# FARM BILL



The next Farm Bill must remain unified, securing a commitment to American agriculture and to vital food and nutrition assistance programs for those who need them most.

NASDA's farm bill priorities include:

- Agricultural research
- Animal disease
- Biotechnology
- Conservation
- Cyber security
- Energy
- Food safety
- Mental health
- Pesticide regulations
- Regional food systems and nutrition programs
- Specialty crop block grant
- Trade promotion

*Scan to learn more about NASDA's farm bill policy.*

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## NASDA'S FARM BILL RECOMMENDATIONS:

### AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

- Increase funding for the USDA Agricultural Research Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

### ANIMAL DISEASE

- Support the three-tiered animal disease prevention and management method established by the 2018 Farm Bill.
- Provide adequate funding for the National Animal Vaccine and Veterinary Countermeasures Bank to support the livestock industry.
- Develop an early disease detection warning system for coordination between intergovernmental agencies and industry in preparing and responding to new disease outbreaks.
- Reauthorize the Veterinary Medical Loan Repayment Program, which is critical for recruiting and retaining rural veterinarians.
- Increase health and safety monitoring for imported domesticated dogs, Healthy Dog Importation Act (H.R. 3349 & S. 1725).

### BIOTECHNOLOGY

- Support the establishment of an office of biotechnology policy or similar efforts that would streamline the regulation and adoption of biotechnology products.

### CONSERVATION

- Expand conservation practices by establishing a new USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service state block-grant program to help state agriculture departments improve soil health and water quality on agricultural lands.

### CYBER SECURITY

- Maintain the Comprehensive Food Safety Training Network at the authorized level of $20 million per year.

### ENERGY

- Support continued, modernized investment in the agricultural bioeconomy.
  - The Agricultural Biorefinery Innovation and Opportunity Act (H.R. 3253 & S. 2467)
  - The Biomanufacturing and Jobs Act (H.R. 4832 & S. 2654)

### FOOD SAFETY

- Provide resources to assist farmers in complying with the Food Safety Modernization Act, which shifted American food safety regulation toward preventive and farm-focused measures.

### MENTAL HEALTH

- Support continued, expanded investment in state-facilitated mental health resources for farmers and ranchers through the Farm & Ranch Stress Assistance Network, The Farmers First Act of 2025 (H.R. 4400 & S. 2282).

# FARM BILL



## PESTICIDE REGULATIONS

- Bolster consistent, uniform, science-based labeling of pesticide products by clarifying that neither the EPA nor the states can adopt pesticide labels that contain human health claims that are inconsistent with EPA findings. Pursue this clarification in a manner affirming states have full rights to otherwise regulate pesticides under Section 24 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act and that state pesticide regulations preempt local regulations.
- Support efforts to improve EPA's coordination regarding risk mitigation measures in a manner that incorporates input from USDA and grower organizations.
- Include USDA Office of Pest Management Policy in Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act Interagency Working Group activities.

## REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS & NUTRITION PROGRAMS

- Invest in regional food system infrastructure, equipment & coordination support.
- Prevent food waste & farm loss by streamlining critical supply chain support.
- Strengthen public health outcomes through dietary guidance and nutrition education programs.
- Increase investments in food assistance and nutrition incentive programs that bolster regional food systems and focus on health-driven outcomes such as:
  - Expanding the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program and Produce Prescription Programs to increase the number of farmers markets and other authorized retailers who accept SNAP benefits
  - Increasing funding for WIC and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs
  - Increasing the USDA Farm to School Grant Program, which enhances access to local foods in schools while fostering hands-on food and nutrition education
  - Establishing permanent and flexible state-led food purchasing models, and increase administrative support at the state-level for existing programs, Local Farmers Feeding Our Communities Act (H.R. 4782) and the Strengthening Local Food Security Act (S. 2338).
- Implement comprehensive updates to the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs to support local agriculture, increase the quality of food offered and make meals more affordable and available, such as:
  - Adjusting reimbursement rates to better reflect current bulk food prices
  - Streamline administrative requirements for schools and school districts
  - Assisting districts with the costs of preparing and storage of food
  - Encouraging schools to purchase foods from in-state or geographically proximate sources by easing procurement regulations
  - Eliminating the need for waiver requests for state departments of agriculture to operate and manage school meal programs, recognizing their strong expertise and proven track record in food safety, production, marketing and grant management
  - Integrating comprehensive dietary education alongside programs that promote increased physical activity for students

## SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT

- Ensure the program remains locally responsive and allows states the flexibility to work closely with specialty crop farmers and grower groups in establishing annual priorities.

## TRADE PROMOTION

- Combine the "Supplemental Agricultural Trade Promotion Program" with the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development Program. Combining the programs would increase efficiency by eliminating the need to administer two similar programs.

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