fiscal years 2026 through 2031, the Secretary of Agri-  
5 culture shall not make any national reprioritizations with-  
6 in the Community Facilities direct loan and grant pro-  
7 grams under section 608 of the Rural Development Act  
8 of 1972 (7 U.S.C. 2204b-2).

○

**H.R. 4412, Joint Chiefs Reauthorization Act of 2025**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4412

To reauthorize the Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership program,  
and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2025

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. CISCOMANI, and Ms. SALINAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To reauthorize the Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration  
Partnership program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Joint Chiefs Reauthor-  
5 ization Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. JOINT CHIEFS LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PART-**  
2 **nership Program.**

3 Section 40808 of the Infrastructure Investment and  
4 Jobs Act (16 U.S.C. 6592d) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(2)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or”  
7 at the end;

8 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the  
9 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;  
10 and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(D) to recover from wildfires; or

13 “(E) to enhance soil, water, and related  
14 natural resources.”;

15 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the  
16 following:

17 “(3) AGENCY COORDINATION.—In carrying out  
18 the Program, the Chief of the Natural Resources  
19 Conservation Service shall—

20 “(A) consider corresponding management  
21 plans from the Chief of the Forest Service; and

22 “(B) collaborate with the Chief of the For-  
23 est Service on forestry science and practice,  
24 using the best available science.”;

25 (3) in subsection (d)(1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
2 “and post-wildfire impacts” after “wildfire  
3 risk”; and

4 (B) in subparagraph (F), by inserting “,  
5 as identified in the corresponding State forest  
6 action plan or similar priority plan (such as a  
7 State wildlife or water plan)” before the semi-  
8 colon;

9 (4) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (2)  
10 and inserting the following:

11 “(2) inconsistent with the prohibitions under  
12 the rule of the Forest Service entitled ‘Special  
13 Areas; Roadless Area Conservation’ (66 Fed. Reg.  
14 3244 (January 12, 2001)), and subparts C and D  
15 of part 294 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations,  
16 as applicable;” and

17 (5) in subsections (g)(2) and (h)(1), by striking  
18 “and 2023” each place it appears and inserting  
19 “through 2031”.

○

**H.R. 4414, Satellite-Based Agricultural Data Act**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4414

To include commercial weather services as a priority area for funding under the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN (for herself and Mr. MOOLENAAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To include commercial weather services as a priority area for funding under the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Satellite-Based Agri-  
5 cultural Data Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF COMMERCIAL WEATHER AS AFRI**  
2 **PRIORITY AREA.**

3 Subsection (b)(2)(E)(iii) of the Competitive, Special,  
4 and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C.  
5 3157(b)(2)(E)(iii)) is amended by inserting “, including  
6 through the use of data and tools available from commer-  
7 cial weather services” after “mitigation measures”.

○

**H.R. 4428, Strong Farms, Strong Future Act**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4428

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide additional payments for producers that, in participating in the conservation stewardship program, agree to adopt or improve, manage, and maintain perennial production systems, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 2025

Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself and Mr. NUNN of Iowa) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide additional payments for producers that, in participating in the conservation stewardship program, agree to adopt or improve, manage, and maintain perennial production systems, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Strong Farms, Strong  
5 Future Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 1240I(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985  
3 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–21(2)) is amended—

4 (1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “enhance-  
5 ments,” after “practices,”; and

6 (2) in subparagraph (B)(v), by inserting “cli-  
7 mate change and” after “mitigate against,”.

8 **SEC. 3. STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTS.**

9 (a) EVALUATION OF CONTRACT OFFERS.—Section  
10 1240K(b)(1)(A) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
11 U.S.C. 3839aa–23(b)(1)(A)) is amended—

12 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “; and” and in-  
13 serting a semicolon;

14 (2) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv);  
15 and

16 (3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

17 “(iii) other criteria consistent with an  
18 equal weighting of the factors described in  
19 clauses (i) and (ii), as determined by the  
20 Secretary, including criteria the Secretary  
21 determines are necessary to ensure that—

22 “(I) the program effectively tar-  
23 gets improvements to soil health, in-  
24 creases in carbon sequestration, and  
25 reductions in greenhouse gas emis-  
26 sions; and

1                   “(II) other national, State, and  
2                   local priority resource concerns are ef-  
3                   fectively addressed; and”.

4           (b) CONTRACT RENEWAL.—Section 1240K(e) of the  
5 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–23(e)) is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7           “(e) CONTRACT RENEWAL.—

8                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide  
9                   the producer an opportunity to renew an existing  
10                   contract in the first half of the fifth year of the con-  
11                   tract period if the producer—

12                           “(A) demonstrates compliance with the  
13                           terms of the existing contract;

14                           “(B) agrees to adopt and continue to inte-  
15                           grate new or improved conservation activities  
16                           across the agricultural operation, demonstrating  
17                           continued improvement during the additional 5-  
18                           year period, as determined by the Secretary;  
19                           and

20                           “(C) agrees, by the end of the contract pe-  
21                           riod, to meet the stewardship threshold of at  
22                           least 1 additional priority resource concern on  
23                           the agricultural operation, if applicable.

24                   “(2) RANKING AND PAYMENTS.—In deter-  
25                   mining whether to renew an existing contract under

1 paragraph (1), and in calculating payments for such  
2 existing contract, the Secretary shall consider the  
3 full conservation benefits across the entire agricul-  
4 tural operation on eligible land that is subject to  
5 such existing contract, including—

6 “(A) the number of priority resource con-  
7 cerns for which the producer is expected to  
8 meet or exceed the stewardship threshold by the  
9 end of the contract period of the existing con-  
10 tract; and

11 “(B) the active management and mainte-  
12 nance of ongoing conservation activities, includ-  
13 ing—

14 “(i) the conservation activities adopt-  
15 ed during the contract period of the exist-  
16 ing contract; and

17 “(ii) the new or improved conservation  
18 activities to be adopted if such existing  
19 contract is renewed.

20 “(3) PERENNIAL PRODUCTION SYSTEMS.—The  
21 Secretary may automatically renew an existing con-  
22 tract under paragraph (1) if—

23 “(A) the conditions under paragraph (1)  
24 are met; and

1           “(B) the producer installed or improved a  
2           perennial production system, as such term is  
3           defined in section 1240L(d)(1), during the con-  
4           tract period of the existing contract.”.

5 **SEC. 4. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

6           (a) CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PAYMENTS.—Sec-  
7           tion 1240L(e)(4) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
8           U.S.C. 3839aa–24(e)(4)) is amended—

9           (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at  
10          the end;

11          (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period  
12          at the end and inserting “; and”; and

13          (3) by adding at the end the following:

14                 “(C) adjust planned annual payments to  
15                 account for inflation associated with planning,  
16                 design, materials, installation, labor, manage-  
17                 ment, maintenance, or training incurred by the  
18                 producer over the life of the contract.”.

19           (b) SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENTS FOR RESOURCE-  
20           CONSERVING CROP ROTATIONS, PERENNIAL PRODUC-  
21           TION SYSTEMS, AND ADVANCED GRAZING MANAGE-  
22           MENT.—Section 1240L(d) of the Food Security Act of  
23           1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–24(d)) is amended—

1 (1) in the subsection heading, by inserting “,  
2 PERENNIAL PRODUCTION SYSTEMS” after “RE-  
3 SOURCE-CONSERVING CROP ROTATIONS”;

4 (2) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end the  
5 following:

6 “(D) PERENNIAL PRODUCTION SYSTEM.—  
7 The term ‘perennial production system’ means  
8 a system of agricultural production that pro-  
9 duces perennial species (including agroforestry  
10 products, perennial grains and oilseeds, peren-  
11 nial forages, and other perennial crops, as de-  
12 termined by the Secretary), including alley  
13 cropping, multifunctional riparian buffers,  
14 windbreaks, shelterbelts, forest farming,  
15 silvopasture, and other related practices, as de-  
16 termined by the Secretary.”;

17 (3) in paragraph (2)—

18 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or”  
19 at the end;

20 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the  
21 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

22 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
23 the following:

24 “(C) a perennial production system.”; and

1 (4) in paragraph (3), by striking “or advanced  
2 grazing management” and inserting “, advanced  
3 grazing management, or a perennial production sys-  
4 tem”.

5 (c) ESTABLISHMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGA-  
6 TION BUNDLES.—Section 1240L of the Food Security Act  
7 of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–24) is amended by adding at  
8 the end the following:

9 “(m) ESTABLISHMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE MITI-  
10 GATION BUNDLES.—

11 “(1) CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION BUNDLE  
12 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘climate  
13 change mitigation bundle’ means a grouping of con-  
14 servation activities, determined by the Secretary and  
15 based on the best available science, to achieve sub-  
16 stantial progress, when carried out together, to-  
17 ward—

18 “(A) providing a net reduction of green-  
19 house gas emissions; or

20 “(B) increasing carbon sequestration and  
21 improving soil health.

22 “(2) AVAILABILITY.—In entering into a con-  
23 tract with a producer under the program, the Sec-  
24 retary shall make available State- or region-specific  
25 climate change mitigation bundles to such a pro-

1 ducer, including climate change mitigation bundles  
2 for cropland, pastureland, rangeland, and forest  
3 land.

4 “(3) FLEXIBILITY.—The Secretary shall, to the  
5 maximum extent practicable, design climate change  
6 mitigation bundles that allow a producer to select  
7 conservation activities that meet the requirements of  
8 paragraph (1)(A) in order to tailor a climate change  
9 mitigation bundle to the site-specific needs of such  
10 a producer.

11 “(4) MINIMUM BUNDLES OFFERED.—The Sec-  
12 retary shall make available at least 1 climate change  
13 mitigation bundle for each of the following:

14 “(A) Perennial production systems, as de-  
15 fined in subsection (d)(1).

16 “(B) Soil health management systems, as  
17 defined in such subsection.

18 “(C) Advanced grazing management, as  
19 defined in such subsection.

20 “(D) Specialty crops.

21 “(5) APPLICABILITY TO ORGANIC PRODUC-  
22 TION.—Climate change mitigation bundles made  
23 available under paragraph (2) shall be equally acces-  
24 sible to organic and conventional producers, or sepa-

1 rate additional bundles designed for organic pro-  
2 ducers shall be offered.

3 “(6) PROMOTION.—Each year, to the greatest  
4 extent practicable, the Secretary shall conduct tar-  
5 geted outreach and promotion regarding the avail-  
6 ability of, and any changes to, climate change miti-  
7 gation bundles to eligible producers.”.

8 (d) REPORT.—

9 (1) GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after  
10 the date on which the Secretary of Agriculture  
11 makes available to producers the climate change  
12 mitigation bundles under section 1240L(m) of the  
13 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–24)  
14 (as added by subsection (c)), the Secretary shall  
15 submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the  
16 House of Representatives and the Committee on Ag-  
17 riculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a  
18 report on the activities carried out under such sec-  
19 tion.

20 (2) CONTENTS.—The Secretary shall include in  
21 the report under paragraph (1)—

22 (A) a summary of feedback from producers  
23 that have adopted climate change mitigation  
24 bundles pursuant to section 1240L(m), regard-  
25 ing—

- 1 (i) barriers to adoption of such bundles;  
2 bundles;
- 3 (ii) the makeup of such bundles;
- 4 (iii) payment rates for such bundles;
- 5 (iv) technical assistance relating to  
6 such bundles; and
- 7 (v) other relevant information, as determined by the Secretary;
- 8
- 9 (B) data on such producers disaggregated  
10 by gender, race, age, and congressional district;
- 11 (C) an assessment of barriers, as identified  
12 by the Secretary, to the adoption of climate  
13 change mitigation bundles by producers;
- 14 (D) recommendations on steps to increase  
15 the adoption of climate change mitigation bundles  
16 by producers, including recommendations  
17 for any statutory changes necessary to implement  
18 such steps;
- 19 (E) average per acre estimates of greenhouse  
20 gases mitigated and carbon sequestered  
21 for each climate change mitigation bundle offered;  
22 and
- 23 (F) a summary of the outreach and promotional  
24 activities conducted by the Secretary

1           to promote the availability of climate change  
2           mitigation bundles.

3           (3) CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION BUNDLE DE-  
4           FINED.—In this subsection, the term “climate  
5           change mitigation bundle” has the meaning given  
6           such term in section 1240L(m)(1) of the Food Secu-  
7           rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–24) (as added  
8           by subsection (c)).

○

**H.R. 4673, Save Our Bacon Act**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4673

To ensure the free movement of livestock-derived products in interstate commerce.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2025

Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BOST, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. WIED, and Mr. ROSE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To ensure the free movement of livestock-derived products in interstate commerce.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Save Our Bacon Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. ENSURING THE FREE MOVEMENT OF LIVESTOCK-**

6 **DERIVED PRODUCTS IN INTERSTATE COM-**

7 **MERCE.**

8 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to—

1           (1) protect the free movement in interstate  
2 commerce of products derived from covered live-  
3 stock;

4           (2) encourage a national market of such prod-  
5 ucts;

6           (3) ensure that producers of covered livestock  
7 are not subject to a patchwork of State laws restrict-  
8 ing access to a national market; and

9           (4) ensure that the United States continues to  
10 uphold its international trade obligations.

11       (b) IN GENERAL.—Producers of covered livestock  
12 have a Federal right to raise and market their covered  
13 livestock in interstate commerce and therefore no State  
14 or subdivision thereof may enact or enforce, directly or  
15 indirectly, a condition or standard on the production of  
16 covered livestock other than for covered livestock phys-  
17 ically raised in such State or subdivision.

18       (c) PROTECTING INTERSTATE COMMERCE.—Pro-  
19 ducers of covered livestock have a Federal right to raise  
20 and market their covered livestock in interstate commerce  
21 and therefore no State or subdivision thereof may enact  
22 or enforce, directly or indirectly, as a condition for sale  
23 or consumption, any condition or standard of production  
24 on products derived from covered livestock not physically  
25 raised in such State or subdivision that is in addition to,

1 or different from, the conditions or standards of produc-  
2 tion in the State in which the production occurs.

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) COVERED LIVESTOCK.—The term “covered  
5 livestock”—

6 (A) means any domestic animal raised for  
7 the purpose of—

8 (i) slaughter for human consumption;

9 or

10 (ii) producing products manufactured  
11 for human consumption which are derived  
12 from the processing of milk, including fluid  
13 milk products; and

14 (B) does not include domestic animals  
15 raised for the primary purpose of egg produc-  
16 tion.

17 (2) PRODUCTION.—The term “production”—

18 (A) means the raising (including breeding)  
19 of covered livestock; and

20 (B) does not include the movement, har-  
21 vesting, or further processing of covered live-  
22 stock.

**H.R. 5017, Greyhound Protection Act of 2025**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5017

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit commercial greyhound racing, live lure training, and open field coursing, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 22, 2025

Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself, Mr. FINE, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit commercial greyhound racing, live lure training, and open field coursing, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Greyhound Protection  
5 Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND POLICY.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Greyhounds have existed for thousands of  
2 years and are the only canines mentioned by name  
3 in the Bible.

4           (2) Commercial greyhound racing was first le-  
5 galized in Florida in 1931.

6           (3) Modern racetracks require internet-based  
7 wire communications to process bets and wagers,  
8 calculate odds, broadcast races, announce results,  
9 and pay winnings to gamblers. The majority of gam-  
10 bling on dog racing now occurs via simulcast and on-  
11 line.

12          (4) Public records reveal that some greyhounds  
13 used for live commercial racing suffer serious inju-  
14 ries including broken backs, broken necks, head  
15 trauma, paralysis, seizures, and electrocution.

16          (5) Regulatory records show that some racing  
17 greyhounds test positive for drugs including cocaine,  
18 amphetamines, barbituates, opioids, and steroids.

19          (6) State investigatory files document that rac-  
20 ing greyhounds are kept confined for 20 to 23 hours  
21 a day in stacked, metal cages, typically with little  
22 opportunity to socialize with other dogs.

23          (7) Many small animals, including jack rabbits  
24 and hares, are bought, sold, delivered, transported,  
25 and received in interstate and foreign commerce for

1 use as live bait in the training of racing greyhounds  
2 and in open field coursing.

3 (8) Typically, animals used in live lure training  
4 of greyhounds may be dragged on ropes, hung from  
5 a horizontal pole which rotates around a training  
6 track, or simply set loose to be chased and mauled.  
7 Alive or dead, helpless bait animals may be used re-  
8 peatedly until they are torn apart.

9 (9) Live lure training is prohibited in more  
10 than a dozen States, but there is no Federal statute  
11 prohibiting such practice. In the late 1970s, the Na-  
12 tional Greyhound Association, a membership organi-  
13 zation representing breeders, trainers, and other in-  
14 dustry participants, announced a policy against live  
15 lure training in order to convince the late Senators  
16 Birch Bayh and Robert Dole to withdraw their pro-  
17 posed legislation.

18 (10) Open field coursing preceded commercial  
19 dog racing and is an activity in which greyhounds or  
20 other sighthounds are released to pursue and kill  
21 bait animals, including jack rabbits and hares, often  
22 in a fenced area. Greyhounds may collide and suffer  
23 injuries in the chase.

1 (11) Dog owners travel from multiple States  
2 and countries to compete and win prizes and some-  
3 times gamble on open field coursing events.

4 (12) As with commercial greyhound racing,  
5 internet sites are used to promote coursing tour-  
6 naments and post results to a worldwide audience.

7 (13) The National Field Coursing Association is  
8 the umbrella group for coursing clubs nationwide  
9 and maintained 12 clubs in California as of 2006.

10 (14) Open field coursing is illegal in as many  
11 as 12 States.

12 (15) Open field coursing was prohibited as a  
13 blood sport in Scotland in 2002, and in the United  
14 Kingdom in 2004.

15 (16) 25 years ago, there were 60 greyhound  
16 tracks in the United States. With the voter-man-  
17 dated closure of 12 dog tracks in Florida and the  
18 voluntary shut down of Southland Park in Arkansas  
19 and Iowa Greyhound Park in 2022, only 2 tracks,  
20 both in West Virginia, will remain nationwide.

21 (17) According to the State of Florida, track  
22 owners had been collectively losing more than  
23 \$30,000,000 annually because of sagging attendance  
24 and decreased wagering. According to a State-com-  
25 missioned report, the State spent more money regu-

1       lating the industry in its national hub than it gen-  
2       erated in tax revenue. Similarly, nearly \$20,000,000  
3       is diverted annually to subsidize the 2 West Virginia  
4       tracks.

5           (18) According to State records, more than  
6       10,000 greyhound injuries have been reported at  
7       West Virginia racetracks since 2008. More than  
8       3,500 dogs suffered broken bones during this period,  
9       and at least 437 dogs died after suffering serious in-  
10      juries.

11          (19) Live commercial dog racing is illegal in 42  
12      States. As of December 2022, this dying industry  
13      will remain legal and operational in no more than 1  
14      State.

15 **SEC. 3. PROTECTION OF GREYHOUNDS.**

16      (a) IN GENERAL.—The Animal Welfare Act (7  
17      U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
18      the following:

19 **“SEC. 30. PROTECTION OF GREYHOUNDS.**

20      “(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful—

21           “(1) for any person to knowingly engage in  
22      commercial greyhound racing, live lure training, or  
23      open field coursing events in which any greyhound  
24      is moved in interstate or foreign commerce;

1           “(2) to conduct commercial greyhound racing  
2           or racing meeting where any form of betting or wa-  
3           gering on the speed or ability of greyhounds occurs;

4           “(3) to conduct open field coursing or live lure  
5           training with the use of any bait that is not an inan-  
6           imate object;

7           “(4) to engage in or facilitate simulcast betting  
8           or wagering on greyhound races in interstate or for-  
9           eign commerce; and

10          “(5) for any person to knowingly sell, buy, pos-  
11          sess, train, transport, deliver, or receive any grey-  
12          hound for purposes of having the greyhound partici-  
13          pate in commercial greyhound racing, live lure train-  
14          ing, or open field coursing events.

15          “(b) INVESTIGATIONS.—The Secretary, or any other  
16          person authorized by the Secretary, shall make such inves-  
17          tigations as the Secretary determines necessary to deter-  
18          mine whether any person has violated or is violating any  
19          provision of this section. The Secretary may obtain the  
20          assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the De-  
21          partment of the Treasury, or other law enforcement agen-  
22          cies of the United States, and State and local govern-  
23          mental agencies, in the conduct of such investigations,  
24          under cooperative agreements with such agencies.

1 “(c) PENALTIES.—Any person who violates any of  
2 paragraphs (1) through (5) of subsection (a) shall be fined  
3 under this Act, imprisoned for not more than 7 years, or  
4 both, for each such violation. Each instance of a violation  
5 of any such paragraph shall be considered a single viola-  
6 tion.

7 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) COMMERCIAL GREYHOUND RACING.—The  
9 term ‘commercial greyhound racing’ means any  
10 event involving the participation of greyhounds in  
11 which betting or wagering on the speed or ability of  
12 such greyhounds occurs.

13 “(2) SIMULCAST.—The term ‘simulcast’ means  
14 the simultaneous audio or visual transmission from  
15 one location of foreign or domestic greyhound races  
16 taking place at a different location and gambling on  
17 the results of such races.”.

18 (b) DEFINITION OF ANIMAL.—Section 2(g) of the  
19 Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2132(g)) is amended by in-  
20 serting “hare,” after “rabbit,”.

21 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this  
22 section shall apply with respect to conduct occurring on  
23 or after October 1, 2027.

