

## NFU Board of Directors Resolution

### Integrity of the National Organic Program

The National Organic Program is a voluntary program with standards driven by the organic industry.

The Organic Foods Production Act directed the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) to provide direction on changes and modernization to the program. NOP was always intended to represent continued improvement and modernization.

The NOSB directed NOP to issue standards for organic livestock and poultry producers to maintain consistency across the program. The NOP issued the Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices rule with widespread industry support. USDA withdrew the rule and blocked implementation of these standards, even though they have long been expected by the organic community and clearly reflect strong stakeholders input. The maintenance of high standards for the organic program is essential for the continuation of consumer confidence and the economic viability of family farmers.

Central to the success of the program is integrity in the label. Despite stakeholder demands for consistency, certifiers have inconsistently applied animal husbandry standards across the industry. Consumer confusion threatens the continued success of the program and the significant investment family farmers have made.

We urge USDA to make the Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices rule effective immediately and respect the public-private partnership of the National Organic Program.