

ENFORCING THE PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ACT

Promoting fair, transparent practices in the meat market

In July 2021, President Biden issued an executive order on competition that directs the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to write new rules under the Packers and Stockyards Act (PSA) . The 100-year-old legislation was originally intended to protect farmers and ranchers from unfair, deceptive, and monopolistic practices in the livestock market.

But for the last few decades, USDA has not fully enforced these important protections, which has enabled rampant consolidation. As a result, farmers and ranchers have suffered economically while consumer food prices have gone up.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2018, the four largest meatpackers controlled 59% of U.S. poultry processing, 70% of U.S. pork processing and 85% of beef packing.

USDA's Upcoming Proposed Rules Under The PSA Will:



Offer Fairer
Wages to Poultry
Growers



Make It Easier for
Farmers to Legally
Challenge Unfair
Practices



Clarify Which
Practices are Unfair,
Discriminatory or
Deceptive

National Farmers Union has been fighting corporate monopolies in agriculture for nearly 120 years, and advocates for more market power for farmers, ranchers, and consumers.

WHAT WE CAN DO

- 1 Submit comments in favor of the new PSA rules once they are proposed by USDA.
- 2 Support bills that would bring more price transparency, discovery and reporting to beef markets through mandatory price reporting, cash market requirements and contract libraries.