1 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
2 tion, or the amendments made by this section, shall be  
3 construed—

4 (1) to preempt any State law prohibiting gam-  
5 bling or protecting the welfare of animals, including  
6 greyhounds, jackrabbits, and hares; or

7 (2) to alter, limit, or extend the relationship be-  
8 tween the Interstate Horseracing Act of 1978 (15  
9 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) as it relates to horse racing  
10 and other Federal laws in effect on the date of en-  
11 actment of this Act.

○

**H.R. 5111, CRP Improvement and Flexibility Act of 2025**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5111

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to improve the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

Mr. COSTA (for himself and Mr. FEENSTRA) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to improve the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “CRP Improvement and  
5 Flexibility Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM IMPROVE-**  
7 **MENTS.**

8 (a) STATE ACRES FOR WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT  
9 CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT.—Section 1231(d)(6)(A)(i) of

1 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.  
2 3831(d)(6)(A)(i) is amended—

3 (1) in subclause (II), by striking “and” at the  
4 end; and

5 (2) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(IV) land that will be enrolled  
7 under the State acres for wildlife en-  
8 hancement practice established by the  
9 Secretary; and”.

10 (b) EMERGENCY HAYING DURING THE PRIMARY  
11 NESTING SEASON; CONDITIONS ON HAYING AND GRAZ-  
12 ING.—Section 1233(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985  
13 (16 U.S.C. 3833(b)) is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (1)(B)(i)—

15 (A) by redesignating subclauses (I)  
16 through (VI) as subclauses (II) through (VII),  
17 respectively;

18 (B) by inserting before subclause (II) (as  
19 so redesignated) the following:

20 “(I) emergency haying in re-  
21 sponse to a localized or regional  
22 drought, flooding, wildfire, or other  
23 emergency, on all practices, during  
24 the final 2 weeks of, and outside of,  
25 the primary nesting season, on not

1 more than 50 percent of contract  
2 acres, as identified in the site-specific  
3 plan, when—

4 “(aa) the county is des-  
5 ignated as D2 (severe drought)  
6 or greater according to the  
7 United States Drought Monitor;

8 “(bb) there is at least a 40  
9 percent loss in forage production  
10 in the county; or

11 “(cc) the Secretary, in co-  
12 ordination with the State tech-  
13 nical committee, determines that  
14 the program can assist in the re-  
15 sponse to a natural disaster event  
16 without permanent damage to  
17 the established cover;”;

18 (C) in subclause (II) (as so redesignated),  
19 in the matter preceding item (aa), by striking  
20 “emergency haying, emergency grazing, or  
21 other emergency use” and inserting “emergency  
22 grazing or other emergency use”; and

23 (D) in subclause (III) (as so redesignated),  
24 by striking “payments” and inserting “the con-

1           ditions described in item (aa), (bb), or (cc) of  
2           subclause (I) are met or payments”; and  
3           (2) in paragraph (2)(B)—

4                 (A) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause  
5                 (iii); and

6                 (B) by inserting after clause (i) the fol-  
7                 lowing:

8                         “(ii) DAMAGE TO COVER FOR WILD-  
9                         LIFE POPULATIONS.—Haying or grazing  
10                        described in paragraph (1) shall not be  
11                        permitted on land subject to a contract  
12                        under the conservation reserve program, or  
13                        under a particular practice, if haying or  
14                        grazing during the final 2 weeks of the pri-  
15                        mary nesting season under that practice,  
16                        as applicable, would cause long-term dam-  
17                        age to vegetative cover for wildlife popu-  
18                        lations supported by the applicable practice  
19                        on that land.”.

20           (c) COST SHARING PAYMENTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT  
21 OF GRAZING INFRASTRUCTURE.—

22                 (1) COST SHARING PAYMENTS; OTHER FED-  
23                 ERAL COST SHARE ASSISTANCE.—Section 1234(b) of  
24                 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(b))  
25                 is amended—

1 (A) in paragraph (1)—

2 (i) by striking “establishing water”  
3 and inserting the following: “establishing—  
4 “(A) water”;

5 (ii) in subparagraph (A) (as so des-  
6 ignated), by striking the period at the end  
7 and inserting “; and”; and

8 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
9 lowing:

10 “(B) grazing infrastructure, including inte-  
11 rior cross fencing, perimeter fencing, and water  
12 infrastructure (such as rural water connections,  
13 water wells, pipelines, and water tanks), under  
14 each contract, for all practices, if grazing is in-  
15 cluded in the conservation plan and addresses a  
16 resource concern.”; and

17 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “land”  
18 and inserting “activities required by the con-  
19 tract entered into under this subchapter”.

20 (2) REENROLLMENT OF LAND WITH GRAZING  
21 INFRASTRUCTURE.—Section 1231(h) of the Food  
22 Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831(h)) is amend-  
23 ed by adding at the end the following:

24 “(3) LAND WITH GRAZING INFRASTRUCTURE.—  
25 On the expiration of a contract entered into under

1 this subchapter that covers land that includes graz-  
2 ing infrastructure established with cost sharing as-  
3 sistance under section 1234(b)(1)(B)—

4 “(A) the Secretary shall consider that land  
5 to be planted for purposes of subsection  
6 (b)(1)(B); and

7 “(B) that land shall be eligible for reenroll-  
8 ment in the conservation reserve, subject to the  
9 requirements of this subchapter.”.

10 (d) MID-CONTRACT MANAGEMENT FOR ACTIVITIES  
11 NOT RELATING TO HAYING OR GRAZING.—

12 (1) DEFINITION OF MANAGEMENT.—Section  
13 1232(a)(5) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
14 U.S.C. 3832(a)(5)) is amended by inserting “(as de-  
15 fined in section 1231A(a))” after “management”.

16 (2) MANAGEMENT PAYMENTS.—Section  
17 1234(b)(2) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
18 U.S.C. 3834(b)(2)) is amended by striking subpara-  
19 graph (B) and inserting the following:

20 “(B) MANAGEMENT PAYMENTS.—The Sec-  
21 retary shall make cost sharing payments to an  
22 owner or operator under this subchapter for  
23 any management activity described in section  
24 1232(a)(5), except for those management ac-  
25 tivities relating to haying or grazing.”.

1 (e) PAYMENT LIMITATION FOR RENTAL PAY-  
2 MENTS.—Section 1234(g)(1) of the Food Security Act of  
3 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3834(g)(1)) is amended by striking  
4 “\$50,000” and inserting “\$125,000”.

○

**H.R. 5168, Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act**

I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 5168**

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to transition the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

---

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ (for himself, Mr. BACON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. SOTO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. HOULAHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to transition the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Puerto Rico Nutrition  
5 Assistance Fairness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE FOOD AND NUTRITION ACT**  
2 **OF 2008.**

3 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the Food and Nutri-  
4 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (r) by inserting “Puerto  
6 Rico,” after “Guam,” and

7 (2) in subsection (u)(2) by inserting “, Puerto  
8 Rico,” after “Hawaii”.

9 (b) ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS.—Section 5 of the Food  
10 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (b) by inserting “Puerto  
12 Rico,” after “Guam,”

13 (2) in subsection (c)(1) by striking “and  
14 Guam” and inserting “Guam, and Puerto Rico”,  
15 and

16 (3) in subsection (e)—

17 (A) in paragraph (1)(A) by inserting  
18 “Puerto Rico,” after “Hawaii,” each place it  
19 appears, and

20 (B) in paragraph (6)(B) by inserting  
21 “Puerto Rico,” after “Guam,”.

22 **SEC. 3. SUBMISSION OF PLAN OF OPERATION; TECHNICAL**  
23 **ASSISTANCE; DETERMINATION AND CERTIFI-**  
24 **CATION BY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.**

25 (a) SUBMISSION OF PLAN OF OPERATION.—On des-  
26 ignating an agency of the kind described in section 3(s)(1)

1 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C.  
2 2012(s)(1)), the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall have  
3 180 days to submit to the Secretary of Agriculture (in  
4 this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) its plan of oper-  
5 ation, including a plan to transition to the supplemental  
6 nutrition assistance program under section 4(a) of such  
7 Act (7 U.S.C. 2013(a)) as a request to participate in the  
8 supplemental nutrition assistance program under such  
9 Act.

10 (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Within the 180-day  
11 period specified in subsection (a) and upon request from  
12 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Secretary shall  
13 provide appropriate training and technical assistance to  
14 enable the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to formulate a  
15 plan of operation described in subsection (a).

16 (c) DETERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRI-  
17 CULTURE.—Not later than 180 days after receiving a plan  
18 of operation described in subsection (a), the Secretary  
19 shall approve if such plan satisfies the requirements for  
20 a supplemental nutrition assistance program State plan  
21 in accordance with subsections (d) and (e) of section 11  
22 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2020).  
23 If the Secretary does not approve such plan, the Secretary  
24 shall provide, not later than 30 days after disapproval, a

1 statement that specifies each of the requirements that  
2 were not satisfied by such plan.

3 (d) CERTIFICATION BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.—If the Secretary approves the plan submitted  
4 by the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under subsection  
5 (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Congress, not later  
6 than 90 days thereafter, a certification that the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico qualifies to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program as a State as defined in section 3(r) of the Food and Nutrition Act of  
7 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(r)).

12 **SEC. 4. TRANSITION FROM THE CONSOLIDATED BLOCK  
13 GRANT FOR PUERTO RICO.**

14 (a) COVERED PERIOD.—The Secretary may continue  
15 to implement the then most recent approved consolidated  
16 block grant specified in section 19(b)(1)(A) of the Food  
17 and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2028(b)(1)(A)) for  
18 an implementation period ending 5 years after the effective date of the amendments made by this Act, or on the  
19 date the Secretary determines that the Commonwealth of  
20 Puerto Rico no longer needs to operate the consolidated  
21 block grant to complete the transition described in section  
22 3(a), whichever occurs first.

24 (b) REPORT.—For each year a plan is continued  
25 under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the

1 Congress an annual report on the operation of such plan.  
2 The Secretary shall include in such report information re-  
3 lated to increases in funding that are required to accom-  
4 modate the transition of the Commonwealth of Puerto  
5 Rico from the receipt of block grant payments to the im-  
6 plementation of supplemental nutrition assistance pro-  
7 gram.

8 **SEC. 5. CONSOLIDATED BLOCK GRANT FOR PUERTO RICO**  
9 **AND AMERICAN SAMOA.**

10 Section 19 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008  
11 (7 U.S.C. 2028) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1)(A) by inserting “until  
14 the end of the period described in section 4(a)  
15 of the Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fair-  
16 ness Act,” after “(A)”,

17 (B) in paragraph (2)—

18 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

19 (I) in clause (i) by striking  
20 “and” at the end, and

21 (II) in clause (ii)—

22 (aa) by inserting “, and end-  
23 ing at the end of the period de-  
24 scribed in section 4(a) of the

1 Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance  
2 Fairness Act” after “thereafter”,  
3 (bb) by striking the period  
4 at the end and inserting “; and”,  
5 and

6 (cc) by adding at the end  
7 the following:

8 “(iii) subject to the availability of ap-  
9 propriations under section 18(a), for each  
10 fiscal year beginning after the end of the  
11 period described in section 4(a) of the  
12 Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness  
13 Act, 0.4 percent of the aggregate amount  
14 specified in clause (i) and adjusted under  
15 clause (ii), as further adjusted by the per-  
16 centage by which the thrifty food plan has  
17 been adjusted under section 3(u)(4) be-  
18 tween June 30 of the penultimate fiscal  
19 year preceding such effective date and  
20 June 30 of the fiscal year for which the  
21 adjustment is made under this clause.”,

22 (ii) in subparagraph (B)(i) by insert-  
23 ing “ending at the end of the period de-  
24 scribed in section 4(a) of the Puerto Rico

1 Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act” after  
2 “thereafter”, and

3 (iii) in subparagraph (C)—

4 (I) by striking “For” and insert-  
5 ing the following:

6 “(i) For”,

7 (II) by inserting “ending at the  
8 end of the period described in section  
9 4(a) of the Puerto Rico Nutrition As-  
10 sistance Fairness Act” after “there-  
11 after”, and

12 (III) by adding at the end, the  
13 following:

14 “(ii) For each fiscal year beginning  
15 after the end of the period described in  
16 section 4(a) of the Puerto Rico Nutrition  
17 Assistance Fairness Act, the Secretary  
18 shall use 100 percent of the funds made  
19 available under subparagraph (A) for pay-  
20 ment to American Samoa to pay 100 per-  
21 cent of the expenditures by American  
22 Samoa for a nutrition assistance program  
23 extended under section 601(e) of Public  
24 Law 96–597 (48 U.S.C. 1469d(e)).”, and

1 (C) in paragraph (3) by striking “year,”  
2 and inserting “year ending at the end of the pe-  
3 riod described in section 4(a) of the Puerto  
4 Rico Nutrition Assistance Fairness Act, and”  
5 after “year”, and

6 (2) in subsection (b)(1)(A) by inserting “and  
7 ending at the end of the period described in section  
8 4(a) of the Puerto Rico Nutrition Assistance Fair-  
9 ness Act” after “year” the first place it appears.

10 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
12 this Act such sums as may be necessary until the end of  
13 the period described in section 4(a).

14 **SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATES.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
16 (b), this Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment  
17 of this Act.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENTS.—The  
19 amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date  
20 that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this  
21 Act.

○

**H.R. 5223, Re-Entry Support Through Opportunities for Resources and Essentials Act of 2025 (RESTORE Act of 2025)**

I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 5223**

To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to allow individuals with drug offenses to receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

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 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

Mr. COHEN (for himself and Mr. RUTHERFORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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**A BILL**

To amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to allow individuals with drug offenses to receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Re-Entry Support  
 5 Through Opportunities for Resources and Essentials Act  
 6 of 2025” or the “RESTORE Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN DRUG-**  
2 **RELATED CONVICTIONS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 115 of the Personal Re-  
4 sponsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of  
5 1996 (21 U.S.C. 862a) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding  
7 paragraph (1), by striking “for—” and all that fol-  
8 lows through the period at the end of paragraph (2)  
9 and inserting “for assistance under any State pro-  
10 gram funded under part A of title IV of the Social  
11 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)”;

12 (2) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) by striking paragraph (2);

14 (B) by striking the subsection designation  
15 and heading and all that follows through “The  
16 amount of” in paragraph (1) and inserting the  
17 following:

18 “(b) PROGRAM OF TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR  
19 NEEDY FAMILIES.—The amount of”; and

20 (C) by inserting “(42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)”  
21 after “Social Security Act”; and

22 (3) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the  
23 following:

24 “(e) DEFINITION OF STATE.—In this section, the  
25 term ‘State’ has the meaning given the term in section  
26 419 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 619), when re-

1 ferring to assistance provided under a State program  
2 funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act  
3 (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).”.

4 (b) EFFECT ON STATE POLICIES.—Any State law,  
5 policy, or regulation that imposes conditions on eligibility  
6 for the supplemental nutrition assistance program estab-  
7 lished under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7  
8 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) based on an individual having a con-  
9 viction for an offense related to a controlled substance  
10 shall have no force or effect.

11 (c) MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF HOUSEHOLD  
12 UNDER SNAP.—Section 3(m)(5) of the Food and Nutri-  
13 tion Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(m)(5)) is amended by  
14 adding at the end the following:

15 “(F) Incarcerated individuals who are  
16 scheduled to be released from an institution  
17 within 30 days.”.

**H.R. 5365, Eliminating Needless Administrative Barriers Lessening Efficiency for Conservation Act of 2025 (ENABLE Conservation Act of 2025)**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION **H. R. 5365**

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 with respect to the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Mr. NEWHOUSE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 with respect to the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Eliminating Needless  
5 Administrative Barriers Lessening Efficiency for Con-  
6 servation Act of 2025” or the “ENABLE Conservation  
7 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE FOOD SECURITY ACT OF**  
2 **1985.**

3 (a) STATE ACRES FOR WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT  
4 CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT.—Section 1231(d)(6)(A)(i) of  
5 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.  
6 3831(d)(6)(A)(i)) is amended—

7 (1) in subclause (II), by striking “and” at the  
8 end; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(IV) land that will be enrolled  
11 under the State acres for wildlife en-  
12 hancement initiative established by  
13 the Secretary; and”.

14 (b) ACREAGE LIMITATIONS.—Section 1244(f)(3) of  
15 the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3844(f)(3)) is  
16 amended by striking “section 1231A” and inserting “sec-  
17 tion 1231(d)(6)”.

○

**H.R. 5710, Bridge the Gap for Rural Communities Act**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 5710**

To suspend certain payment limitations relating to agricultural risk coverage and price loss coverage for crop year 2025 and to make advance partial payments under such coverages for such crop year.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2025

Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself and Ms. LETLOW) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

**A BILL**

To suspend certain payment limitations relating to agricultural risk coverage and price loss coverage for crop year 2025 and to make advance partial payments under such coverages for such crop year.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Bridge the Gap for  
5 Rural Communities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT LIMITATIONS FOR CROP**  
2 **YEAR 2025.**

3 Section 1001(f) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7  
4 U.S.C. 1308(f)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 “(10) SUSPENSION OF PAYMENT LIMITATIONS  
7 FOR CROP YEAR 2025.—Subsections (b) and (c) shall  
8 not apply to a person or legal entity for crop year  
9 2025.”.

10 **SEC. 3. AVAILABILITY OF ADVANCE PARTIAL PAYMENTS**  
11 **FOR CROP YEAR 2025.**

12 Section 1115 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7  
13 U.S.C. 9015) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
14 lowing:

15 “(j) AVAILABILITY OF ADVANCE PARTIAL PAYMENTS  
16 FOR CROP YEAR 2025.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December  
18 31, 2025, the Secretary shall provide to producers  
19 on a farm that make an election under paragraph  
20 (2) a partial payment with respect to each payment  
21 to such producer for the payment acres for each cov-  
22 ered commodity on the farm under subsection (i).

23 “(2) OPTION TO RECEIVE PARTIAL PAY-  
24 MENTS.—Not later than December 1, 2025, a pro-  
25 ducer may opt to receive partial payments under this  
26 subsection by notifying the Administrator of the

1 Farm Service Agency in such manner as the Admin-  
2 istrator determines appropriate.

3 “(3) AMOUNT.—Notwithstanding subsection  
4 (a), a partial payment under this subsection shall be  
5 equal to 50 percent of the projected payment for the  
6 covered commodity for the 2025 crop year under  
7 subsection (i), as determined by the Secretary.

8 “(4) DETERMINATION OF PROJECTED PRICE.—  
9 For purposes of determining the amount of the pro-  
10 jected payment under paragraph (3), the Secretary  
11 shall use—

12 “(A) the projected average farm price for  
13 the applicable eligible commodity for the 2025–  
14 2026 marketing year contained in the most re-  
15 cent World Agricultural Supply and Demand  
16 Estimates published before the date of enact-  
17 ment of this Act by the World Agricultural Out-  
18 look Board; or

19 “(B) if such projected average farm price  
20 is not available with respect to a covered com-  
21 modity, a comparable projected price per acre  
22 for such covered commodity, as determined by  
23 the Secretary.

24 “(k) SUBSEQUENT PAYMENT FOR CROP YEAR  
25 2025.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a producer  
2           on a farm that opts to receive a partial payment  
3           under subsection (j) for a covered commodity for the  
4           2025 crop year with respect to payment acres for  
5           the covered commodity on the farm, the Secretary  
6           shall, beginning October 1, or as soon as practicable  
7           thereafter, after the end of the applicable marketing  
8           year for the covered commodity, provide a subse-  
9           quent payment to the producer in an amount equal  
10          to—

11                   “(A) the payment amount for such pay-  
12                   ment acres for the covered commodity deter-  
13                   mined under subsection (i) for the 2025 crop  
14                   year; minus

15                   “(B) the amount provided for such pay-  
16                   ment acres for the covered commodity under  
17                   subsection (j) for the 2025 crop year.

18          “(2) OVERPAYMENT.—In the case of a producer  
19          described in paragraph (1) that receives in the ag-  
20          gregate with respect to a covered commodity for  
21          crop year 2025 an amount that is greater than the  
22          amount described in subparagraph (A) of such para-  
23          graph, the producer shall repay the Secretary such  
24          excess amount, without interest.

1       “(l) CLARIFICATION RELATING TO ASSIGNMENT OF  
2 PARTIAL AND SUBSEQUENT PAYMENTS.—A payment  
3 made under subsections (j) and (k) may be assigned in  
4 accordance with part 1404 of title 7, Code of Federal Reg-  
5 ulations.”.

○

**H.R. 5740, WIC Benefits Protection Act**

1

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 5740**

To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require mandatory funding for the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

OCTOBER 10, 2025

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. WALKINSHAW, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BELL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SIMON, Ms. ROSS, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. VINDMAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CASAR, Mr. IVEY, Ms. OMAR, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. AMO, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. MORRISON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. RIVAS, and Mr. GARAMENDI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require mandatory funding for the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “WIC Benefits Protec-  
5 tion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MANDATORY FUNDING FOR WIC.**

7 (a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—Section 17(c) of the Child  
8 Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(c)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “may carry  
10 out” and inserting “shall carry out”;

11 (2) in paragraph (2)—

12 (A) by striking the matter preceding sub-  
13 paragraph (A); and

14 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)  
15 and (B) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively;  
16 (3) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated—

17 (A) by striking “the Secretary” and insert-  
18 ing “The Secretary”; and

19 (B) by striking “, and” and inserting a pe-  
20 riod; and

21 (4) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated, by  
22 striking “any State” and inserting “Any State”.

