



August 5, 2026

The Honorable John Boozman
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Boozman and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

On behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Farmers Union, we write in support of the Grassley First Degree Amendment #4 to the Agricultural Act of 2026, offered by Senators Grassley and Booker, which would codify USDA's recently finalized Packers and Stockyards Act rules.

America's livestock producers and contract poultry growers deserve fair, transparent, and competitive markets. The rules that would be codified by this amendment advance those goals by strengthening protections against unfair and deceptive practices, improving transparency in poultry contracting, providing greater certainty for growers, and reinforcing safeguards against retaliation.

In July 2026, our organizations expressed deep concern when it was reported that these rules would be rescinded administratively.¹ These reforms were developed through years of stakeholder engagement, public comment, and regulatory review. They reflect concerns that farmers, ranchers, and contract poultry growers have raised for decades regarding fairness in livestock and poultry markets. The rules provide producers, meatpackers, and poultry integrators with clearer expectations while giving USDA additional tools to carry out its longstanding responsibilities under the Packers and Stockyards Act. Family farmers and ranchers should not lose these important safeguards.

We urge the inclusion of this amendment in the Agricultural Act of 2026. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zippy Duvall'.

Zippy Duvall, President, AFBF

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Larew'.

Rob Larew, President, NFU

¹ Joint Press release – AFBF, NFU Call on USDA to Preserve Protection for Farmers:
<https://www.fb.org/news-release/afbf-nfu-call-on-usda-to-preserve-protection-for-farmers>
<https://nfu.org/news/nfu-afbf-call-on-usda-to-preserve-protection-for-farmers/>