



FAMILY FARMING and the FARM BILL 2025 SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

We are disappointed that Congress has been unable to authorize a new farm bill. As the farm economy continues to weaken, we urge Congress to act quickly to pass a robustly funded, comprehensive farm bill in 2025 that strengthens the farm safety net, improves disaster protections, establishes policies that make markets more competitive, enhances farmer-friendly conservation programs, and that provides food and nutrition security for all Americans.

Strengthen the Farm Safety Net

The farm safety net should ensure family farmers and ranchers can achieve sustainable net farm income. We support changes to the existing safety net that increase reference prices to reflect increases in production costs; establish a “dual enrollment option” that allows farmers to receive the higher of the Agricultural Risk Coverage or Price Loss Coverage calculated payment; strengthen the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program; and close farm program eligibility loopholes to ensure support is directed to family farmers and ranchers.

Expand and Enhance Permanent Disaster Programs

Farmers and ranchers have too frequently relied on uncertain and inconsistent ad hoc disaster assistance. We support efforts to improve the affordability of federal crop insurance. We also urge Congress to expand and enhance permanent disaster programs.

Advance Fair and Competitive Markets

Fair, open, and competitive markets are foundational for the wellbeing of the American economy and our democracy, but farmers must buy from and sell to increasingly consolidated and uncompetitive markets. The next farm bill should advance National Farmers Union’s *Fairness for Farmers* campaign priorities by strengthening competition law enforcement, balancing dairy supply and demand, and spurring the development and expansion of diverse, local, and regional markets in all parts of farm and food supply chains.

Enact Farmer-Friendly Conservation Programs

Family farmers and ranchers are key stewards of our natural resources. The next farm bill should invest in voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs for farmers and ranchers, extend and deepen research on climate-smart agriculture practices, and recognize conservation practices as a tool to reduce the impact of disasters.

Food and Nutrition Security

The farm bill is also a food bill. Congress should enact a farm bill that supports the food and nutrition security of our communities by maintaining robust funding for nutrition programs and by creating additional opportunities for local and regional procurement of food from our farms and ranches and distribution of that food to our communities.