23 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 17(d)(1) of the Child Nu-  
24 trition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(1)) is amended  
25 by striking “Participation in the program under this sec-

1 tion shall be limited to” and inserting “Individuals who  
2 are eligible to participate in the program under this sec-  
3 tion shall be”.

4 (c) APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 17(g) of the Child  
5 Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(g)) is amended—

6 (1) in the heading, by striking “AUTHORIZA-  
7 TION OF”; and

8 (2) by amending subparagraph (A) of para-  
9 graph (1) to read as follows:

10 “(A) APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to  
11 amounts otherwise available, there are appro-  
12 priated, out of any money in the Treasury not  
13 otherwise appropriated, such sums as are nec-  
14 essary to carry out this section for fiscal year  
15 2026 and each succeeding fiscal year.”.

○

**H.R. 5781, Making Access To Cleanup Happen Act of 2025 (MATCH Act of 2025)**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5781

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to preagreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 17, 2025

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Ms. MALOY, and Mr. GARAMENDI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to preagreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Making Access To  
5 Cleanup Happen Act of 2025” or the “MATCH Act of  
6 2025”.

7 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM.**

8 Section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978  
9 (16 U.S.C. 2203) is amended by adding at the end the  
10 following:

1 “(c) PREAGREEMENT COSTS.—

2 “(1) DEFINITION OF SPONSOR.—In this sub-  
3 section, the term ‘sponsor’ means—

4 “(A) a State or local government; and

5 “(B) an Indian Tribe (as defined in section  
6 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
7 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).

8 “(2) PREAGREEMENT PROJECT COSTS.—Not  
9 later than 180 days after the date of enactment of  
10 this subsection, the Secretary shall—

11 “(A) identify a list of emergency watershed  
12 protection measures the cost of which may be  
13 incurred by a sponsor prior to entering into an  
14 agreement with the Secretary under this sec-  
15 tion; and

16 “(B) develop a procedure, including appro-  
17 priate deadlines, to be implemented at the State  
18 level, through which a sponsor may request, for  
19 a specified natural disaster, additional emer-  
20 gency watershed protection measures the cost of  
21 which may be incurred by a sponsor prior to en-  
22 tering into an agreement with the Secretary  
23 under this section.

24 “(3) AGREEMENT CONTRIBUTION.—If the Sec-  
25 retary and a sponsor enter into an agreement under

1 this section, the Secretary shall consider any appli-  
2 cable preagreement costs incurred by the sponsor for  
3 undertaking emergency watershed protection meas-  
4 ures identified under paragraph (2) as meeting part  
5 of the contribution of the sponsor toward the cost of  
6 the project.

7 “(4) ASSUMPTION OF RISK.—A sponsor that  
8 undertakes emergency watershed protection meas-  
9 ures prior to entering into an agreement with the  
10 Secretary under this section shall assume the risk of  
11 incurring any cost of undertaking those measures.

12 “(5) EFFECT.—Nothing in this subsection re-  
13 quires the Secretary to enter into an agreement with  
14 a sponsor.”

○

**H.R. 5823, Watershed Protection and Forest Recovery Act of 2025**

I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 5823**

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out emergency watershed protection measures on National Forest System land, and for other purposes.

---

 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 24, 2025

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Ms. MALOY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out emergency watershed protection measures on National Forest System land, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Watershed Protection  
5 and Forest Recovery Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY FOREST WATERSHED PROGRAM.**

7 (a) FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION.—Section  
8 404(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.

1 2204(b)) is amended by inserting “to carry out section  
2 401” after “for a fiscal year”.

3 (b) EMERGENCY FOREST WATERSHED PROGRAM.—  
4 Title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.  
5 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing:

7 **“SEC. 408. EMERGENCY FOREST WATERSHED PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION  
10 MEASURES.—The term ‘emergency watershed pro-  
11 tection measures’ means measures that—

12 “(A) are necessary to address runoff retar-  
13 dation, soil-erosion prevention, and flood miti-  
14 gation caused by a natural disaster or any other  
15 natural occurrence that has caused a sudden  
16 impairment to natural resources on National  
17 Forest System land, and the damage, if not  
18 treated—

19 “(i) would significantly impair or en-  
20 danger the natural resources on the Na-  
21 tional Forest System land; and

22 “(ii) would pose an immediate risk to  
23 water resources or loss of life or property  
24 downstream of the National Forest System  
25 land; and

1           “(B) would maintain or restore forest  
2           health and forest-related resources on the Na-  
3           tional Forest System land.

4           “(2) NATURAL DISASTER.—The term ‘natural  
5           disaster’ has the meaning given the term in section  
6           407(a).

7           “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means  
8           the Secretary, acting through the Chief of the For-  
9           est Service.

10          “(4) SPONSOR.—The term ‘sponsor’ means—

11           “(A) a State or local government;

12           “(B) an Indian Tribe (as defined in section  
13           4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
14           cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)); and

15           “(C) a water district, water conservation  
16           district, water utility, or special district.

17          “(b) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, acting  
18          through a sponsor, is authorized to undertake emergency  
19          watershed protection measures on National Forest System  
20          land.

21          “(c) AGREEMENTS; PAYMENTS.—

22           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter  
23           into an agreement with a sponsor and make pay-  
24           ments to the sponsor, on request of the sponsor, to  
25           carry out emergency watershed protection measures.

1           “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

2                   “(A) PROJECT TIMELINES.—

3                           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Following a nat-  
4                           ural disaster or natural occurrence that ne-  
5                           cessitates the carrying out of emergency  
6                           watershed protection measures, the Sec-  
7                           retary shall execute agreements under  
8                           paragraph (1) as expeditiously as possible.

9                           “(ii) TIMELINE.—A sponsor that has  
10                           entered into an agreement under para-  
11                           graph (1) shall complete all emergency wa-  
12                           tershed protection measures not later than  
13                           2 years after the conclusion of the applica-  
14                           ble natural disaster or natural occurrence,  
15                           as determined by the Secretary, that neces-  
16                           sitated the carrying out of those measures.

17                           “(iii) CONTINUED MONITORING.—A  
18                           sponsor that has entered into an agree-  
19                           ment under paragraph (1) may monitor,  
20                           maintain, repair, or replace emergency wa-  
21                           tershed protection measures for a period of  
22                           not more than 3 years following the con-  
23                           clusion of the natural disaster or natural  
24                           occurrence, as determined by the Sec-  
25                           retary, that necessitated the carrying out

1 of those measures when failure to do so  
2 would result in unacceptable risk to Na-  
3 tional Forest System land or downstream  
4 water users.

5 “(B) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary, in ac-  
6 cordance with an agreement entered into under  
7 paragraph (1)—

8 “(i) may make partial payments prior  
9 to completion of the applicable project; and

10 “(ii) shall make final payment for the  
11 project not later than 30 days after the  
12 date on which the project is completed.

13 “(d) WAIVED MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-  
14 retary shall waive any matching requirements for pay-  
15 ments made under subsection (c)(1).

16 “(e) LIABILITY.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A sponsor that carries out  
18 emergency watershed protection measures pursuant  
19 to an agreement under subsection (c)(1) shall not—

20 “(A) be required to indemnify the United  
21 States for any liability resulting from carrying  
22 out emergency watershed protection measures  
23 pursuant to that agreement; or

24 “(B) except as provided in paragraph (2),  
25 be liable for injury, loss, or damage resulting

1 from carrying out emergency watershed protec-  
2 tion measures pursuant to that agreement.

3 “(2) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this sub-  
4 section precludes liability for damages or costs relat-  
5 ing to the carrying out of emergency watershed pro-  
6 tection measures by a sponsor pursuant to an agree-  
7 ment entered into under subsection (c)(1) if the  
8 sponsor acted with willful or wanton negligence or  
9 reckless conduct in carrying out those measures.

10 “(f) ASSUMPTION OF RISK.—A sponsor that carries  
11 out emergency watershed protection measures prior to en-  
12 tering into an agreement under subsection (c)(1) shall as-  
13 sume the risk of incurring any cost or liability resulting  
14 from carrying out those measures.

15 “(g) COORDINATION.—The Chief of the Natural Re-  
16 sources Conservation Service shall coordinate on the use  
17 of funds distributed under this section and section 403.

18 “(h) NEPA COMPLIANCE.—Emergency watershed  
19 protection measures carried out pursuant to this section  
20 shall be deemed emergency response actions for purposes  
21 of section 220.4(b)(1) of title 36, Code of Federal Regula-  
22 tions (or a successor regulation).”.

○

**H.R. 5854, Sustainable Agriculture Research Act**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5854

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to provide for an additional goal of the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AGARDA) to enhance the role of agriculture in innovative sustainability solutions.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 28, 2025

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. FLOOD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to provide for an additional goal of the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AGARDA) to enhance the role of agriculture in innovative sustainability solutions.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Sustainable Agri-  
5 culture Research Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL GOAL OF AGARDA TO ENHANCE ROLE**  
2 **OF AGRICULTURE IN INNOVATIVE SUSTAIN-**  
3 **ABILITY SOLUTIONS.**

4 Section 1473H of the National Agricultural Re-  
5 search, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7  
6 U.S.C. 3319k) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the  
8 following:

9 “(8) **PRECISION AGRICULTURE.**—The term  
10 ‘precision agriculture’ means managing, tracking, or  
11 reducing crop or livestock production inputs (includ-  
12 ing seed, feed, fertilizer, chemicals, water, and time)  
13 at a heightened level of spatial and temporal granu-  
14 larity to improve efficiencies, reduce waste, and  
15 maintain environmental quality.”; and

16 (2) in subsection (b)(2)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
18 “and” at the end;

19 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as  
20 subparagraph (E); and

21 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (C)  
22 the following:

23 “(D) to enhance the role of sustainable ag-  
24 riculture (as defined in section 1404) in innova-  
25 tive voluntary resilience solutions in the United

1 States through the development of agricultural  
2 technologies that may address—

3 “(i) the impact of extreme weather on  
4 crop production;

5 “(ii) the effects of drought and the  
6 potential of building water holding capacity  
7 in soils on crop and rangelands;

8 “(iii) the expansion of the potential  
9 for long-term carbon storage through sus-  
10 tainable agriculture;

11 “(iv) increased economic and practical  
12 feasibility for sustainable energy, including  
13 conventional and advanced biofuels, on  
14 farms and in the agriculture industry;

15 “(v) increased voluntary adoption of  
16 conservation practices that sequester car-  
17 bon and build on-farm climate resilience;  
18 and

19 “(vi) increased economic and practical  
20 feasibility for, and voluntary adoption of,  
21 precision agriculture technology; and”.

○

**H.R. 5858, Community Access to Treatment and Care for Health through Increased Testing Act (CATCH IT Act)**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5858

To make it easier for rural health facilities to buy and upgrade preventative health care equipment through the Community Facilities Grant Program of the Department of Agriculture.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 28, 2025

Ms. SCHOLTEN (for herself and Mrs. HINSON) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To make it easier for rural health facilities to buy and upgrade preventative health care equipment through the Community Facilities Grant Program of the Department of Agriculture.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community Access to  
5 Treatment and Care for Health through Increased Testing  
6 Act” or the “CATCH IT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN FEDERAL SHARE OF COST OF PRE-**  
2 **VENTATIVE HEALTH CARE EQUIPMENT FOR**  
3 **RURAL HEALTH FACILITY UNDER THE COM-**  
4 **MUNITY FACILITIES GRANT PROGRAM.**

5 Section 306(a)(19)(B) of the Consolidated Farm and  
6 Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(19)(B)) is  
7 amended—

8 (1) in clause (iii), by adding at the end the fol-  
9 lowing: “The Federal share determined under the  
10 preceding sentence shall be increased by 25 percent-  
11 age points if the development of the facility includes  
12 the purchase or upgrading of preventative health  
13 care equipment.”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(iv) PREVENTATIVE HEALTH CARE  
16 EQUIPMENT DEFINED.—In clause (iii), the  
17 term ‘preventative health care equipment’  
18 includes equipment such as the following:

19 “(I) Advanced breast imaging  
20 equipment that may be used in a dig-  
21 ital breast tomosynthesis or 3-dimen-  
22 sional mammography.

23 “(II) Mobile cancer screening  
24 unit.

1                   “(III) Laboratory equipment that  
2                   may be used in multi-cancer early de-  
3                   tection or diagnostic cancer screening.

4                   “(IV) Colorectal cancer screening  
5                   equipment.

6                   “(V) Computerized tomography  
7                   scanner.

8                   “(VI) Diagnostic ultrasound  
9                   equipment.”.

10 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11           The amendments made by this Act shall take effect  
12 on the 1st day of the 1st Federal fiscal year that begins  
13 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

○

**H.R. 5875, Converting Our Waste Sustainably Act of 2025 (COWS Act of 2025)**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5875

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2029, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 31, 2025

Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. GRAY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2029, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Converting Our Waste  
5 Sustainably Act of 2025” or the “COWS Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

8 (1) the Alternative Manure Management Pro-  
9 gram (AMMP) is a successful program in California

1 that supports the livestock industry and is an exam-  
2 ple of what can be done nationally in the United  
3 States through a variety of practices on responsible  
4 manure management;

5 (2) the 195 existing projects under AMMP are  
6 contributing towards the reduction of 1,600,000  
7 metric tons of greenhouse gases; and

8 (3) these practices enhance sustainability and  
9 nurture continued environmental stewardship, ulti-  
10 mately leading to enhanced local air quality and re-  
11 cycled manure for use as a natural fertilizer or com-  
12 post for healthier soil.

13 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

14 (a) COMPOSTING PRACTICE.—Section 1201(a) of the  
15 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801(a)) is amend-  
16 ed—

17 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through  
18 (27) as paragraphs (4) through (28), respectively;  
19 and

20 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
21 lowing:

22 “(3) COMPOSTING PRACTICE.—The term  
23 ‘composting practice’ means an activity (including  
24 an activity that does not require the use of a

1 composting facility) to produce compost from or-  
2 ganic waste that is—

3 “(A) generated on a farm; or

4 “(B) brought to a farm from the nearby  
5 community; and

6 “(C) the use and active management of  
7 compost on a farm to improve water retention  
8 and soil health, subject to the condition that  
9 such use shall be in compliance with applicable  
10 Federal, State, and local laws.”.

11 (b) ALTERNATIVE MANURE MANAGEMENT.—Section  
12 1240A of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.  
13 3839aa-1) is amended—

14 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through  
15 (10) as paragraphs (2) through (11), respectively;  
16 and

17 (2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so re-  
18 designated, the following:

19 “(1) ALTERNATIVE MANURE MANAGEMENT  
20 PRACTICES.—The term ‘alternative manure manage-  
21 ment practices’ means management measures that  
22 reduce baseline methane and nitrous oxide emissions  
23 and, where applicable, reduce nitrate leaching into  
24 groundwater or improve carbon sequestration, in-  
25 cluding—

1           “(A) converting to or improving pasture-  
2           based management, including management-in-  
3           tensive rotational grazing (as defined in section  
4           1240L(d)(1));

5           “(B) compost-bedded pack barns that com-  
6           post manure, slatted floor pit storage that is  
7           cleaned out at least once a month, or other  
8           similar practices as determined by the Sec-  
9           retary; and

10          “(C) solid separation, scrape and vacuum  
11          technologies, or other measures, including ma-  
12          nure management system retrofits, that pri-  
13          marily avoid wet handling and storage infra-  
14          structure in conjunction with—

15                   “(i) open or enclosed solar drying;

16                   “(ii) composting;

17                   “(iii) vermiculture or vermifiltration;

18                   “(iv) forced evaporation;

19                   “(v) solid storage; or

20                   “(vi) other similar methods as deter-  
21                   mined by the Secretary.”.

22          (c) PRACTICE.—Subparagraph (A) of section  
23          1240A(7) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.  
24          3839aa-1(7)), as so redesignated by subsection (a), is  
25          amended—

1 (1) in clause (ii), by inserting “and composting  
2 practices” after “practices”;

3 (2) in clause (vi), by striking the “and” at the  
4 end;

5 (3) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause (ix);  
6 and

7 (4) by inserting after clause (vi) the following:

8 “(vii) composting practices;

9 “(viii) alternative manure manage-  
10 ment practices; and”.

11 (d) INCLUSIONS.—Section 1240I(2)(B)(i) of the  
12 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-  
13 21(2)(B)(i)) is amended by inserting “and composting  
14 practices” after “drainage management systems”.

15 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT AND ADMINISTRATION.**

16 (a) INCREASED PAYMENTS FOR HIGH-PRIORITY  
17 PRACTICES.—Section 1240B(d)(7) of the Food Security  
18 Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-2(d)(7)) is amended—

19 (1) in the paragraph heading, by inserting  
20 “STATE-DETERMINED” before “HIGH-PRIORITY”;

21 and

22 (2) in subparagraph (A)—

23 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “or” at the  
24 end;

1 (B) in clause (iv), by striking the period at  
2 the end and inserting “; or”; and

3 (C) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(v) increases carbon sequestration or  
5 reduces greenhouse gas emissions, includ-  
6 ing emissions of methane and nitrous  
7 oxide.”.

8 (b) LIVESTOCK.—Section 1240B(f)(1) of the Food  
9 Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2(f)(1)) is  
10 amended by inserting “and alternative manure manage-  
11 ment” after “including grazing management”.

12 (c) ALTERNATIVE MANURE MANAGEMENT PRAC-  
13 TICES.—Section 1240B of the Food Security Act of 1985  
14 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2) is amended—

15 (1) by redesignating subsections (h) through (j)  
16 as subsection (i) through (k), respectively; and

17 (2) by inserting after subsection (g) the fol-  
18 lowing:

19 “(h) ALTERNATIVE MANURE MANAGEMENT PRAC-  
20 TICES.—

21 “(1) PAYMENT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary may  
22 provide a payment for an alternative manure man-  
23 agement practice for an amount that is up to 100  
24 percent of the costs associated with planning, design,  
25 materials, equipment, installation, labor, manage-

1 ment, maintenance, and training related to imple-  
2 menting a covered management measure.

3 “(2) ADVANCED PAYMENTS.—The Secretary  
4 shall provide at least 50 percent of the amount of  
5 total payments for an alternative manure manage-  
6 ment practice in advance for all costs related to—

7 “(A) purchasing or contracting materials  
8 and equipment; or

9 “(B) any technical assistance provided by  
10 the Secretary.

11 “(3) TERM.—A contract awarded under this  
12 section shall have a term that does not exceed 3  
13 years.”.

14 **SEC. 5. PRIORITIZATION OF APPLICATIONS.**

15 Section 1240C(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985  
16 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–3(b)) is amended—

17 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through  
18 (4) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively,  
19 and by indenting such subparagraphs 2 ems to the  
20 right;

21 (2) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
22 as redesignated by paragraph (1), by striking “In  
23 evaluating applications under this subchapter, the  
24 Secretary shall prioritize applications—” and insert-  
25 ing the following:

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—In evaluating applications  
2 under this subchapter, the Secretary shall prioritize  
3 applications—”; and

4           (3) by adding at the end the following:

5           “(2) ALTERNATIVE MANURE MANAGEMENT AP-  
6 PPLICATIONS.—

7           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
8 develop criteria for evaluating and ranking al-  
9 ternative manure management contract offers  
10 to prioritize applications that will maximize—

11                   “(i) carbon sequestration;

12                   “(ii) greenhouse gas emissions reduc-  
13 tions; and

14                   “(iii) the overall environmental and  
15 public health benefits, including improved  
16 water quality and quantity.

17           “(B) ADDITIONAL CRITERIA.—In awarding  
18 alternative manure management applications,  
19 the Secretary shall develop criteria to ensure—

20                   “(i) geographical diversity;

21                   “(ii) scale diversity, including support  
22 for small and medium sized dairy and live-  
23 stock operations; and

24                   “(iii) participation by operations with  
25 a demonstrated track record of adopting

1 conservation measures and reducing green-  
2 house gas emissions.

3 “(C) CLUSTER APPLICATIONS.—The Sec-  
4 retary shall establish procedures under which—

5 “(i) a group of producers may submit  
6 a joint application for a shared composting  
7 facility; and

8 “(ii) the Secretary allocates payments  
9 to each eligible producer associated with  
10 that joint contract.

11 “(D) SERVING CERTAIN PRODUCERS.—To  
12 the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary  
13 shall award the majority of alternative manure  
14 contracts finalized each fiscal year to offers  
15 from small and mid-sized dairy and livestock  
16 operations, including—

17 “(i) beginning farmers or ranchers;

18 “(ii) limited resource farmers and  
19 ranchers; and

20 “(iii) socially disadvantaged farmers  
21 and ranchers.”.

22 **SEC. 6. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**

23 Section 1240F of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
24 U.S.C. 3839aa-6) is amended by—

1 (1) inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before “To  
2 the extent appropriate, the Secretary shall assist a  
3 producer in achieving the conservation and environ-  
4 mental goals of a program plan by—”; and

5 (2) inserting at the end the following:

6 “(b) ALTERNATIVE MANURE MANAGEMENT.—For  
7 alternative manure management contracts, the Secretary  
8 shall—

9 “(1) determine and publish factors for esti-  
10 mating the carbon sequestrations and greenhouse  
11 gas emissions reductions for each alternative manure  
12 management practice;

13 “(2) identify eligible producers based on ma-  
14 nure management practices used at the time of ap-  
15 plication, including the anaerobic decomposition of  
16 volatile solids stored in a lagoon or other predomi-  
17 nantly liquid anaerobic environment and their ability  
18 to replace or complement that anaerobic system with  
19 an alternative manure management practice; and

20 “(3) assist an eligible producer in achieving the  
21 carbon sequestration, greenhouse gas emissions re-  
22 duction, and other environmental and public health  
23 goals of the alternative manure management systems  
24 by—

1           “(A) providing payments for designing and  
2           implementing one or more alternative manure  
3           management practices;

4           “(B) providing that eligible producer with  
5           information, technical assistance, and training  
6           to aid in implementation of the alternative ma-  
7           nure management practices;

8           “(C) reviewing the adequacy of existing  
9           conservation practice standards for supporting  
10          the alternative manure management practices  
11          and, if necessary—

12                  “(i) revising existing conservation  
13                  practice standards; and

14                  “(ii) developing new conservation  
15                  practice standards; and

16          “(D) entering into cooperative agreements  
17          with third-party technical assistance providers  
18          with relevant expertise in alternative manure  
19          management systems to ensure adequate tech-  
20          nical services are available to alternative ma-  
21          nure management applicants.”.

