



2024 National Priorities

New York Farm Bureau will continue to build relationships to educate and work with members of Congress and regulatory agencies to promote policies that benefit New York farmers and rural communities as well as increase awareness of issues important to agriculture.

Farm Policy:

- ◆ Support passage of a bipartisan 2024 Farm Bill with Farm Bureau priorities intact.
- ◆ Ensure that New York's unique agriculture industry needs are met in the 2024 Farm Bill including:
 - ◆ Supportive dairy programs, specialty crop initiatives, agricultural research, nutrition programs that support farmers, consumers and conservation programs.

Agricultural Labor:

- ◆ Pursue meaningful reforms that help farmers meet their labor needs, including, but not limited to a three-year AEWB freeze at 2023 levels, and abolishing the U.S. DOL's AEWB Methodology Rule finalized in March 2023.

Sustainability and Climate:

- ◆ Ensure that environmental sustainability efforts also ensure economic viability for farmers.
- ◆ Provide and promote voluntary, market-based incentive tools and technical assistance for farmers, ranchers and foresters to enhance carbon sequestration and other greenhouse gas emissions reductions using scientifically sound standards.
- ◆ Foster the development of private sector markets.
- ◆ Increase public awareness of agricultural advances in conservation and climate smart practices.

Regulations:

- ◆ Ensure EPA's revised definition of "Waters of the United States" stays within the confines of the law and can be easily understood by farmers and landowners.
- ◆ Work for reform of decision making and appeals related to conservation compliance (Swampbuster) rules.
- ◆ Ensure multiple-use mandates on federal lands are respected.
- ◆ Continue to seek a regulatory environment that enables farmers to feed a growing population while remaining environmentally and economically sustainable.
- ◆ Ensure renewable energy sources such as U.S.-grown biofuels are utilized to their full potential.
- ◆ Achieve positive Federal Milk Marketing Order reforms to modernize the regulatory process and enhance transparency for farmers.
- ◆ Ensure EPA's approach on ESA compliance for pesticide registrations does not leave American agriculture without viable crop protection tools.

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Supply Chain:

- ◆ Identify and pursue actions that decrease port congestion, reduce barriers to employment, speed up transportation of goods via rail and highway, and ease inflationary pressures.
- ◆ We support a limit on how many times commercial vehicles have to be inspected at a DOT inspection checkpoint in a certain time period.
- ◆ Expand agricultural processing capacity and enhance market transparency.
- ◆ Support efforts to increase capacity for small meat and poultry processing facilities in New York.
 - ◆ We support alternative means for the USDA to inspect meat, such as through the photographic, electronic remote grading program.
- ◆ Ensure access to agricultural inputs through proactive trade policies and science based environmental assessments of chemical registrations.

Infrastructure:

- ◆ Expand reliable, high-speed broadband service.
- ◆ Rebuild, repair and modernize transportation infrastructure, including rural roads and bridges, ports, inland waterway locks and dams.
- ◆ Increase federal investment in agricultural research.

Rural Life and Health:

- ◆ Increase awareness of mental health resources and encourage broader availability of agriculture-specific assistance.
- ◆ Expand programs to provide resources and address stigma surrounding mental health challenges.
- ◆ Support policies and legislation to provide stress assistance programs to farmers, increase farmer-facing training opportunities, increase awareness, and reduce stigma for rural mental health issues.

Taxes:

- ◆ Educate elected officials on the importance of the individual tax code reforms contained in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that are set to expire in 2025 unless they are extended, including a doubled estate tax exemption, and lowered capital gains tax rate and business deductions, among other provisions.

Trade:

- ◆ Expand trade opportunities for U.S. agriculture.
- ◆ Encourage the U.S. to join the Comprehensive & Progressive Trans Pacific Partnership agreement.
- ◆ Maintain the China Phase 1 agreement and ensure it is implemented.
- ◆ Seek continued implementation of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, including produce plan implementation.
- ◆ Reduce tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade.
- ◆ Engage in trade negotiations with the United Kingdom and other nations.
- ◆ Advance meaningful reform of the World Trade Organization

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