



FAIRNESS FOR FARMERS 2025 SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Fair, open, and competitive markets are central to the health and wellbeing of the American economy and our democracy. For decades, the markets that farmers buy from and sell to, and the supply chains and infrastructure they rely on, have become increasingly consolidated and uncompetitive. There are high levels of corporate concentration and anticompetitive practices in sectors including meatpacking, seeds, crop protection, fertilizer, rail transportation, food retail, food distribution, farm equipment manufacturing and repair, and sales of commodities.

Corporate monopolies limit farmers' and ranchers' choices, pay us less, and charge us more. The farmer's share of every dollar consumers spend on food has fallen from 50 cents in 1952 to less than 16 cents today. All the while, consumers are facing inflated prices for food at the grocery store.

Markets dominated by monopolies are susceptible to disruptions, harming family farmers, ranchers, consumers, workers, and our communities. Corporate monopolies spanning many sectors of our nation's economy have decimated small family businesses, especially in rural areas.

National Farmers Union (NFU) launched the Fairness for Farmers campaign to respond to these challenges. The campaign gives voice to those being harmed by economic concentration and corporate monopolies and calls for the revival of strong antitrust and competition law enforcement, the breakup of corporate monopolies, and the creation of new and diverse market opportunities for farmers.

NFU has made important progress in the last several years restoring fairness and competition to the marketplace, but many challenges remain.

To address these challenges, we support: federal and state governments passing legislation and establishing rules that strengthen antitrust and pro-competition laws; blocking harmful mergers throughout the food value chain; providing adequate resources for federal and state antitrust and competition law enforcement officials to enforce the law; greater protections for livestock producers, including robust and urgent enforcement of the Packers & Stockyards Act, passing laws or establishing rules that increase transparency and price discovery in cattle markets, establishing mandatory country-of-origin labeling (COOL) for beef; and establishing a farmer-led incentive-based milk production growth plan; the farmers' Right to Repair their own farm equipment; spurring the development and expansion of diverse, local, and regional market opportunities; and ensuring the next farm bill includes provision that increase competition and fairness in agricultural markets.