22 **SEC. 7. LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS.**

23          Section 1240G of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
24          U.S.C. 3839aa-7) is amended—

1 (1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before  
2 “Not including payments”; and

3 (2) by striking “, regardless of the number of  
4 contracts entered into under this subchapter by the  
5 person or legal entity” and inserting at the end the  
6 following:

7 “(b) WAIVER AUTHORITY AND LIMITATION.—The  
8 Secretary may—

9 “(1) waive the applicability of the limitations in  
10 section 1001D(b) or section 1240(G) for a payment  
11 made under an alternative manure management con-  
12 tract if the Secretary determines that the waiver is  
13 necessary to fulfill the objectives of the project; and

14 “(2) impose a separate payment limitation for  
15 the contract with respect to which the waiver ap-  
16 plies.”.

17 **SEC. 8. NEW OR INNOVATIVE CONSERVATION APPROACH.**

18 Section 1240H(e)(1)(B)(i) of the Food Security Act  
19 of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–8(c)(1)(B)(i)) is amended—

20 (1) in subclause (VI), by striking “and” at the  
21 end; and

22 (2) by inserting at the end the following:

23 “(VIII) alternative manure man-  
24 agement practices; and”.

1 **SEC. 9. DELIVERY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

2 Section 1242(h) of the Food Security Act of 1985  
3 (16 U.S.C. 3842(h)) is amended by adding at the end the  
4 following:

5 “(5) DEVELOPMENT OF COMPOSTING PRACTICE  
6 STANDARD.—Not later than one year after the date  
7 of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary  
8 shall—

9 “(A) conduct a review of the composting  
10 facilities practice standard and the soil carbon  
11 amendment practice standard to determine  
12 their adequacy in advancing alternative manure  
13 management and on-farm composting genera-  
14 tion and utilization; and

15 “(B) develop and implement a new con-  
16 servation practice standard for the on-farm pro-  
17 duction of compost.”.

○

**H.R. 6088, Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act  
of 2025**

I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 6088**

To repeal certain provisions relating to nutrition.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. AMO, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BELL, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. BYNUM, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CROW, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. FIGURES, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. GOODLANDER, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. HERNÁNDEZ, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. IVEY, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MANNION, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. McCLELLAN, Ms. McCOLLUM, Ms. McDONALD RIVET, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MENG, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MIN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. MORRISON, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NEAL, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PETERSEN, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. POCAN, Ms. POU, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms.

RANDALL, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. RILEY of New York, Ms. RIVAS, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOREENSEN, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. STANTON, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAI, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRAN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. VINDMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WHITESIDES, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. SCHOLTEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To repeal certain provisions relating to nutrition.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Restoring Food Secu-  
 5 rity for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPEAL.**

7 Sections 10101 through 10108 of the Act entitled  
 8 “An Act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II  
 9 of H. Con. Res. 14” (119th Congress) are repealed, and  
 10 any provisions of law amended by those sections are re-  
 11 stored or revived as if those sections had not been enacted  
 12 into law.

○

**H.R. 6341, Partnerships for Agricultural Climate Action Act**



I

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6341

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants to covered entities to develop, modify, or implement climate adaptation and climate mitigation proposals on agricultural land, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 1, 2025

Ms. SCHRIER (for herself and Ms. STRICKLAND) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to provide grants to covered entities to develop, modify, or implement climate adaptation and climate mitigation proposals on agricultural land, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Partnerships for Agri-  
5 cultural Climate Action Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR CLIMATE MITIGATION AND ADAP-**  
2 **TATION.**

3 Section 1240H of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16  
4 U.S.C. 3839aa-8) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(2)—

6 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “,  
7 Tribal,” after “provided by State”; and

8 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “for  
9 pollution reduction” and inserting “for pollution  
10 and emissions reductions”;

11 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
12 section (e); and

13 (3) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
14 lowing:

15 “(d) GRANTS FOR CLIMATE MITIGATION AND CLI-  
16 MATE ADAPTATION.—

17 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

18 “(A) CLIMATE ADAPTATION.—The term  
19 ‘climate adaptation’ means, with respect to an  
20 agricultural management system, management  
21 changes to such agricultural management sys-  
22 tem to reduce vulnerability to and recover from  
23 climate and other related disturbances, such  
24 that the system thrives in the face of severe  
25 weather impacts and other associated chal-  
26 lenges, including management changes that

1 builds agricultural resilience through actions  
2 such as improved nutrient management and en-  
3 hancing soil health.

4 “(B) CLIMATE MITIGATION.—The term  
5 ‘climate mitigation’ means, with respect to an  
6 agricultural management system, management  
7 changes to such agricultural management sys-  
8 tem to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and se-  
9 quester carbon in soil and plant biomass on ag-  
10 ricultural land.

11 “(C) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘cov-  
12 ered entity’ means—

13 “(i) the department of agriculture of  
14 a State;

15 “(ii) an applicable Tribal Government  
16 authority;

17 “(iii) an agricultural or silvicultural  
18 producer association or other group of pro-  
19 ducers;

20 “(iv) a farmer cooperative;

21 “(v) an institution of higher edu-  
22 cation;

23 “(vi) a conservation commission or  
24 district; or

1           “(vii) an organization or entity with  
2           an established history of working coopera-  
3           tively with producers on agricultural land,  
4           as determined by the Secretary, to address  
5           local conservation priorities related to agri-  
6           cultural production or nonindustrial pri-  
7           vate forestland management in connection  
8           to climate mitigation or adaptation.

9           “(D) ELIGIBLE PROPOSAL.—The term ‘eli-  
10          gible proposal’ means a proposal for climate  
11          mitigation and climate adaptation activities on  
12          agricultural land, which—

13           “(i) is broadly consistent with part III  
14          of the Action Plan for Climate Adaptation  
15          and Resilience, titled ‘USDA’s Adaptation  
16          Actions’, published by the Department of  
17          Agriculture (August 2021);

18           “(ii) is broadly consistent with con-  
19          servation practices identified by the Nat-  
20          ural Resources Conservation Service to re-  
21          duce greenhouse gas emissions or to se-  
22          quester carbon;

23           “(iii) is broadly consistent with the  
24          latest available scientific research on re-  
25          gionally-relevant climate mitigation and

1 adaptation strategies for agricultural land;  
2 and

3 “(iv) identifies effective strategies, in-  
4 cluding strategies developed from tradi-  
5 tional ecological knowledge such as indige-  
6 nous agricultural knowledge practices, for  
7 increasing adoption of regionally appro-  
8 priate management practices and systems  
9 implemented on privately owned agricul-  
10 tural land under the jurisdiction of the ap-  
11 plicable State government or Tribal Gov-  
12 ernment that achieve at least two of the  
13 following outcomes:

14 “(I) Increase in carbon seques-  
15 tration.

16 “(II) Reduction of greenhouse  
17 gas emissions.

18 “(III) Increased resilience  
19 against extreme weather.

20 “(E) INDIGENOUS AGRICULTURAL KNOWL-  
21 EDGE.—The term ‘indigenous agricultural  
22 knowledge’ means the applied knowledge for  
23 raising or producing food and other agricultural  
24 products grounded in indigenous belief systems

1 and practices that have been time-tested over  
2 millennia.

3 “(F) TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWL-  
4 EDGE.—The term ‘traditional ecological knowl-  
5 edge’ means a cumulative body of knowledge,  
6 practice, and belief, developed by Native Amer-  
7 ican, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and  
8 other Indigenous communities, evolving by  
9 adaptive processes and handed down through  
10 generations by cultural transmissions, about the  
11 relationship of living beings (including humans)  
12 with one another and their environments, in-  
13 cluding indigenous agricultural knowledge.

14 “(G) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term  
15 ‘Tribal Government’ means—

16 “(i) the governing body of an Indian  
17 tribe;

18 “(ii) the governing body of a State-  
19 recognized Tribal organization; and

20 “(iii) the governing body of a Native  
21 Hawaiian community or organization.

22 “(2) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide  
23 grants to covered entities to—

24 “(A) develop or modify an eligible pro-  
25 posal; or

1           “(B) implement an eligible proposal.

2           “(3) APPLICATION.—

3           “(A) IN GENERAL.—A covered entity ap-  
4           plying for a grant under this subsection shall  
5           prepare and submit an application at such time,  
6           in such a manner, and containing such informa-  
7           tion as the Secretary shall require, including an  
8           assurance that grant funds received under this  
9           subsection shall supplement, not supplant, the  
10          expenditure of funds of such covered entity in  
11          developing, modifying, or implementing eligible  
12          proposals.

13          “(B) OPTION FOR TRIBAL GOVERN-  
14          MENTS.—At the sole discretion of a Tribal Gov-  
15          ernment, such Tribal Government may, in lieu  
16          of submitting an applications under subpara-  
17          graph (A), opt to join an application submitted  
18          by any other covered entity for an eligible pro-  
19          posal relating to agricultural lands under the  
20          jurisdiction of such Tribal Government and that  
21          are located within, at least in part, the geo-  
22          graphic boundary of such covered entity.

23          “(C) SOLICITATION OF APPLICATIONS.—

24                  “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than  
25                  180 days after the date of enactment of

1 the Partnerships for Agricultural Climate  
2 Action Act, the Secretary shall solicit ap-  
3 plications for grants under this subsection.

4 “(ii) ADDITIONAL SOLICITATIONS.—  
5 The Secretary shall solicit applications for  
6 funding for eligible proposals on a recur-  
7 ring basis after the first round of applica-  
8 tions until all amounts appropriated to  
9 carry out this subsection are expended.

10 “(D) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—Each  
11 application submitted under this paragraph  
12 shall include performance measures to be used  
13 to evaluate an eligible proposal that was devel-  
14 oped, modified, or implemented using a grant  
15 received under this subsection.

16 “(4) SELECTION.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two  
18 years after the date of enactment of the Part-  
19 nerships for Agricultural Climate Action Act,  
20 the Secretary shall select applications submitted  
21 under paragraph (3) to receive a grant under  
22 this subsection in accordance with this para-  
23 graph.

24 “(B) CRITERIA.—In selecting applications  
25 to receive a grant under this subsection—

1           “(i) in the case of an application for  
2           developing or modifying an eligible pro-  
3           posal, the Secretary shall select applica-  
4           tions for eligible proposals that will, if im-  
5           plemented—

6                     “(I) have a high potential for  
7                     carbon sequestration and greenhouse  
8                     gas emissions reductions; and

9                     “(II) increase the resilience of  
10                    agricultural management systems to  
11                    extreme weather and climate condi-  
12                    tions;

13           “(ii) in the case of an application for  
14           implementing an eligible proposal, the Sec-  
15           retary shall select applications for eligible  
16           proposals that—

17                    “(I) have a high potential for  
18                    carbon sequestration or greenhouse  
19                    gas emissions reductions;

20                    “(II) increase the resilience of  
21                    agricultural management systems to  
22                    extreme weather and climate condi-  
23                    tions; and

24           “(iii) the Secretary shall select appli-  
25           cations for eligible proposals that are based

1 on any other criteria that the Secretary de-  
2 termines necessary or appropriate to carry  
3 out this subsection.

4 “(C) GEOGRAPHICAL DIVERSITY.—In pro-  
5 viding grants under this subsection, the Sec-  
6 retary shall, to the maximum extent practicable,  
7 ensure geographic diversity.

8 “(D) PRIORITY.—In providing grants  
9 under this subsection, the Secretary shall give  
10 priority to—

11 “(i) a covered entity for an eligible  
12 proposal that—

13 “(I) includes dedicated resources  
14 to historically underserved producers  
15 or farming operations, including—

16 “(aa) beginning farmers or  
17 ranchers;

18 “(bb) socially disadvantaged  
19 farmers or ranchers;

20 “(cc) veteran farmers and  
21 ranchers, as defined in section  
22 2501(a) of the Food, Agriculture,  
23 Conservation, and Trade Act of  
24 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a)); and

1           “(dd) small or mid-sized  
2           farms that are structured as  
3           family farms, as defined in sec-  
4           tion 761.2 of title 7, Code of  
5           Federal Regulations;

6           “(II) includes plans to transition  
7           whole farm systems to ecologically  
8           sound production systems that—

9           “(aa) increase carbon se-  
10          questration;

11          “(bb) reduce greenhouse gas  
12          emissions; or

13          “(cc) build resilience to ex-  
14          treme weather; or

15          “(III) supports additional con-  
16          servation goals, including—

17          “(aa) improving soil health;

18          “(bb) erosion control;

19          “(cc) improving nutrient  
20          management;

21          “(dd) improving water qual-  
22          ity;

23          “(ee) enhancing pollinator  
24          forage; and

1                                   “(ff) habitat restoration;

2                                   and

3                                   “(ii) the applicable Tribal Government  
4                                   authority for an eligible proposal that in-  
5                                   cludes use of traditional ecological knowl-  
6                                   edge or indigenous agricultural knowledge  
7                                   practices.

8                                   “(5) PARTNERSHIPS OPTION.—A covered entity  
9                                   may enter into partnership agreements for the devel-  
10                                   opment, modification, or implementation of an eligi-  
11                                   ble proposal with one or more other covered entities.

12                                   “(6) USE OF IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—A  
13                                   covered entity may use a grant provided under para-  
14                                   graph (2)(B) for activities to implement an eligible  
15                                   proposal, including—

16                                   “(A) provision of technical assistance to  
17                                   producers;

18                                   “(B) provision of financial assistance to  
19                                   producers;

20                                   “(C) on-farm research and demonstration;

21                                   “(D) extension, education, outreach, and  
22                                   training;

23                                   “(E) monitoring and evaluating soil carbon  
24                                   sequestration, greenhouse gas emissions reduc-  
25                                   tions, and other conservation outcomes;

1           “(F) local producer-to-producer networking  
2           and mentoring activities; and

3           “(G) other activities as the Secretary de-  
4           termines appropriate.

5           “(7) GRANT TERM.—

6           “(A) DEVELOPMENT AND MODIFICATION  
7           GRANTS.—With respect to a grant under para-  
8           graph (2)(A), the Secretary—

9           “(i) shall provide such grant for a  
10           term of not less than one year and not  
11           more than two years; and

12           “(ii) may renew such grant once at  
13           the end of a term under clause (i), under  
14           which renewal the Secretary may provide  
15           additional grant funds after the initial  
16           grant funds have been expended.

17           “(B) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—With  
18           respect to a grant under paragraph (2)(B), the  
19           Secretary—

20           “(i) shall provide such grant for a  
21           term of not less than one year and not  
22           more than five years; and

23           “(ii) may renew such grant at the end  
24           of a term under clause (i), under which re-  
25           newal the Secretary may provide additional

1 grant funds after the initial grant funds  
2 have been expended.

3 “(8) GRANT AMOUNT.—

4 “(A) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The Secretary  
5 may provide a grant to a covered entity—

6 “(i) in the case of a grant under para-  
7 graph (2)(A), in an amount not to exceed  
8 \$7,500,000 per fiscal year; and

9 “(ii) in the case of a grant under  
10 paragraph (2)(B), in an amount not to ex-  
11 ceed \$15,000,000 per fiscal year.

12 “(B) FEDERAL SHARE.—

13 “(i) GRANTS TO CERTAIN COVERED  
14 ENTITIES.—The Secretary shall not pro-  
15 vide a grant under this subsection to a cov-  
16 ered entity that is not an applicable Tribal  
17 Government authority in an amount that  
18 exceeds—

19 “(I) 75 percent of the cost of de-  
20 veloping or modifying an eligible pro-  
21 posal under paragraph (2)(A); or

22 “(II) 50 percent of the cost of  
23 implementing an eligible proposal  
24 under paragraph (2)(B).

1           “(ii) GRANTS TO TRIBAL GOVERN-  
2           MENTS.—The Secretary shall not provide a  
3           grant under this subsection to an applica-  
4           ble Tribal Government authority in an  
5           amount that exceeds—

6                   “(I) 100 percent of the cost of  
7                   developing or modifying an eligible  
8                   proposal under paragraph (2)(A); or

9                   “(II) 85 percent of the cost of  
10                  implementing an eligible proposal  
11                  under paragraph (2)(B).

12               “(iii) RESTRICTION.—Clause (ii) does  
13               not apply to Tribal Governments that opt  
14               to join an application submitted by another  
15               covered entity under paragraph (3)(B).

16               “(C) NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.—The Sec-  
17               retary shall provide a grant under this sub-  
18               section on the condition that any non-Federal  
19               share of expenditures be provided from non-  
20               Federal sources.

21               “(9) PERFORMANCE MEASURES REVIEW AND  
22               EVALUATION.—Each covered entity that receives a  
23               grant under this subsection shall submit to the Sec-  
24               retary a review and evaluation of the progress of  
25               such covered entity, using the performance measures

1 included in the application under paragraph (3)(D),  
2 at such intervals as the Secretary shall establish.

3 “(10) EFFECT OF NONCOMPLIANCE.—If the  
4 Secretary, after reasonable notice to a covered enti-  
5 ty, determines that there has been a failure by such  
6 covered entity to comply with the terms of a grant  
7 made under this subsection, the Secretary may dis-  
8 qualify, for one or more years, such covered entity  
9 from receipt of future grants under this subsection.

10 “(11) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—For each year  
11 that a covered entity receives funds from a grant  
12 provided under this subsection, such covered entity  
13 shall—

14 “(A) conduct an audit of any expenditures  
15 by such covered entity that were paid for using  
16 such funds; and

17 “(B) not later than 30 days after the com-  
18 pletion of the audit under subparagraph (A),  
19 submit to the Secretary a copy of such audit.

20 “(12) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—

21 “(A) SECRETARY.—The Secretary may not  
22 use more than 3 percent of the funds made  
23 available to carry out this subsection for a fiscal  
24 year for administrative expenses.

1           “(B) CERTAIN COVERED ENTITIES.—A  
2 covered entity, that is not an applicable Tribal  
3 Government authority, receiving a grant under  
4 this section may not use more than 10 percent  
5 of the granted funds for administrative ex-  
6 penses.

7           “(C) TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.—An applica-  
8 ble Tribal Government authority receiving a  
9 grant under this section may not use more than  
10 15 percent of the granted funds for administra-  
11 tive expenses.

12           “(13) FUNDING.—

13           “(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds made  
14 available to carry out this subchapter, the Sec-  
15 retary shall carry out this subsection using  
16 \$150,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026  
17 through 2034.

18           “(B) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—The Sec-  
19 retary shall distribute funds made available to  
20 carry out this subsection as follows:

21           “(i) At least 33 percent of funds to  
22 support the development and modification  
23 of eligible proposals under paragraph  
24 (2)(A).

1                   “(ii) At least 33 percent of funds to  
2                   support the implementation of eligible pro-  
3                   posals under paragraph (2)(B).

4                   “(C) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the  
5                   funds made available for grants under this sub-  
6                   section, 33 percent shall be reserved for grants  
7                   provided to the applicable Tribal Government  
8                   authorities.”.

○

**H.R. 6697, Expanding Access To Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act  
(EAT Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act)**



119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION **H. R. 6697**

To amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to provide additional agricultural products for distribution by emergency feeding organizations; and for other purposes.

---

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 12, 2025

Ms. SCHRIER (for herself, Mr. VAN DREW, and Ms. BONAMICI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to provide additional agricultural products for distribution by emergency feeding organizations; and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Expanding Access To  
5 Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act” or the “EAT  
6 Healthy Foods from Local Farmers Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) PURCHASE OF PRIORITY AGRICULTURAL PROD-  
3 UCTS.—Section 203D of the Emergency Food Assistance  
4 Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7507) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a) by inserting “or that State  
6 agencies purchase using funds made available under  
7 subsection (d),” after “distribution,”,

8 (2) in subsection (b) by inserting “or pur-  
9 chased” after “donated”,

10 (3) by striking subsection (c),

11 (4) in subsection (d)—

12 (A) by striking “(d)” and inserting “(e)”,

13 and

14 (B) in paragraph (2)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (A) by striking  
16 “subparagraphs (B) and (C)” and insert-  
17 ing “subparagraph (B)”,

18 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B), and

19 (iii) by redesignating subparagraph  
20 (C) as subparagraph (B), and

21 (5) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
22 lowing:

23 “(d) PROJECTS FOR STATES TO PURCHASE CERTAIN  
24 COMMODITIES FROM ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

25 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

1           “(A) PROJECT.—The term ‘project’ means  
2           the purchase of priority agricultural products  
3           from eligible entities, and the distribution of  
4           those products to needy persons through emer-  
5           gency feeding organizations under subsection  
6           (a).

7           “(B) PRIORITY AGRICULTURAL PROD-  
8           UCT.—The term ‘priority agricultural product’  
9           means a fruit, vegetable, dairy, meat, seafood,  
10          grain, poultry, or other commodity food prod-  
11          uct, available for sale by eligible entities and  
12          that States determine to be appropriate for dis-  
13          tribution through emergency feeding organiza-  
14          tions and culturally or religiously relevant to  
15          the local communities that will distribute the  
16          products.

17          “(C) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-  
18          ble entity’ means any of the following small  
19          businesses that is a grower, packer, processor,  
20          distributor, food-hub, or a cooperative, and  
21          that—

22                  “(i) is—

23                          “(I)   underserved,   including  
24                          women-owned or veteran-owned; or

1           “(II) composed of, or sources ag-  
2           gricultural products from, beginning  
3           farmers, or small or mid-sized farms  
4           that are structured as family farms;

5           “(ii) can deliver the priority agricul-  
6           tural products to emergency feeding orga-  
7           nizations selected by the State as being  
8           most in need of the products; and

9           “(iii) that is committed to serving  
10          communities in need and forging strong re-  
11          lationships with emergency feeding organi-  
12          zations, public agencies, and Tribal govern-  
13          ments through a project, as determined by  
14          the State.

15          “(2) FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PROJECTS.—

16                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
17                 graph (C) and paragraph (4), using funds made  
18                 available under paragraph (5), the Secretary  
19                 may provide funds to States to pay for the costs  
20                 of carrying out a project.

21                 “(B) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days  
22                 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
23                 retary shall issue guidance to States—

24                 “(i) to carry out this section;

1           “(ii) to inform States of their alloca-  
2           tions under paragraph (3);

3           “(iii) to encourage States to partner  
4           with a wide range of emergency feeding or-  
5           ganizations to reach communities in need,  
6           including those disproportionately impacted  
7           by food insecurity; and

8           “(iv) to inform States of public re-  
9           porting requirements and minimum project  
10          performance standards, as developed by  
11          the Secretary.

12          “(C) ALLOCATION.—

13                 “(i) ELIGIBILITY FOR ALLOCATION.—  
14                 The Secretary shall allocate funds made  
15                 available under paragraph (5) based on the  
16                 formula in effect under section 214(a),  
17                 among States that submit a State plan of  
18                 operation for a project that includes—

19                         “(I) a list of eligible entities and  
20                         emergency feeding organizations in  
21                         the State that will operate the project  
22                         in partnership with the State agency;

23                         “(II) at the option of the State,  
24                         a list of priority agricultural products  
25                         located in the State that are available

1 for purchase and transport to emer-  
2 gency feeding organizations to identify  
3 which foods may be included in the  
4 project;

5 “(III) a time line of when the  
6 project will begin operating; and

7 “(IV) a plan to comply with the  
8 standards set out in subparagraph  
9 (B)(iv).

10 “(ii) REALLOCATION.—If the Sec-  
11 retary determines that a State will not ex-  
12 pend all the funds allocated to the State  
13 under clause (i), the Secretary shall reallo-  
14 cate the unexpended funds to other eligible  
15 States.

16 “(iii) REPORT.—Each State that re-  
17 ceives funds allocated under this subpara-  
18 graph shall submit to the Secretary finan-  
19 cial reports on a regular basis describing  
20 the use of the funds.

21 “(3) PROJECT PURPOSES.—A State may only  
22 use Federal funds received under paragraph (2) for  
23 a project the purposes of which are—

24 “(A) to maintain and improve food and ag-  
25 ricultural supply chain resiliency;

1           “(B) to provide food to individuals in need;  
2           and

3           “(C) to build relationships between the  
4           State, eligible entities and emergency feeding  
5           organizations through the purchase of food.

6           “(4) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

7           “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State agency that  
8           carries out a project using Federal funds re-  
9           ceived under this subsection may enter into co-  
10          operative agreements with State agencies of  
11          other States under section 203B(d) to maximize  
12          the use of commodities purchased under the  
13          project.

14          “(B) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 15  
15          days after entering into a cooperative agree-  
16          ment under clause (i), a State agency shall sub-  
17          mit such agreement to the Secretary.

18          “(5) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be ap-  
19          propriated to the Secretary to carry out this sub-  
20          section \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026  
21          through 2030, to remain available until the end of  
22          the respective subsequent fiscal year.

23          “(6) REPORTING.—Not later than 4 years after  
24          the effective date of this subsection, the Secretary  
25          shall submit to the Committee of Agriculture of the

1 House of Representatives and the Committee on Ag-  
2 riculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a  
3 report containing—

4 “(A) an evaluation of the effectiveness of  
5 this subsection in providing nutritious food to  
6 individuals in need, improving agricultural sup-  
7 ply chain resiliency, and expanding economic  
8 opportunity for eligible entities; and

9 “(B) recommendations for the implementa-  
10 tion of this subsection to improve nutrition out-  
11 comes.”.

12 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 202A(b)(5)  
13 of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C.  
14 7503(b)(5)) is amended by striking “donated commodities  
15 received under section 203D(d)” and inserting “commod-  
16 ities donated under subsection (c), or purchased under  
17 subsection (d), of section 203D”.

18 **SEC. 3. INTRADEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION.**

19 (a) WORKING GROUP.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
20 shall create a cross-agency working group within the office  
21 of the Secretary to work with relevant agencies and orga-  
22 nizations of the Department of Agriculture and with  
23 stakeholders to review and reconsider how all Department  
24 procurement of priority agricultural products can be di-  
25 rected to support a wider range of agricultural producers

1 and agricultural product distributors in a manner that  
2 meets the Department's overarching goals of nutrition se-  
3 curity, greater access to culturally or religiously relevant  
4 foods for individuals and households, resilient local and  
5 regional food systems, rural job creation, and reversal of  
6 the concentration of the ownership of the resources for  
7 the production and distribution of agricultural products.

8 (b) ANNUAL REPORT.—The working group estab-  
9 lished under subsection (a) shall submit to the Committee  
10 on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the  
11 Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the  
12 Senate, an annual report describing the working group's  
13 accomplishments, suggestions, and recommendations for  
14 administrative actions and proposed legislation relating to  
15 the activities of such group under such subsection.

○

**H.R. 6819, Bridge to Summer Nutrition Act of 2025**

1

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**H. R. 6819**

To reduce State administrative costs for administration of both the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and the summer electronic benefits transfer program for children under the Richard B. Russell School Lunch Act.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

DECEMBER 17, 2025

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TITUS, Mr. WALKINSHAW, and Ms. WILSON of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

**A BILL**

To reduce State administrative costs for administration of both the supplemental nutrition assistance program under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and the summer electronic benefits transfer program for children under the Richard B. Russell School Lunch Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bridge to Summer Nu-  
3 trition Act of 2025”.

4 **SEC. 2. INCREASED PAYMENTS TO STATE FOR ADMINIS-**  
5 **TRATIVE COSTS.**

6 For each fiscal year in which a State operates the  
7 summer electronic benefits transfer program for children  
8 under section 13A of the Richard B. Russell School Lunch  
9 Act (42 U.S.C. 1762), the Secretary of Agriculture shall  
10 pay to such State 90 percent of the monthly administra-  
11 tive costs incurred in such fiscal year described for—

12 (1) the summer electronic benefits transfer pro-  
13 gram for children in section 13A of the Richard B.  
14 Russell School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1762), and

15 (2) the supplemental nutrition assistance pro-  
16 gram in section 16(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act  
17 of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025(a)).

○

**S. 472, Ski Hill Resources for Economic Development Act**

II

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 472**

To amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and for other purposes.

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 IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 6 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 5), 2025

Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. SHEEHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

**A BILL**

To amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ski Hill Resources for  
 5 Economic Development Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF SKI AREA FEE RETENTION AC-**  
2 **COUNT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 701 of division I of the  
4 Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of  
5 1996 (16 U.S.C. 497e) is amended by adding at the end  
6 the following:

7 “(k) SKI AREA FEE RETENTION ACCOUNT.—

8 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

9 “(A) ACCOUNT.—The term ‘Account’  
10 means the Ski Area Fee Retention Account es-  
11 tablished under paragraph (2).

12 “(B) COVERED UNIT.—The term ‘covered  
13 unit’ means the unit of the National Forest  
14 System that collects the ski area permit rental  
15 charge under this section.

16 “(C) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’  
17 means the Secretary of Agriculture.

18 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the  
19 Treasury shall establish a special account in the  
20 Treasury, to be known as the ‘Ski Area Fee Reten-  
21 tion Account’.

22 “(3) DEPOSITS.—Subject to paragraphs (4)  
23 and (5), a ski area permit rental charge collected by  
24 the Secretary under this section shall—

25 “(A) be deposited in the Account;

1           “(B) be available to the Secretary for use,  
2           without further appropriation; and

3           “(C) remain available for the period of 4  
4           fiscal years beginning with the first fiscal year  
5           after the fiscal year in which the ski area per-  
6           mit rental charge is deposited in the Account  
7           under subparagraph (A).

8           “(4) DISTRIBUTION OF AMOUNTS IN THE AC-  
9           COUNT.—

10           “(A) LOCAL DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—

11           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-  
12           vided in subparagraph (C), the Secretary  
13           shall expend 80 percent of the ski area  
14           permit rental charges deposited in the Ac-  
15           count from a covered unit at the covered  
16           unit in accordance with clause (ii).

17           “(ii) DISTRIBUTION.—Of the amounts  
18           made available for expenditure under  
19           clause (i)—

20           “(I) 75 percent shall be used at  
21           the covered unit for activities de-  
22           scribed in paragraph (5)(A); and

23           “(II) 25 percent shall be used for  
24           activities at the covered unit described  
25           in paragraph (5)(B).

1           “(B) AGENCY-WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF  
2 FUNDS.—The Secretary shall expend 20 percent  
3 of the ski area permit rental charges deposited  
4 in the Account from a covered unit at any unit  
5 of the National Forest System for an activity  
6 described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of para-  
7 graph (5).

8           “(C) REDUCTION OF PERCENTAGE.—

9           “(i) REDUCTION.—The Secretary  
10 shall reduce the percentage otherwise ap-  
11 plicable under subparagraph (A)(i) to not  
12 less than 60 percent if the Secretary deter-  
13 mines that the amount otherwise made  
14 available under that subparagraph exceeds  
15 the reasonable needs of the covered unit  
16 for which expenditures may be made in the  
17 applicable fiscal year.

18           “(ii) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—The  
19 balance of the ski area permit rental  
20 charges that are collected at a covered  
21 unit, deposited into the Account, and not  
22 distributed in accordance with subpara-  
23 graph (A) or (B) shall be available to the  
24 Secretary for expenditure at any other unit

1 of the National Forest System in accord-  
2 ance with the following:

3 “(I) 75 percent shall be used for  
4 activities described in paragraph  
5 (5)(A).

6 “(II) 25 percent shall be used for  
7 activities described in paragraph  
8 (5)(B).

9 “(5) EXPENDITURES.—Amounts available to  
10 the Secretary for expenditure from the Account shall  
11 be only used for—

12 “(A)(i) the administration of the Forest  
13 Service ski area program, including—

14 “(I) the processing of an application  
15 for a new ski area or a ski area improve-  
16 ment project, including staffing and con-  
17 tracting for the processing; and

18 “(II) administering a ski area permit  
19 described in subsection (a);

20 “(ii) staff training for—

21 “(I) the processing of an application  
22 for—

23 “(aa) a new ski area;

24 “(bb) a ski area improvement  
25 project; or

- 1 “(cc) a special use permit; or  
2 “(II) administering—  
3 “(aa) a ski area permit described  
4 in subsection (a); or  
5 “(bb) a special use permit;  
6 “(iii) an interpretation activity, National  
7 Forest System visitor information, a visitor  
8 service, or signage;  
9 “(iv) direct costs associated with collecting  
10 a ski area permit rental charge or other fee col-  
11 lected by the Secretary related to recreation;  
12 “(v) planning for, or coordinating to re-  
13 spond to, a wildfire in or adjacent to a recre-  
14 ation site, particularly a ski area; or  
15 “(vi) reducing the likelihood of a wildfire  
16 starting, or the risks posed by a wildfire, in or  
17 adjacent to a recreation site, particularly a ski  
18 area, except through hazardous fuels reduction  
19 activities; or  
20 “(B)(i) the repair, maintenance, or enhance-  
21 ment of a Forest Service-owned facility, road, or  
22 trail directly related to visitor enjoyment, visitor ac-  
23 cess, or visitor health or safety;  
24 “(ii) habitat restoration directly related to  
25 recreation;

- 1           “(iii) law enforcement related to public use and  
2 recreation;
- 3           “(iv) the construction or expansion of parking  
4 areas;
- 5           “(v) the processing or administering of a recre-  
6 ation special use permit;
- 7           “(vi) avalanche information and education ac-  
8 tivities carried out by the Secretary or nonprofit  
9 partners;
- 10          “(vii) search and rescue activities carried out by  
11 the Secretary, a local government, or a nonprofit  
12 partner; or
- 13          “(viii) the administration of leases under—
- 14               “(I) the Forest Service Facility Realign-  
15 ment and Enhancement Act of 2005 (16 U.S.C.  
16 580d note; Public Law 109–54); and
- 17               “(II) section 8623 of the Agriculture Im-  
18 provement Act of 2018 (16 U.S.C. 580d note;  
19 Public Law 115–334).
- 20          “(6) LIMITATION.—Amounts in the Account  
21 may not be used for—
- 22               “(A) the conduct of wildfire suppression;  
23 or
- 24               “(B) the acquisition of land for inclusion  
25 in the National Forest System.

1 “(7) EFFECT.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this sub-  
3 section affects the applicability of section 7 of  
4 the Act of April 24, 1950 (commonly known as  
5 the ‘Granger-Thye Act’) (16 U.S.C. 580d), to  
6 ski areas on National Forest System land.

7 “(B) SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING.—Rental  
8 charges retained and expended under this sub-  
9 section shall supplement (and not supplant) ap-  
10 propriated funding for the operation and main-  
11 tenance of each covered unit.

12 “(C) COST RECOVERY.—Nothing in this  
13 subsection affects any cost recovery under any  
14 provision of law (including regulations) for  
15 processing an application for or monitoring  
16 compliance with a ski area permit or other  
17 recreation special use permit.”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section (including the  
19 amendments made by this section) shall take effect on the  
20 date that is 60 days after the date of enactment of this  
21 Act.

○

**S. 1107, Making Access To Cleanup Happen Act of 2025 (MATCH Act of 2025)**



II

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1107

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to preagreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 25, 2025

Mr. CURTIS (for himself and Mr. BENNET) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

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## A BILL

To amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 with respect to preagreement costs of emergency watershed protection measures, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Making Access To  
5 Cleanup Happen Act of 2025” or the “MATCH Act of  
6 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROGRAM.**

2 Section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978  
3 (16 U.S.C. 2203) is amended by adding at the end the  
4 following:

5 “(c) PREAGREEMENT COSTS.—

6 “(1) DEFINITION OF SPONSOR.—In this sub-  
7 section, the term ‘sponsor’ means—

8 “(A) a State or local government; and

9 “(B) an Indian Tribe (as defined in section  
10 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
11 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).

12 “(2) PREAGREEMENT PROJECT COSTS.—Not  
13 later than 180 days after the date of enactment of  
14 this subsection, the Secretary shall—

15 “(A) identify a list of emergency watershed  
16 protection measures the cost of which may be  
17 incurred by a sponsor prior to entering into an  
18 agreement with the Secretary under this sec-  
19 tion; and

20 “(B) develop a procedure, including appro-  
21 priate deadlines, to be implemented at the State  
22 level, through which a sponsor may request, for  
23 a specified natural disaster, additional emer-  
24 gency watershed protection measures the cost of  
25 which may be incurred by a sponsor prior to en-

1           tering into an agreement with the Secretary  
2           under this section.

3           “(3) AGREEMENT CONTRIBUTION.—If the Sec-  
4           retary and a sponsor enter into an agreement under  
5           this section, the Secretary shall consider any appli-  
6           cable preagreement costs incurred by the sponsor for  
7           undertaking emergency watershed protection meas-  
8           ures identified under paragraph (2) as meeting part  
9           of the contribution of the sponsor toward the cost of  
10          the project.

11          “(4) ASSUMPTION OF RISK.—A sponsor that  
12          undertakes emergency watershed protection meas-  
13          ures prior to entering into an agreement with the  
14          Secretary under this section shall assume the risk of  
15          incurring any cost of undertaking those measures.

16          “(5) EFFECT.—Nothing in this subsection re-  
17          quires the Secretary to enter into an agreement with  
18          a sponsor.”.

○

**S. 1326, Food Security and Farm Protection Act**



II

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1326

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 8, 2025

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BUDD, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mr. TILLIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

---

## A BILL

To prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Food Security and  
5 Farm Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION AGAINST INTERFERENCE BY STATE**  
2 **AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH PRODUC-**  
3 **TION OF ITEMS IN OTHER STATES.**

4 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
5 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
6 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
7 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

8 (b) PROHIBITION.—The government of a State or a  
9 unit of local government within a State shall not impose  
10 a standard or condition on the preharvest production of  
11 any agricultural products sold or offered for sale in inter-  
12 state commerce if—

13 (1) the production occurs in another State; and

14 (2) subject to subsection (c), the standard or  
15 condition is in addition to the standards and condi-  
16 tions applicable to the production pursuant to—

17 (A) Federal law; and

18 (B) the laws of the State and unit of local  
19 government in which the production occurs.

20 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—If no standards or  
21 conditions are applicable to the production of an agricul-  
22 tural product pursuant to Federal law, or the laws of a  
23 State or unit of local government in which the production  
24 occurs, that lack of standards and conditions shall be  
25 deemed to be the standards and conditions applicable to

1 the production of the agricultural product for purposes of  
2 subsection (b)(2).

3 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CAUSE OF ACTION TO CHALLENGE STATE**  
4 **REGULATION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE.**

5 (a) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.—In  
6 this section, the term “agricultural products” has the  
7 meaning given the term in section 207 of the Agricultural  
8 Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1626).

9 (b) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—A person, includ-  
10 ing a producer, a transporter, a distributor, a consumer,  
11 a laborer, a trade association, the Federal Government,  
12 a State government, or a unit of local government, that  
13 is affected by a regulation of a State or unit of local gov-  
14 ernment that regulates any aspect of 1 or more agricul-  
15 tural products that are sold in interstate commerce, in-  
16 cluding any aspect of the method of production, or any  
17 means or instrumentality through which 1 or more agri-  
18 cultural products are sold in interstate commerce may  
19 bring an action in the appropriate court to invalidate that  
20 regulation and seek damages for economic loss resulting  
21 from that regulation.

22 (c) PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION.—On a motion of the  
23 plaintiff in an action brought under subsection (b), the  
24 court shall issue a preliminary injunction to preclude the  
25 applicable State or unit of local government from enforce-

1 ing the regulation at issue until such time as the court  
2 enters a final judgment in the case, unless the State or  
3 unit of local government proves by clear and convincing  
4 evidence that—

5 (1) the State or unit of local government is like-  
6 ly to prevail on the merits at trial; and

7 (2) the injunction would cause irreparable harm  
8 to the State or unit of local government.

9 (d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No action shall be  
10 maintained under this section unless the action is com-  
11 menced not later than 10 years after the cause of action  
12 arose.

13 (e) JURISDICTION.—A person described in subsection  
14 (b) may bring an action under that subsection in—

15 (1) the district court of the United States for  
16 the judicial district in which the person—

17 (A) is affected by a regulation described in  
18 that subsection; or

19 (B) resides, operates, or does business; or

20 (2) any other appropriate court otherwise hav-  
21 ing jurisdiction.

○

**S. 1462, Fix Our Forests Act, as Reported in Senate**<sup>2</sup>

II

**Calendar No. 212**119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 1462**

To improve forest management activities on National Forest System land, public land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Tribal land to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested land, and for other purposes.

---

 IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 10, 2025

Mr. CURTIS (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. SHEEHY, and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

OCTOBER 27, 2025

Reported by Mr. BOOZMAN, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

---

**A BILL**

To improve forest management activities on National Forest System land, public land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Tribal land to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested land, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

---

<sup>2</sup>**Editor's note:** due to the size of S. 1462, 406 pages, it is not reproduced herein in its entirety (it is retained in Committee file). Only the referenced section, and Table of Contents (strikethrough included), are treated as submitted: Sec. 502. Emergency forest watershed program. (pp. 382–387).

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Fix Our Forests Act”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

**TITLE I—LANDSCAPE-SCALE RESTORATION****Subtitle A—Addressing Emergency Wildfire Risks in High-priority Firesheds**

Sec. 401. Designation of fireshed management areas.

Sec. 402. Wildfire Intelligence Center.

Sec. 403. Fireshed Registry.

Sec. 404. Shared stewardship.

Sec. 405. Fireshed assessments.

Sec. 406. Emergency fireshed management.

Sec. 407. Sunset.

**Subtitle B—Expanding Collaborative Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk and Improve Forest Health**

Sec. 411. Modification of treatment of certain revenue and payments under good neighbor agreements.

Sec. 412. Fixing stewardship end result contracting.

Sec. 413. Fireshed management project strike teams.

Sec. 414. Locally led restoration.

Sec. 415. Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership Program.

Sec. 416. Collaborative forest landscape restoration program.

Sec. 417. Utilizing grazing for wildfire risk reduction.

Sec. 418. Water Source Protection Program.

Sec. 419. Watershed Condition Framework technical corrections.

Sec. 420. Tribal forest protection management activities and projects.

**Subtitle C—Litigation Reform**

Sec. 421. Commonsense litigation reform.

Sec. 422. Consultation on forest plans.

**Subtitle D—Prescribed Fire**

Sec. 431. Prescribed fire eligible activities, policies, and practices.

Sec. 432. Human resources.

Sec. 433. Liability of prescribed fire managers.

Sec. 434. Environmental review.

Sec. 435. Cooperative agreements and contracts for prescribed fire.

Sec. 436. Facilitating responsible use of prescribed fire.

**TITLE II—PROTECTING COMMUNITIES IN WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE**

Subtitle A—Community Wildfire Risk Reduction

- Sec. 201: Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program.
- Sec. 202: Community Wildfire Defense Research Program.
- Sec. 203: Community wildfire defense accountability.
- Sec. 204: Community wildfire defense grant program improvements.
- Sec. 205: Updated definition of at-risk community.

Subtitle B—Vegetation Management, Reforestation, and Local Fire  
Suppression

- Sec. 211: Vegetation management, facility inspection, and operation and maintenance relating to electric transmission and distribution facility rights-of-way.
- Sec. 212: Fire-safe electrical corridors.
- Sec. 213: Categorical exclusion for high-priority hazard trees.
- Sec. 214: Seeds of Success strategy.
- Sec. 215: Program to support priority reforestation and restoration projects.
- Sec. 216: Reforestation, nurseries, and genetic resources support.
- Sec. 217: Fire department repayment.

TITLE III—TRANSPARENCY, TECHNOLOGY, AND PARTNERSHIPS

Subtitle A—Transparency and Technology

- Sec. 301: Biochar innovations and opportunities for conservation, health, and advancements in research.
- Sec. 302: Accurate hazardous fuels reduction reports.
- Sec. 303: Public-private wildfire technology deployment and demonstration partnership.
- Sec. 304: GAO study on Forest Service policies.
- Sec. 305: Keeping forest plans current and monitored.
- Sec. 306: Container Aerial Firefighting System.
- Sec. 307: Study on pine beetle infestation.

Subtitle B—White Oak Resilience

- Sec. 311: White Oak Restoration Initiative Coalition.
- Sec. 312: Forest Service pilot program.
- Sec. 313: Department of the Interior white oak review and restoration.
- Sec. 314: White oak regeneration and upland oak habitat.
- Sec. 315: Tree nursery shortages.
- Sec. 316: White oak research.
- Sec. 317: USDA formal initiative.
- Sec. 318: Use of authorities.

TITLE IV—ENSURING CASUALTY ASSISTANCE FOR  
FIREFIGHTERS

- Sec. 401: Wildland Fire Management Casualty Assistance Program.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2       **In this Act:**

1       ance provided to survivors and next-of-kin of fire-  
2       fighters or wildland fire support personnel.

3       (d) NO EFFECT ON OTHER LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH  
4       BENEFITS.—The program shall not affect any existing au-  
5       thority for line-of-duty death benefits for Federal fire-  
6       fighters or wildland fire support personnel.

7       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

8       (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the “Fix  
9       Our Forests Act”.

10       (b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents for  
11       this Act is as follows:

*Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.*

*Sec. 2. Definitions.*

**TITLE I—LANDSCAPE-SCALE RESTORATION**

*Subtitle A—Addressing Emergency Wildfire Risks in High-priority Firesheds*

*Sec. 101. Designation of fireshed management areas.*

*Sec. 102. Wildland Fire Intelligence Center.*

*Sec. 103. Fireshed Registry.*

*Sec. 104. Shared stewardship.*

*Sec. 105. Fireshed assessments.*

*Sec. 106. Emergency fireshed management.*

*Sec. 107. Study on the impacts of fireshed management projects on wildfire risk  
to communities and wildlife habitat.*

*Sec. 108. Sunset.*

*Subtitle B—Expanding Collaborative Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk and  
Improve Forest Health*

*Sec. 111. Modification of treatment of certain revenue and payments under good  
neighbor agreements.*

*Sec. 112. Firing stewardship end result contracting.*

*Sec. 113. Fireshed management project strike teams.*

*Sec. 114. Locally led restoration.*

*Sec. 115. Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership Program.*

*Sec. 116. Collaborative forest landscape restoration program.*

*Sec. 117. Utilizing grazing for wildfire risk reduction.*

*Sec. 118. Water Source Protection Program.*

*Sec. 119. Watershed Condition Framework technical corrections.*

*Sec. 120. Tribal forest protection management activities and projects.*

*Sec. 121. Establishment of regional wildland fire research centers.*

- Sec. 122. Contracts, grants, and agreements to carry out certain ecosystem restoration activities.*
- Sec. 123. Reforestation of land destroyed by Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire.*
- Sec. 124. Contract preference for local contractors for certain hazardous fuel reduction projects.*

*Subtitle C—Litigation Reform*

- Sec. 131. Litigation reform.*
- Sec. 132. Consultation on forest plans.*

*Subtitle D—Prescribed Fire*

- Sec. 141. Prescribed fire eligible activities, policies, and practices.*
- Sec. 142. Human resources.*
- Sec. 143. Liability of prescribed fire managers.*
- Sec. 144. Environmental review.*
- Sec. 145. Cooperative agreements and contracts for prescribed fire.*
- Sec. 146. Facilitating responsible use of prescribed fire.*

*TITLE II—PROTECTING COMMUNITIES AT RISK*

*Subtitle A—Community Wildfire Risk Reduction*

- Sec. 201. Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program.*
- Sec. 202. Community Wildfire Defense Research Program.*
- Sec. 203. Community wildfire defense grant program improvements.*
- Sec. 204. Updated definition of at-risk community.*

*Subtitle B—Vegetation Management, Reforestation, and Local Fire Risk Mitigation*

- Sec. 211. Vegetation management, facility inspection, and operation and maintenance relating to electric transmission and distribution facility rights-of-way.*
- Sec. 212. Fire-safe electrical corridors.*
- Sec. 213. Categorical exclusion for high-priority hazard trees.*
- Sec. 214. Seeds of Success strategy.*
- Sec. 215. Program to support priority reforestation and restoration projects.*
- Sec. 216. Reforestation, nurseries, and genetic resources support.*
- Sec. 217. Fire department repayment.*

*TITLE III—TRANSPARENCY, TECHNOLOGY, AND PARTNERSHIPS*

*Subtitle A—Transparency and Technology*

- Sec. 301. Biochar innovations and opportunities for conservation, health, and advancements in research.*
- Sec. 302. Accurate hazardous fuels reduction reports.*
- Sec. 303. Public-private wildfire technology deployment and demonstration partnership.*
- Sec. 304. GAO study on Forest Service policies.*
- Sec. 305. Keeping forest plans current and monitored.*
- Sec. 306. Container Aerial Firefighting System.*
- Sec. 307. Study on pine beetle infestation.*
- Sec. 308. Study on wildfire smoke.*

*Subtitle B—White Oak Resilience*

- Sec. 311. *White Oak Restoration Initiative Coalition.*  
 Sec. 312. *Forest Service pilot program.*  
 Sec. 313. *Department of the Interior white oak review and restoration.*  
 Sec. 314. *White oak regeneration and upland oak habitat.*  
 Sec. 315. *Tree nursery shortages.*  
 Sec. 316. *White oak research.*  
 Sec. 317. *National Institute of Food and Agriculture.*  
 Sec. 318. *USDA formal initiative.*  
 Sec. 319. *Use of authorities.*

*TITLE IV—ENSURING CASUALTY ASSISTANCE FOR FIREFIGHTERS*

- Sec. 401. *Wildland Fire Management Casualty Assistance Program.*

*TITLE V—OTHER MATTERS*

- Sec. 501. *Use of funds from cooperative funds agreements.*  
 Sec. 502. *Emergency forest watershed program.*  
 Sec. 503. *Improving the Emergency Conservation Program.*  
 Sec. 504. *Improving the Emergency Forest Restoration Program.*  
 Sec. 505. *Establishment of a unified disaster assistance intake process and system.*

**1 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 *In this Act:*

3 (1) *END WATER USER.*—*The term “end water*  
 4 *user” has the meaning given the term in section*  
 5 *303(a) of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003*  
 6 *(16 U.S.C. 6542(a)).*

7 (2) *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.*—*The term “Execu-*  
 8 *tive Director” means the Executive Director of the*  
 9 *Wildland Fire Intelligence Center appointed under*  
 10 *section 102(g).*

11 (3) *FIRESHED.*—*The term “fired” means a*  
 12 *landscape-scale area, as delineated using methods de-*  
 13 *veloped through research conducted by the Forest*  
 14 *Service, that represents similar source levels of com-*  
 15 *munity exposure to wildfire.*

1           *agreement would violate section 1341 of title 31,*  
2           *United States Code.*

3           (c) *LIMITATIONS.—*

4           (1) *FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A Federal employee*  
5           *(including seasonal, permanent seasonal, and tem-*  
6           *porary employees) hired using funds provided under*  
7           *a cooperative funds agreement shall not, for the dura-*  
8           *tion of the cooperative funds agreement, be subject*  
9           *to—*

10                    (A) *any limitation on hiring (commonly re-*  
11                    *ferred to as a “hiring freeze”);*

12                    (B) *any reduction in force; or*

13                    (C) *any deferred resignation or voluntary*  
14                    *early retirement program.*

15           (2) *NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.—The non-Federal*  
16           *funds provided to the Secretary pursuant to a cooper-*  
17           *ative funds agreement shall not be subject to any lim-*  
18           *itation on spending.*

19           **SEC. 502. EMERGENCY FOREST WATERSHED PROGRAM.**

20           (a) *FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION.—Section 404(b)*  
21           *of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2204(b))*  
22           *is amended by inserting “to carry out section 401” after*  
23           *“for a fiscal year”.*

1       (b) *EMERGENCY FOREST WATERSHED PROGRAM.*—  
2 *Title IV of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C.*  
3 *2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:*

4 **“SEC. 408. EMERGENCY FOREST WATERSHED PROGRAM.**

5       “(a) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this section:*

6           “(1) *EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION*  
7 *MEASURES.*—*The term ‘emergency watershed protec-*  
8 *tion measures’ means measures that—*

9                   “(A) *are necessary to address runoff, soil*  
10 *erosion, and flooding caused by a natural dis-*  
11 *aster or any other natural occurrence that has*  
12 *caused a sudden impairment to natural re-*  
13 *sources on National Forest System land, and the*  
14 *damage, if not treated—*

15                           “(i) *would significantly impair or en-*  
16 *danger the natural resources on the Na-*  
17 *tional Forest System land; and*

18                           “(ii) *would pose an immediate risk to*  
19 *water resources or loss of life or property in*  
20 *connection to a sudden impairment of a*  
21 *National Forest System watershed or down-*  
22 *stream of the National Forest System land*  
23 *or waterways; and*

1                   “(B) would maintain or restore forest health  
2                   and forest-related resources on the National For-  
3                   est System land.

4                   “(2) NATURAL DISASTER.—The term ‘natural  
5                   disaster’ has the meaning given the term in section  
6                   407(a).

7                   “(3) SPONSOR.—The term ‘sponsor’ means—

8                   “(A) a State or local government;

9                   “(B) an Indian Tribe (as defined in section  
10                  4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
11                  cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)); and

12                  “(C) a water district, water conservation  
13                  district, water utility, or special district.

14                  “(b) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, acting through  
15                  a sponsor, is authorized to undertake emergency watershed  
16                  protection measures on National Forest System land.

17                  “(c) AGREEMENTS; PAYMENTS.—

18                  “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding chapter 63  
19                  of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary may  
20                  enter into an agreement with a sponsor and make  
21                  payments to the sponsor, on request of the sponsor, to  
22                  carry out emergency watershed protection measures.

23                  “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

24                  “(A) PROJECT TIMELINES.—

1           “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—Following a nat-  
2           ural disaster or natural occurrence that ne-  
3           cessitates the carrying out of emergency wa-  
4           tershed protection measures, the Secretary  
5           shall execute agreements under paragraph  
6           (1) as expeditiously as possible.

7           “(ii) *TIMELINE.*—Each agreement  
8           under paragraph (1) shall include a  
9           timeline by which the sponsor shall complete  
10          all emergency watershed protection meas-  
11          ures during the 2-year period following the  
12          conclusion of the applicable natural disaster  
13          or natural occurrence, as determined by the  
14          Secretary, that necessitated the carrying out  
15          of those measures.

16          “(iii) *CONTINUED MONITORING.*—A  
17          sponsor that has entered into an agreement  
18          under paragraph (1) may monitor, main-  
19          tain, repair, or replace emergency water-  
20          shed protection measures for a period of not  
21          more than 3 years following the conclusion  
22          of the natural disaster or natural occur-  
23          rence, as determined by the Secretary, that  
24          necessitated the carrying out of those meas-  
25          ures when failure to do so would result in

1                    *unacceptable risk to National Forest System*  
2                    *land or downstream water users.*

3                    “(B) *PAYMENTS.*—*The Secretary, in accord-*  
4                    *ance with an agreement entered into under para-*  
5                    *graph (1)—*

6                    “(i) *may make partial payments prior*  
7                    *to completion of the applicable project; and*

8                    “(ii) *shall make final payment for the*  
9                    *project not later than 30 days after the date*  
10                    *on which the project is completed.*

11                    “(d) *WAIVED MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.*—*The Sec-*  
12                    *retary shall waive any matching requirements for payments*  
13                    *made under subsection (c)(1).*

14                    “(e) *LIABILITY.*—

15                    “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*A sponsor that carries out*  
16                    *emergency watershed protection measures pursuant to*  
17                    *an agreement under subsection (c)(1) shall not be re-*  
18                    *quired to indemnify the United States for any liabil-*  
19                    *ity resulting from carrying out emergency watershed*  
20                    *protection measures pursuant to that agreement.*

21                    “(2) *SAVINGS PROVISION.*—*Nothing in this sub-*  
22                    *section precludes liability for damages or costs relat-*  
23                    *ing to the carrying out of emergency watershed pro-*  
24                    *tection measures by a sponsor pursuant to an agree-*  
25                    *ment entered into under subsection (c)(1) if the spon-*



Calendar No. 212

119TH CONGRESS  
1st Session

**S. 1462**

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**A BILL**

To improve forest management activities on National Forest System land, public land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Tribal land to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested land, and for other purposes.

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OCTOBER 27, 2025

Reported with an amendment

**S. 3281, Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025**

II

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 3281**

To repeal certain provisions relating to nutrition.

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KIM, Mr. KING, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

**A BILL**

To repeal certain provisions relating to nutrition.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Restoring Food Secu-  
 5 rity for American Families and Farmers Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPEAL.**

2 Sections 10101 through 10108 of Public Law 119–  
3 21 are repealed, and any provisions of law amended by  
4 those sections are restored or revived as if those sections  
5 had not been enacted into law.

○

**Pub. L. 119–21, To provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con.  
Res. 14.**<sup>3</sup>

139 STAT. 72

PUBLIC LAW 119–21—JULY 4, 2025

Public Law 119–21  
119th Congress

An Act

July 4, 2025  
[H.R. 1]

To provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of H. Con. Res. 14.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of  
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Table of contents.

TITLE I—COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Subtitle A—Nutrition

- Sec. 10101. Re-evaluation of thrifty food plan.
- Sec. 10102. Modifications to SNAP work requirements for able-bodied adults.
- Sec. 10103. Availability of standard utility allowances based on receipt of energy assistance.
- Sec. 10104. Restrictions on internet expenses.
- Sec. 10105. Matching funds requirements.
- Sec. 10106. Administrative cost sharing.
- Sec. 10107. National education and obesity prevention grant program.
- Sec. 10108. Alien SNAP eligibility.

Subtitle B—Forestry

- Sec. 10201. Rescission of amounts for forestry.

Subtitle C—Commodities

- Sec. 10301. Effective reference price; reference price.
- Sec. 10302. Base acres.
- Sec. 10303. Producer election.
- Sec. 10304. Price loss coverage.
- Sec. 10305. Agriculture risk coverage.
- Sec. 10306. Equitable treatment of certain entities.
- Sec. 10307. Payment limitations.
- Sec. 10308. Adjusted gross income limitation.
- Sec. 10309. Marketing loans.
- Sec. 10310. Repayment of marketing loans.
- Sec. 10311. Economic adjustment assistance for textile mills.
- Sec. 10312. Sugar program updates.
- Sec. 10313. Dairy policy updates.
- Sec. 10314. Implementation.

Subtitle D—Disaster Assistance Programs

- Sec. 10401. Supplemental agricultural disaster assistance.

Subtitle E—Crop Insurance

- Sec. 10501. Beginning farmer and rancher benefit.
- Sec. 10502. Area-based crop insurance coverage and affordability.
- Sec. 10503. Administrative and operating expense adjustments.
- Sec. 10504. Premium support.
- Sec. 10505. Program compliance and integrity.
- Sec. 10506. Reviews, compliance, and integrity.
- Sec. 10507. Poultry insurance pilot program.

Subtitle F—Additional Investments in Rural America

- Sec. 10601. Conservation.

<sup>3</sup> **Editor's note:** due to the size of Pub. L. 119–21, 331 pages, it is not reproduced herein in its entirety (it is retained in Committee file). Only the referenced sections, and Table of Con-

Continued

- Sec. 10602. Supplemental agricultural trade promotion program.
- Sec. 10603. Nutrition.
- Sec. 10604. Research.
- Sec. 10605. Energy.
- Sec. 10606. Horticulture.
- Sec. 10607. Miscellaneous.

## TITLE II—COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

- Sec. 20001. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for improving the quality of life for military personnel.
- Sec. 20002. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for shipbuilding.
- Sec. 20003. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for integrated air and missile defense.
- Sec. 20004. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for munitions and defense supply chain resiliency.
- Sec. 20005. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for scaling low-cost weapons into production.
- Sec. 20006. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for improving the efficiency and cybersecurity of the Department of Defense.
- Sec. 20007. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for air superiority.
- Sec. 20008. Enhancement of resources for nuclear forces.
- Sec. 20009. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources to improve capabilities of United States Indo-Pacific Command.
- Sec. 20010. Enhancement of Department of Defense resources for improving the readiness of the Department of Defense.
- Sec. 20011. Improving Department of Defense border support and counter-drug missions.
- Sec. 20012. Department of Defense oversight.
- Sec. 20013. Military construction projects authorized.

## TITLE III—COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

- Sec. 30001. Funding cap for the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.
- Sec. 30002. Rescission of funds for Green and Resilient Retrofit Program for Multi-family Housing.
- Sec. 30003. Securities and Exchange Commission Reserve Fund.
- Sec. 30004. Appropriations for Defense Production Act.

## TITLE IV—COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

- Sec. 40001. Coast Guard mission readiness.
- Sec. 40002. Spectrum auctions.
- Sec. 40003. Air traffic control improvements.
- Sec. 40004. Space launch and reentry licensing and permitting user fees.
- Sec. 40005. Mars missions, Artemis missions, and Moon to Mars program.
- Sec. 40006. Corporate average fuel economy civil penalties.
- Sec. 40007. Payments for lease of Metropolitan Washington Airports.
- Sec. 40008. Rescission of certain amounts for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- Sec. 40009. Reduction in annual transfers to Travel Promotion Fund.
- Sec. 40010. Treatment of unobligated funds for alternative fuel and low-emission aviation technology.
- Sec. 40011. Rescission of amounts appropriated to Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund.

## TITLE V—COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## Subtitle A—Oil and Gas Leasing

- Sec. 50101. Onshore oil and gas leasing.
- Sec. 50102. Offshore oil and gas leasing.
- Sec. 50103. Royalties on extracted methane.
- Sec. 50104. Alaska oil and gas leasing.
- Sec. 50105. National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska.

## Subtitle B—Mining

- Sec. 50201. Coal leasing.
- Sec. 50202. Coal royalty.
- Sec. 50203. Leases for known recoverable coal resources.
- Sec. 50204. Authorization to mine Federal coal.

## Subtitle C—Lands

- Sec. 50301. Timber sales and long-term contracting for the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

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tents, are treated as submitted: Title I—Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, Subtitle A—Nutrition, Sec. 10102. Modifications to SNAP work requirements for able-bodied adults; Subtitle D—Disaster Assistance Programs, Sec. 10401. Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance.; Subtitle F—Additional Investments in Rural America, pp. 139 STAT. 81–83, 101–103, 107–111.

- Sec. 50302. Renewable energy fees on Federal land.
- Sec. 50303. Renewable energy revenue sharing.
- Sec. 50304. Rescission of National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management funds.
- Sec. 50305. Celebrating America's 250th anniversary.

Subtitle D—Energy

- Sec. 50401. Strategic Petroleum Reserve.
- Sec. 50402. Repeals; rescissions.
- Sec. 50403. Energy dominance financing.
- Sec. 50404. Transformational artificial intelligence models.

Subtitle E—Water

- Sec. 50501. Water conveyance and surface water storage enhancement.

TITLE VI—COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

- Sec. 60001. Rescission of funding for clean heavy-duty vehicles.
- Sec. 60002. Repeal of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.
- Sec. 60003. Rescission of funding for diesel emissions reductions.
- Sec. 60004. Rescission of funding to address air pollution.
- Sec. 60005. Rescission of funding to address air pollution at schools.
- Sec. 60006. Rescission of funding for the low emissions electricity program.
- Sec. 60007. Rescission of funding for section 211(o) of the Clean Air Act.
- Sec. 60008. Rescission of funding for implementation of the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act.
- Sec. 60009. Rescission of funding for enforcement technology and public information.
- Sec. 60010. Rescission of funding for greenhouse gas corporate reporting.
- Sec. 60011. Rescission of funding for environmental product declaration assistance.
- Sec. 60012. Rescission of funding for methane emissions and waste reduction incentive program for petroleum and natural gas systems.
- Sec. 60013. Rescission of funding for greenhouse gas air pollution plans and implementation grants.
- Sec. 60014. Rescission of funding for environmental protection agency efficient, accurate, and timely reviews.
- Sec. 60015. Rescission of funding for low-embodied carbon labeling for construction materials.
- Sec. 60016. Rescission of funding for environmental and climate justice block grants.
- Sec. 60017. Rescission of funding for ESA recovery plans.
- Sec. 60018. Rescission of funding for environmental and climate data collection.
- Sec. 60019. Rescission of neighborhood access and equity grant program.
- Sec. 60020. Rescission of funding for Federal building assistance.
- Sec. 60021. Rescission of funding for low-carbon materials for Federal buildings.
- Sec. 60022. Rescission of funding for GSA emerging and sustainable technologies.
- Sec. 60023. Rescission of environmental review implementation funds.
- Sec. 60024. Rescission of low-carbon transportation materials grants.
- Sec. 60025. John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.
- Sec. 60026. Project sponsor opt-in fees for environmental reviews.

TITLE VII—FINANCE

Subtitle A—Tax

- Sec. 70001. References to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, etc.

CHAPTER 1—PROVIDING PERMANENT TAX RELIEF FOR MIDDLE-CLASS FAMILIES AND WORKERS

- Sec. 70101. Extension and enhancement of reduced rates.
- Sec. 70102. Extension and enhancement of increased standard deduction.
- Sec. 70103. Termination of deduction for personal exemptions other than temporary senior deduction.
- Sec. 70104. Extension and enhancement of increased child tax credit.
- Sec. 70105. Extension and enhancement of deduction for qualified business income.
- Sec. 70106. Extension and enhancement of increased estate and gift tax exemption amounts.
- Sec. 70107. Extension of increased alternative minimum tax exemption amounts and modification of phaseout thresholds.
- Sec. 70108. Extension and modification of limitation on deduction for qualified residence interest.
- Sec. 70109. Extension and modification of limitation on casualty loss deduction.

- Sec. 70110. Termination of miscellaneous itemized deductions other than educator expenses.
- Sec. 70111. Limitation on tax benefit of itemized deductions.
- Sec. 70112. Extension and modification of qualified transportation fringe benefits.
- Sec. 70113. Extension and modification of limitation on deduction and exclusion for moving expenses.
- Sec. 70114. Extension and modification of limitation on wagering losses.
- Sec. 70115. Extension and enhancement of increased limitation on contributions to ABLE accounts.
- Sec. 70116. Extension and enhancement of savers credit allowed for ABLE contributions.
- Sec. 70117. Extension of rollovers from qualified tuition programs to ABLE accounts permitted.
- Sec. 70118. Extension of treatment of certain individuals performing services in the Sinai Peninsula and enhancement to include additional areas.
- Sec. 70119. Extension and modification of exclusion from gross income of student loans discharged on account of death or disability.
- Sec. 70120. Limitation on individual deductions for certain state and local taxes, etc.

CHAPTER 2—DELIVERING ON PRESIDENTIAL PRIORITIES TO PROVIDE NEW MIDDLE-  
CLASS TAX RELIEF

- Sec. 70201. No tax on tips.
- Sec. 70202. No tax on overtime.
- Sec. 70203. No tax on car loan interest.
- Sec. 70204. Trump accounts and contribution pilot program.

CHAPTER 3—ESTABLISHING CERTAINTY AND COMPETITIVENESS FOR AMERICAN JOB  
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SUBCHAPTER A—PERMANENT U.S. BUSINESS TAX REFORM AND BOOSTING DOMESTIC  
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- Sec. 70301. Full expensing for certain business property.
- Sec. 70302. Full expensing of domestic research and experimental expenditures.
- Sec. 70303. Modification of limitation on business interest.
- Sec. 70304. Extension and enhancement of paid family and medical leave credit.
- Sec. 70305. Exceptions from limitations on deduction for business meals.
- Sec. 70306. Increased dollar limitations for expensing of certain depreciable business assets.
- Sec. 70307. Special depreciation allowance for qualified production property.
- Sec. 70308. Enhancement of advanced manufacturing investment credit.
- Sec. 70309. Spaceports are treated like airports under exempt facility bond rules.

SUBCHAPTER B—PERMANENT AMERICA-FIRST INTERNATIONAL TAX REFORMS

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- Sec. 70311. Modifications related to foreign tax credit limitation.
- Sec. 70312. Modifications to determination of deemed paid credit for taxes properly attributable to tested income.
- Sec. 70313. Sourcing certain income from the sale of inventory produced in the United States.

PART II—FOREIGN-DERIVED DEDUCTION ELIGIBLE INCOME AND NET CFC TESTED  
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- Sec. 70321. Modification of deduction for foreign-derived deduction eligible income and net CFC tested income.
- Sec. 70322. Determination of deduction eligible income.
- Sec. 70323. Rules related to deemed intangible income.

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PART V—OTHER INTERNATIONAL TAX REFORMS

- Sec. 70351. Permanent extension of look-thru rule for related controlled foreign corporations.

- Sec. 70352. Repeal of election for 1-month deferral in determination of taxable year of specified foreign corporations.
- Sec. 70353. Restoration of limitation on downward attribution of stock ownership in applying constructive ownership rules.
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- Sec. 70401. Enhancement of employer-provided child care credit.
- Sec. 70402. Enhancement of adoption credit.
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- Sec. 70411. Tax credit for contributions of individuals to scholarship granting organizations.
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- Sec. 70413. Additional expenses treated as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of 529 accounts.
- Sec. 70414. Certain postsecondary credentialing expenses treated as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of 529 accounts.
- Sec. 70415. Modification of excise tax on investment income of certain private colleges and universities.
- Sec. 70416. Expanding application of tax on excess compensation within tax-exempt organizations.

SUBCHAPTER C—PERMANENT INVESTMENTS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Sec. 70421. Permanent renewal and enhancement of opportunity zones.
- Sec. 70422. Permanent enhancement of low-income housing tax credit.
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- Sec. 70425. 0.5 percent floor on deduction of contributions made by individuals.
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- Sec. 70427. Permanent increase in limitation on cover over of tax on distilled spirits.
- Sec. 70428. Nonprofit community development activities in remote native villages.
- Sec. 70429. Adjustment of charitable deduction for certain expenses incurred in support of Native Alaskan subsistence whaling.
- Sec. 70430. Exception to percentage of completion method of accounting for certain residential construction contracts.

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- Sec. 70431. Expansion of qualified small business stock gain exclusion.
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TITLE IX—COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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- Sec. 90001. Border infrastructure and wall system.
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- Sec. 90101. FEHB improvements.
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## TITLE I—COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

### Subtitle A—Nutrition

#### SEC. 10101. RE-EVALUATION OF THRIFTY FOOD PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012) is amended by striking subsection (u) and inserting the following:

“(u) THRIFTY FOOD PLAN.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘thrifty food plan’ means the diet required to feed a family of 4 persons consisting of a man and a woman ages 20 through 50, a child ages 6 through 8, and a child ages 9 through 11 using the items and quantities of food described in the report of the Department of Agriculture entitled ‘Thrifty Food Plan, 2021’, and each successor report updated pursuant to this subsection, subject to the conditions that—

“(A) the relevant market baskets of the thrifty food plan shall only be changed pursuant to paragraph (4);

“(B) the cost of the thrifty food plan shall be the basis for uniform allotments for all households, regardless of the actual composition of the household; and

“(C) the cost of the thrifty food plan may only be adjusted in accordance with this subsection.

“(2) HOUSEHOLD ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall make household adjustments using the following ratios of household size as a percentage of the maximum 4-person allotment:

“(A) For a 1-person household, 30 percent.

“(B) For a 2-person household, 55 percent.

“(C) For a 3-person household, 79 percent.

“(D) For a 4-person household, 100 percent.

“(E) For a 5-person household, 119 percent.

“(F) For a 6-person household, 143 percent.

“(G) For a 7-person household, 158 percent.

“(H) For an 8-person household, 180 percent.

Definition.

“(I) For a household of 9 persons or more, an additional 22 percent per person, which additional percentage shall not total more than 200 percent.

“(3) ALLOWABLE COST ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary shall—

“(A) make cost adjustments in the thrifty food plan for Hawaii and the urban and rural parts of Alaska to reflect the cost of food in Hawaii and urban and rural Alaska;

Hawaii.  
Alaska.

“(B) make cost adjustments in the separate thrifty food plans for Guam and the Virgin Islands of the United States to reflect the cost of food in those States, but not to exceed the cost of food in the 50 States and the District of Columbia; and

Guam.  
Virgin Islands.

“(C) on October 1, 2025, and on each October 1 thereafter, adjust the cost of the thrifty food plan to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor, for the most recent 12-month period ending in June.

Effective dates.  
Time period.  
Expiration date.

“(4) RE-EVALUATION OF MARKET BASKETS.—

“(A) RE-EVALUATION.—Not earlier than October 1, 2027, the Secretary may re-evaluate the market baskets of the thrifty food plan based on current food prices, food composition data, consumption patterns, and dietary guidance.

Deadline.

“(B) COST NEUTRALITY.—The Secretary shall not increase the cost of the thrifty food plan based on a re-evaluation under this paragraph.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 16(c)(1)(A)(ii)(II) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2025(c)(1)(A)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking “section 3(u)(4)” and inserting “section 3(u)(3)”.

(2) Section 19(a)(2)(A)(ii) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2028(a)(2)(A)(ii)) is amended by striking “section 3(u)(4)” and inserting “section 3(u)(3)”.

(3) Section 27(a)(2) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)(2)) is amended by striking “section 3(u)(4)” each place it appears and inserting “section 3(u)(3)”.

**SEC. 10102. MODIFICATIONS TO SNAP WORK REQUIREMENTS FOR ABLE-BODIED ADULTS.**

(a) EXCEPTIONS.—Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015(o)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (2) shall not apply to an individual if the individual is—

“(A) under 18, or over 65, years of age;

“(B) medically certified as physically or mentally unfit for employment;

“(C) a parent or other member of a household with responsibility for a dependent child under 14 years of age;

“(D) otherwise exempt under subsection (d)(2);

“(E) a pregnant woman;

“(F) an Indian or an Urban Indian (as such terms are defined in paragraphs (13) and (28) of section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act); or

- “(G) a California Indian described in section 809(a) of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.”.
- (b) STANDARDIZING ENFORCEMENT.—Section 6(o)(4) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015(o)(4)) is amended—
- (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:
    - “(ii) is in a noncontiguous State and has an unemployment rate that is at or above 1.5 times the national unemployment rate.”; and
  - (2) by adding at the end the following:
 

“(C) DEFINITION OF NONCONTIGUOUS STATE.—

    - “(i) IN GENERAL.—In this paragraph, the term ‘noncontiguous State’ means a State that is not 1 of the contiguous 48 States or the District of Columbia.
    - “(ii) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘noncontiguous State’ does not include Guam or the Virgin Islands of the United States.”.
- (c) WAIVER FOR NONCONTIGUOUS STATES.—Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2015(o)) is amended—
- (1) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8); and
  - (2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:
 

“(7) EXEMPTION FOR NONCONTIGUOUS STATES.—

    - “(A) DEFINITION OF NONCONTIGUOUS STATE.—
    - “(i) IN GENERAL.—In this paragraph, the term ‘noncontiguous State’ means a State that is not 1 of the contiguous 48 States or the District of Columbia.
    - “(ii) EXCLUSIONS.—In this paragraph, the term ‘noncontiguous State’ does not include Guam or the Virgin Islands of the United States.
    - “(B) EXEMPTION.—Subject to subparagraph (D), the Secretary may exempt individuals in a noncontiguous State from compliance with the requirements of paragraph (2) if—
    - “(i) the State agency submits to the Secretary a request for that exemption, made in such form and at such time as the Secretary may require, and including the information described in subparagraph (C); and
    - “(ii) the Secretary determines that based on that request, the State agency is demonstrating a good faith effort to comply with the requirements of paragraph (2).
    - “(C) GOOD FAITH EFFORT DETERMINATION.—In determining whether a State agency is demonstrating a good faith effort for purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii), the Secretary shall consider—
    - “(i) any actions taken by the State agency toward compliance with the requirements of paragraph (2);
    - “(ii) any significant barriers to or challenges in meeting those requirements, including barriers or challenges relating to funding, design, development, procurement, or installation of necessary systems or resources;
    - “(iii) the detailed plan and timeline of the State agency for achieving full compliance with those requirements, including any milestones (as defined by the Secretary); and

Determination.  
Compliance.

“(iv) any other criteria determined appropriate by the Secretary.

“(D) DURATION OF EXEMPTION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—An exemption granted under subparagraph (B) shall expire not later than December 31, 2028, and may not be renewed beyond that date.

Deadline.

“(ii) EARLY TERMINATION.—The Secretary may terminate an exemption granted under subparagraph (B) prior to the expiration date of that exemption if the Secretary determines that the State agency—

Determination.

“(I) has failed to comply with the reporting requirements described in subparagraph (E); or

Compliance.

“(II) based on the information provided pursuant to subparagraph (E), failed to make continued good faith efforts toward compliance with the requirements of this subsection.

“(E) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—A State agency granted an exemption under subparagraph (B) shall submit to the Secretary—

“(i) quarterly progress reports on the status of the State agency in achieving the milestones toward full compliance described in subparagraph (C)(iii); and

Plan.

“(ii) information on specific risks or newly identified barriers or challenges to full compliance, including the plan of the State agency to mitigate those risks, barriers, or challenges.”.

**SEC. 10103. AVAILABILITY OF STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCES BASED ON RECEIPT OF ENERGY ASSISTANCE.**

(a) STANDARD UTILITY ALLOWANCE.—Section 5(e)(6)(C)(iv)(I) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(6)(C)(iv)(I)) is amended by inserting “with an elderly or disabled member” after “households”.

(b) THIRD-PARTY ENERGY ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.—Section 5(k)(4) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(k)(4)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “without an elderly or disabled member” before “shall be”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “with an elderly or disabled member” before “under a State law”.

**SEC. 10104. RESTRICTIONS ON INTERNET EXPENSES.**

Section 5(e)(6) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2014(e)(6)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(E) RESTRICTIONS ON INTERNET EXPENSES.—Any service fee associated with internet connection shall not be used in computing the excess shelter expense deduction under this paragraph.”.

**SEC. 10105. MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2013(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “(a) Subject to” and inserting the following:

“(a) PROGRAM.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) STATE QUALITY CONTROL INCENTIVE.—

“(i) to carry out mandatory surveys of dairy production cost and product yield information to be reported by manufacturers required to report under section 273 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1637b), for all products processed in the same facility or facilities; and

Surveys.

“(ii) to publish the results of such surveys biennially; and

Publication.  
Time period.

“(E) \$1,000,000 shall be used to conduct the study under subsection (d) of section 359k of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 (7 U.S.C. 1359kk).”.

Study.

## Subtitle D—Disaster Assistance Programs

Determinations.

### SEC. 10401. SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE.

(a) LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PAYMENTS.—Section 1501(b) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) PAYMENT RATES.—

“(A) LOSSES DUE TO PREDATION.—Indemnity payments to an eligible producer on a farm under paragraph (1)(A) shall be made at a rate of 100 percent of the market value of the affected livestock on the applicable date, as determined by the Secretary.

“(B) LOSSES DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER OR DISEASE.—Indemnity payments to an eligible producer on a farm under subparagraph (B) or (C) of paragraph (1) shall be made at a rate of 75 percent of the market value of the affected livestock on the applicable date, as determined by the Secretary.

“(C) DETERMINATION OF MARKET VALUE.—In determining the market value described in subparagraphs (A) and (B), the Secretary may consider the ability of eligible producers to document regional price premiums for affected livestock that exceed the national average market price for those livestock.

“(D) APPLICABLE DATE DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ‘applicable date’ means, with respect to livestock, as applicable—

“(i) the day before the date of death of the livestock;

or

“(ii) the day before the date of the event that caused the harm to the livestock that resulted in a reduced sale price.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) ADDITIONAL PAYMENT FOR UNBORN LIVESTOCK.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of unborn livestock death losses incurred on or after January 1, 2024, the Secretary shall make an additional payment to eligible producers on farms that have incurred such losses in excess of the normal mortality due to a condition specified in paragraph (1).

Effective date.

“(B) PAYMENT RATE.—Additional payments under subparagraph (A) shall be made at a rate—

“(i) determined by the Secretary; and

“(ii) less than or equal to 85 percent of the payment rate established with respect to the lowest weight class of the livestock, as determined by the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency.

“(C) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The amount of a payment to an eligible producer that has incurred unborn livestock death losses shall be equal to the payment rate determined under subparagraph (B) multiplied, in the case of livestock described in—

“(i) subparagraph (A), (B), or (F) of subsection (a)(4), by 1;

“(ii) subparagraph (D) of such subsection, by 2;

“(iii) subparagraph (E) of such subsection, by 12;

and

“(iv) subparagraph (G) of such subsection, by the average number of birthed animals (for one gestation cycle) for the species of each such livestock, as determined by the Secretary.

“(D) UNBORN LIVESTOCK DEATH LOSSES DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term ‘unborn livestock death losses’ means losses of any livestock described in subparagraph (A), (B), (D), (E), (F), or (G) of subsection (a)(4) that was gestating on the date of the death of the livestock.”

Time periods.  
Payments.

(b) LIVESTOCK FORAGE DISASTER PROGRAM.—Section 1501(c)(3)(D)(ii)(I) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(c)(3)(D)(ii)(I)) is amended—

(1) by striking “1 monthly payment” and inserting “2 monthly payments”; and

(2) by striking “county for at least 8 consecutive” and inserting the following: “county for not less than—

“(aa) 4 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period for the county, as determined by the Secretary, shall be eligible to receive assistance under this paragraph in an amount equal to 1 monthly payment using the monthly payment rate determined under subparagraph (B); or

“(bb) 7 of the previous 8 consecutive”.

(c) EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LIVESTOCK, HONEY BEES, AND FARM-RAISED FISH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1501(d) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) ASSISTANCE FOR LOSSES DUE TO BIRD DEPREDAATION.—

“(A) DEFINITION OF FARM-RAISED FISH.—In this paragraph, the term ‘farm-raised fish’ means fish propagated and reared in a controlled fresh water environment.

“(B) PAYMENTS.—Eligible producers of farm-raised fish, including fish grown as food for human consumption, shall be eligible to receive payments under this subsection to aid in the reduction of losses due to piscivorous birds.

“(C) PAYMENT RATE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The payment rate for payments under subparagraph (B) shall be determined by the Secretary, taking into account—

“(I) costs associated with the deterrence of piscivorous birds;

“(II) the value of lost fish and revenue due to bird depredation; and

“(III) costs associated with disease loss from bird depredation.

“(ii) MINIMUM RATE.—The payment rate for payments under subparagraph (B) shall be not less than \$600 per acre of farm-raised fish.

“(D) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The amount of a payment under subparagraph (B) shall be the product obtained by multiplying—

“(i) the applicable payment rate under subparagraph (C); and

“(ii) 85 percent of the total number of acres of farm-raised fish farms that the eligible producer has in production for the calendar year.”

(2) EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR HONEYBEES.—In determining honeybee colony losses eligible for assistance under section 1501(d) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(d)), the Secretary shall utilize a normal mortality rate of 15 percent. 7 USC 9081 note.

(d) TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—Section 1501(e) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality)” and inserting “normal mortality”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i), by striking “15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality)” and inserting “normal mortality”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “50” and inserting “65”; and

(ii) by striking “15 percent damage or mortality (adjusted for normal tree damage and mortality)” and inserting “normal tree damage or mortality”.

## Subtitle E—Crop Insurance

### SEC. 10501. BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER BENEFIT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 502(b)(3) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1502(b)(3)) is amended by striking “5” and inserting “10”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 522(c)(7) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1522(c)(7)) is amended by striking subparagraph (F).

(b) INCREASE IN ASSISTANCE.—Section 508(e) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(9) ADDITIONAL SUPPORT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other provision of this subsection (except paragraph (2)(A)) regarding payment of a portion of premiums, a beginning farmer or rancher shall receive additional premium assistance that is the number of percentage points specified in subparagraph (B) greater than the premium assistance that would otherwise be available for the applicable policy, plan of

weather-related risk resulting in increased utility costs (including costs of natural gas, propane, electricity, water, and other appropriate costs, as determined by the Corporation) associated with poultry production.

“(2) **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT.**—The Corporation shall engage with poultry industry stakeholders in establishing the pilot program under paragraph (1).

“(3) **LOCATION.**—The pilot program established under paragraph (1) shall be conducted in a sufficient number of counties to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the feasibility, effectiveness, and demand among producers in the top poultry producing States, as determined by the Corporation. Evaluation.

“(4) **APPROVAL OF POLICY OR PLAN.**—Notwithstanding section 508(l), the Board shall approve a policy or plan of insurance based on the pilot program under paragraph (1)—

“(A) in accordance with section 508(h); and

“(B) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection.”. Deadline.

## Subtitle F—Additional Investments in Rural America

Time periods.

### SEC. 10601. CONSERVATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1241(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking subparagraphs (A) through (F) and inserting the following:

“(A) \$625,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;

“(B) \$650,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;

“(C) \$675,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;

“(D) \$700,000,000 for fiscal year 2029;

“(E) \$700,000,000 for fiscal year 2030; and

“(F) \$700,000,000 for fiscal year 2031.”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking clauses (i) through (v) and inserting the following:

“(i) \$2,655,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;

“(ii) \$2,855,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;

“(iii) \$3,255,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;

“(iv) \$3,255,000,000 for fiscal year 2029;

“(v) \$3,255,000,000 for fiscal year 2030; and

“(vi) \$3,255,000,000 for fiscal year 2031; and”;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking clauses (i) through (v) and inserting the following:

“(i) \$1,300,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;

“(ii) \$1,325,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;

“(iii) \$1,350,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;

“(iv) \$1,375,000,000 for fiscal year 2029;

“(v) \$1,375,000,000 for fiscal year 2030; and

“(vi) \$1,375,000,000 for fiscal year 2031.”.

(b) **REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.**—Section 1271D of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3871d) is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING.**—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out the program, to the maximum extent practicable—

- “(1) \$425,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;
- “(2) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2027;
- “(3) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;
- “(4) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2029;
- “(5) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2030; and
- “(6) \$450,000,000 for fiscal year 2031.”

(c) GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM.—Section 12400(b) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–2(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “2023” and inserting “2031”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

Effective date.

“(C) \$1,000,000 beginning in fiscal year 2026, to remain available until expended.”

(d) VOLUNTARY PUBLIC ACCESS AND HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM.—Section 1240R(f)(1) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–5(f)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “2023, and” and inserting “2023,”; and

(2) by inserting “, and \$70,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2031” before the period at the end.

(e) WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FLOOD PREVENTION.—Section 15 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012a) is amended by striking “\$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year thereafter” and inserting “\$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter, to remain available until expended”.

(f) FERAL SWINE ERADICATION AND CONTROL PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 2408(g)(1) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 8351 note; Public Law 115–334) is amended—

(1) by striking “2023 and” and inserting “2023,”; and

(2) by inserting “, and \$105,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2025 through 2031” before the period at the end.

(g) RESCISSION.—The unobligated balances of amounts appropriated by section 21001(a) of Public Law 117–169 (136 Stat. 2015) are rescinded.

7 USC 5623a.

**SEC. 10602. SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURAL TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAM.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall carry out a program to encourage the accessibility, development, maintenance, and expansion of commercial export markets for United States agricultural commodities.

(b) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary of Agriculture shall make available to carry out this section \$285,000,000 for fiscal year 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter.

**SEC. 10603. NUTRITION.**

Section 203D(d)(5) of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 7507(d)(5)) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2031”.

**SEC. 10604. RESEARCH.**

(a) URBAN, INDOOR, AND OTHER EMERGING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION INITIATIVE.—Section 1672E(d)(1)(B) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5925g(d)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “fiscal year 2024, to remain available until expended” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2024 through 2031”.

(b) FOUNDATION FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH.—Section 7601(g)(1)(A) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 5939(g)(1)(A)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) FURTHER FUNDING.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this clause, of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall transfer to the Foundation to carry out this section \$37,000,000, to remain available until expended.”.

Deadline.  
Transfer.

(c) SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS AT 1890 INSTITUTIONS.—Section 1446(b)(1) of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222a(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) FURTHER FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry out this section \$60,000,000 for fiscal year 2026, to remain available until expended.”.

(d) ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR FARMERS WITH DISABILITIES.—Section 1680 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5933) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2), by inserting “and subsection (d)” after “paragraph (1)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Subject to subsection (c)(2), of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2026, to remain available until expended.”.

(e) SPECIALTY CROP RESEARCH INITIATIVE.—Section 412(k)(1)(B) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7632(k)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “section \$80,000,000 for fiscal year 2014” and inserting the following: “section—

“(i) \$80,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2025; and

“(ii) \$175,000,000 for fiscal year 2026”.

(f) RESEARCH FACILITIES ACT.—Section 6 of the Research Facilities Act (7 U.S.C. 390d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “subsections (a) and (e)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) MANDATORY FUNDING.—Subject to subsections (b), (c), and (d), of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry out the competitive grant program under section 4 \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter.”.

**SEC. 10605. ENERGY.**

Section 9005(g)(1)(F) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8105(g)(1)(F)) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2031”.

**SEC. 10606. HORTICULTURE.**

(a) **PLANT PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER PREVENTION.**—Section 420(f) of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7721(f)) is amended—

- (1) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the end;
- (2) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7);
- (3) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:
  - “(6) \$75,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2025; and”;
- (4) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated), by striking “\$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2018” and inserting “\$90,000,000 for fiscal year 2026”.

(b) **SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANTS.**—Section 101(l)(1) of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended—

- (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at the end;
- (2) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F);
- (3) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:
  - “(E) \$85,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2025; and”;
- (4) in subparagraph (F) (as so redesignated), by striking “\$85,000,000 for fiscal year 2018” and inserting “\$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2026”.

(c) **ORGANIC PRODUCTION AND MARKET DATA INITIATIVE.**—Section 7407(d)(1) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 5925c(d)(1)) is amended—

- (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;
- (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
- (3) by adding at the end the following:
  - “(D) \$10,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2026 through 2031.”.

(d) **MODERNIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS AND DATA COLLECTION.**—Section 2123(c)(4) of the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6522(c)(4)) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “and \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2024” and inserting “, \$1,000,000 for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, and \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2026”.

(e) **NATIONAL ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST-SHARE PROGRAM.**—Section 10606(d)(1)(C) of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 6523(d)(1)(C)) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2031”.

(f) **MULTIPLE CROP AND PESTICIDE USE SURVEY.**—Section 10109(c) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–334; 132 Stat. 4907) is amended by adding at the end the following:

- “(3) **FURTHER MANDATORY FUNDING.**—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2026, to remain available until expended.”.

**SEC. 10607. MISCELLANEOUS.**

(a) **ANIMAL DISEASE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT.**—Section 10409A(d)(1) of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8308a(d)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS” and inserting “FISCAL YEARS 2023 THROUGH 2025”; and

(B) by striking “fiscal year 2023 and each fiscal year thereafter” and inserting “each of fiscal years 2023 through 2025”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) FISCAL YEARS 2026 THROUGH 2030.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry out this section \$233,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030, of which—

“(i) not less than \$10,000,000 shall be made available for each such fiscal year to carry out subsection (a);

“(ii) not less than \$70,000,000 shall be made available for each such fiscal year to carry out subsection (b); and

“(iii) not less than \$153,000,000 shall be made available for each such fiscal year to carry out subsection (c).

“(D) SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry out this section \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2031 and each fiscal year thereafter, of which not less than \$45,000,000 shall be made available for each of those fiscal years to carry out subsection (b).”

(b) SHEEP PRODUCTION AND MARKETING GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 209(c) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1627a(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking “2019, and” and inserting “2019,”; and

(2) by inserting “and \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2026,” after “fiscal year 2024,”

(c) PIMA AGRICULTURE COTTON TRUST FUND.—Section 12314 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 2101 note; Public Law 113-79) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), in the matter preceding paragraph

(1), by striking “2024” and inserting “2031”; and

(2) in subsection (h), by striking “2024” and inserting “2031”.

(d) AGRICULTURE WOOL APPAREL MANUFACTURERS TRUST FUND.—Section 12315 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 7101 note; Public Law 113-79) is amended by striking “2024” each place it appears and inserting “2031”.

(e) WOOL RESEARCH AND PROMOTION.—Section 12316(a) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 7101 note; Public Law 113-79) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2031”.

(f) EMERGENCY CITRUS DISEASE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND.—Section 12605(d) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 7632 note; Public Law 115-334) is amended by striking “2024” and inserting “2031”.

**Pub. L. 119–37, Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch,  
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026<sup>4</sup>**



PUBLIC LAW 119–37—NOV. 12, 2025

139 STAT. 495

Public Law 119–37  
119th Congress

An Act

Making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes.

Nov. 12, 2025  
[H.R. 5371]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026”.

**SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. References.
- Sec. 4. Explanatory statement.
- Sec. 5. Statement of appropriations.

DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

DIVISION B—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

- Title I—Agricultural Programs
- Title II—Farm Production and Conservation Programs
- Title III—Rural Development Programs
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- Title V—Foreign Assistance and Related Programs
- Title VI—Related Agency and Food and Drug Administration
- Title VII—General Provisions

DIVISION C—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

- Title I—Legislative Branch
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DIVISION D—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

- Title I—Department of Defense
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Continuing  
Appropriations,  
Agriculture,  
Legislative  
Branch, Military  
Construction and  
Veterans Affairs,  
and Extensions  
Act, 2026.

<sup>4</sup>**Editor’s note:** due to the size of Pub. L. 119–37, 161 pages, it is not reproduced herein in its entirety (it is retained in Committee file). Only the referenced sections, and Table of Con-

Continued

Title II—Benefits  
 Title III—Housing  
 Title IV—Other Matters

DIVISION H—MISCELLANEOUS

1 USC 1 note.

**SEC. 3. REFERENCES.**

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

**SEC. 4. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.**

The explanatory statement regarding this Act, printed in the Senate section of the Congressional Record on or about November 9, 2025, and submitted by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of divisions B through D of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

**SEC. 5. STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

The following sums in this Act are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026.

**DIVISION A—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026**

Continuing  
 Appropriations  
 Act, 2026.  
 Applicability.  
 Apportionments.

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2026, and for other purposes, namely:

SEC. 101. Such amounts as may be necessary, at a rate for operations as provided in the applicable appropriations Acts for fiscal year 2025 and under the authority and conditions provided in such Acts, for continuing projects or activities (including the costs of direct loans and loan guarantees) that are not otherwise specifically provided for in this Act, that were conducted in fiscal year 2025, and for which appropriations, funds, or other authority were made available in the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (division A of Public Law 119–4), except sections 1110, 1113, and 1114; the proviso in paragraph (4) of section 1602; and sections 1708 and 1808; and except section 540 of division C, and sections 110 and 112 of division D of Public Law 118–42, as continued in effect by section 1101 of division A of Public Law 119–4; and except section 7069(b) of division F of Public Law 118–47, as continued in effect by section 1101 of division A of Public Law 119–4.

SEC. 102. (a) No appropriation or funds made available or authority granted pursuant to section 101 for the Department of Defense shall be used for:

- (1) the new production of items not funded for production in fiscal year 2025 or prior years;
- (2) the increase in production rates above those sustained with fiscal year 2025 funds; or
- (3) the initiation, resumption, or continuation of any project, activity, operation, or organization (defined as any project, subproject, activity, budget activity, program element, and subprogram within a program element, and for any investment items defined as a P–1 line item in a budget activity

\_\_\_\_\_ tents, are treated as submitted: Division B—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026, Title VII—General Provisions, Sec. 737, 139 STAT. 550, Sec. 781, 139 STAT. 558–561.

SEC. 735. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to enforce the final rule promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration entitled “Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption”, and published on November 27, 2015, and the proposed rule issued by the Food and Drug Administration pending at the Office of Management and Budget entitled “Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding Produce for Human Consumption Related to Agricultural Water” (86 Fed. Reg. 69120 and 87 Fed. Reg. 42973), with respect to the regulation of entities that grow, harvest, pack, or hold wine grapes, hops, pulse crops, or almonds.

Time periods.  
School breakfast.

SEC. 736. For school years 2025–2026 and 2026–2027, none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to restrict or limit the substitution of any vegetable subgroup for fruits under the school breakfast program established under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773).

SEC. 737. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used—

Hemp and hemp  
seeds.

(1) in contravention of section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 5940), subtitle G of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, or section 10114 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018; or

(2) to prohibit the transportation, processing, sale, or use of hemp, or seeds of such plant, that is grown or cultivated in accordance with section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 or subtitle G of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, within or outside the State in which the hemp is grown or cultivated.

Waiver authority.

SEC. 738. The Secretary of Agriculture may waive the matching funds requirement under section 412(g) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7632(g)).

Notification.  
Foreign  
countries.

SEC. 739. The Secretary of Agriculture shall be included as a member of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) on a case by case basis pursuant to the authorities in section 721(k)(2)(J) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4565(k)(2)(J)) with respect to each covered transaction (as defined in section 721(a)(4) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4565(a)(4))) involving agricultural land, agriculture biotechnology, or the agriculture industry (including agricultural transportation, agricultural storage, and agricultural processing), as determined by the CFIUS Chairperson in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture shall, to the maximum extent practicable, notify CFIUS of any agricultural land transaction that the Secretary of Agriculture has reason to believe, based on information from or in cooperation with the Intelligence Community, is a covered transaction (A) that may pose a risk to the national security of the United States, with particular emphasis on covered transactions of an interest in agricultural land by foreign governments or entities of concern, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 19221(a), including the People’s Republic of China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the Islamic Republic of Iran; and (B) with respect to which a person is required to submit a report to the Secretary of Agriculture under section 2(a) of the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 3501(a)).

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Hawaii.<br>Coffee.                      | SEC. 778. For purposes of applying the Federal Food Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), Hawaii grown or produced coffee shall contain at least 51 percent of coffee grown in Kona, Kau, Maui, Oahu, Kauai, or other areas of the State of Hawaii: <i>Provided</i> , That based on the region it is produced or grown, the common or usual names shall be Kona Coffee, Kau Coffee, Maui Coffee, Oahu Coffee, Kauai Coffee, or Hawaii Coffee.  |
| Notification.<br>Advance<br>approval.   | SEC. 779. None of the funds made available for any department or agency in this or any other appropriations Acts, including prior year Acts, shall be used to close Natural Resources Conservation Service or Rural Development mission area field offices or to permanently relocate any field-based employees of those agencies that would result in an office with two or fewer employees without prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.   |
| Expiration date.                        | SEC. 780. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to administer or enforce the “Requirements for Additional Traceability Records for Certain Foods”, published on November 21, 2022 (87 Fed. Reg. 70910), or any other rule promulgated in accordance with section 204 of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (21 U.S.C. 2223), prior to July 20, 2028. Further, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration shall:  |
| Time period.                            | (1) Engage quarterly with the regulated entities, including farms, restaurants, retail food establishments, and warehouses distributing to retail food establishments and restaurants, to identify and implement, as appropriate, additional flexibilities for satisfying the rule’s lot-level tracking requirement, as appropriate, such that regulated entities can comply with the November 21, 2022, rule consistent with section 204(d)(1)(L)(iii), which prohibits the agency from requiring product tracking to the case level.   |
| Deadline.<br>Recommendations.           | (2) Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Food and Drug Administration is directed to provide industry stakeholders with recommendations for these additional flexibilities satisfying the rule’s lot-level tracking requirement, as appropriate.  |
|   | (3) The FDA shall provide assistance to industry regarding how to handle food waste recovery, reclamation, intra-company transfers, customer returns under the rule and initiate a series of hypothetical data intake exercises to test the capabilities of the FDA’s Product Tracing System and, upon request and as resources allow, the covered entity systems and identify any technical difficulties prior to full implementation.  |
| Effective date.<br>7 USC 1639o<br>note. | SEC. 781. Effective 365 days after the enactment of this Act, Section 297A of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1639o) is amended—  |
| Definitions.                            | (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (6) as paragraphs (4) through (8), respectively; and<br>(2) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:<br>“(1) HEMP.—<br>“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘hemp’ means the plant <i>Cannabis sativa</i> L. and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a total tetrahydrocannabinols concentration (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid) of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis. |

“(B) INCLUSION.—Such term includes industrial hemp.

“(C) EXCLUSIONS.—Such term does not include—

“(i) any viable seeds from a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant that exceeds a total tetrahydrocannabinols concentration (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid) of 0.3 percent in the plant on a dry weight basis; or

“(ii) any intermediate hemp-derived cannabinoid products containing—

“(I) cannabinoids that are not capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant;

“(II) cannabinoids that—

“(aa) are capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant; and

“(bb) were synthesized or manufactured outside the plant; or

“(III) more than 0.3 percent combined total of—

“(aa) total tetrahydrocannabinols (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid); and

“(bb) any other cannabinoids that have similar effects (or are marketed to have similar effects) on humans or animals as a tetrahydrocannabinol (as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services); or

“(iii) any intermediate hemp-derived cannabinoid products which are marketed or sold as a final product or directly to an end consumer for personal or household use; or

“(iv) any final hemp-derived cannabinoid products containing—

“(I) cannabinoids that are not capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant;

“(II) cannabinoids that—

“(aa) are capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant; and

“(bb) were synthesized or manufactured outside the plant; or

“(III) greater than 0.4 milligrams combined total per container of—

“(aa) total tetrahydrocannabinols (including tetrahydrocannabinolic acid); and

“(bb) any other cannabinoids that have similar effects (or are marketed to have similar effects) on humans or animals as a tetrahydrocannabinol (as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services).

“(2) INDUSTRIAL HEMP.—The term ‘industrial hemp’ means hemp—

“(A) grown for the use of the stalk of the plant, fiber produced from such a stalk, or any other non-cannabinoid derivative, mixture, preparation, or manufacture of such a stalk;

“(B) grown for the use of the whole grain, oil, cake, nut, hull, or any other non-cannabinoid compound, derivative, mixture, preparation, or manufacture of the seeds of such plant;

“(C) grown for purposes of producing microgreens or other edible hemp leaf products intended for human consumption that are derived from an immature hemp plant that is grown from seeds that do not exceed the threshold for total tetrahydrocannabinols concentration specified in paragraph (1)(C)(i);

“(D) that is a plant that does not enter the stream of commerce and is intended to support hemp research at an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) or an independent research institute; or

“(E) grown for the use of a viable seed of the plant produced solely for the production or manufacture of any material described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

“(3) HEMP-DERIVED CANNABINOID PRODUCT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘hemp-derived cannabinoid product’ means any intermediate or final product derived from hemp (other than industrial hemp), that—

“(i) contains cannabinoids in any form; and

“(ii) is intended for human or animal use through any means of application or administration, such as inhalation, ingestion, or topical application.

“(B) The term ‘intermediate hemp-derived cannabinoid product’ means a hemp-derived cannabinoid product which—

“(i) is not yet in the final form or preparation marketed or intended to be used or consumed by a human or animal; or

“(ii) is a powder, liquid, tablet, oil, or other product form which is intended or marketed to be mixed, dissolved, formulated, or otherwise added to or prepared with or into any other substance prior to administration or consumption.

“(C) The term ‘container’ means the innermost wrapping, packaging, or vessel in direct contact with a final hemp-derived cannabinoid product in which the final hemp-derived cannabinoid product is enclosed for retail sale to consumers, such as a jar, bottle, bag, box, packet, can, carton, or cartridge.

“(D) The term container excludes bulk shipping containers or outer wrappings that are not essential for the final retail delivery or sale to an end consumer for personal or household use.

“(E) EXCLUSION.—Such term does not include a drug that is the subject of an application approved under subsection (c) or (j) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355).”

(3) Within 90 days of the enactment of this act, the Food and Drug Administration, in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies, shall publish—

(A) a list of all cannabinoids known to FDA to be capable of being naturally produced by a *Cannabis sativa* L. plant, as reflected in peer reviewed literature;

(B) a list of all tetrahydrocannabinol class cannabinoids known to the agency to be naturally occurring in the plant;

Deadline.  
Publication.  
Lists.  
7 USC 1639o  
note.

(C) a list of all other known cannabinoids with similar effects to, or marketed to have similar effects to, tetrahydrocannabinol class cannabinoids; and

(D) additional information and specificity about the term “container”, as defined in paragraph (3)(C).

SEC. 782. In addition to amounts otherwise made available, there is hereby appropriated \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program established pursuant to section 1001(b)(4) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2) to award grants to processors of invasive, wild-caught catfish.

SEC. 783. (a) During the period beginning on the effective date of the final rule entitled “Food Labeling: Nutrient Content Claims; Definition of Term ‘Healthy’” published in the Federal Register by the Food and Drug Administration on December 27, 2024 (89 Fed. Reg. 106064 et seq.) and ending on the compliance date specified in such final rule (referred to in this section as the “compliance period”), a manufacturer may also continue to comply with the requirements in effect on the day before such effective date relating to an implied nutrient content claim of “healthy” made with respect to a food.

Time periods.  
21 USC 343 note.

(b) In the case of a food that bears labeling making an implied nutrition content claim that the food is “healthy” during the compliance period, the manufacturer of the food shall not be directly or indirectly subject to any State law requirement relating to labeling making an implied nutrient content claim that a food is “healthy” during such period that is not identical to either—

(1) the Federal requirements for labeling to make an implied nutrition content claim that a food is “healthy” that were in effect on the day before the effective date of such final rule; or

(2) the updated Federal requirements specified in the final rule for such a claim.

SEC. 784. Of the unobligated balances available in the Department of the Treasury, Treasury Forfeiture Fund, established by section 9703 of title 31, United States Code, \$350,000,000 shall be permanently rescinded not later than September 30, 2026.

Termination  
date.

SEC. 785. The Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration shall develop a report to determine the cost and any implications associated with efforts to issue a proposed rule and implement FDA guidance and enforcement for setting standards for pet and animal food labeling and ingredient regulation: *Provided*, That the report shall—

Reports.  
Determination.

(1) cover intent for harmonization across state and Federal regulatory bodies for pet and animal food labeling and ingredients;

(2) include timelines for developing guidelines, proposed regulations, resource and personnel needs to implement such standards, and where FDA would need additional authority to implement any proposed changes; and

Timelines.

be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 786. Any remaining unobligated balances from amounts made available by section 743 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115–31) may be used, in addition to any funds otherwise made available for such purposes,