A Strong Farm Bill is Essential for Agriculture, Food Security, and Rural America

America's farmers and ranchers continue to face one of the most challenging economic environments in recent memory. Production costs remain elevated, commodity prices have weakened across many sectors, interest rates continue to strain operating loans, and weather uncertainty adds additional risk to every production season. At the same time, producers continue to navigate market volatility, workforce shortages, trade uncertainty, animal and plant health concerns, and the absence of a modern Farm Bill that reflects today's agricultural economy. Without meaningful action, these pressures threaten the long-term viability of family farms, ranches, and the rural communities that depend on them.

Agriculture is the foundation of our nation's food security. A strong domestic food system depends on financially viable producers, effective conservation, sound research, reliable markets, and public policies that recognize agriculture as a strategic national priority. Congress has an opportunity to strengthen American agriculture through a comprehensive Farm Bill that provides certainty for producers while ensuring consumers continue to have access to a safe, affordable, and abundant food supply.

Stakeholders from Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado Cattlemen's Association, Colorado Livestock Association, and Colorado Fruit and Vegetable Growers have joined together to identify common ground in the future of Colorado Agriculture. While our organizations represent different sectors of Colorado agriculture, we are united by the shared understanding that the long-term success of our producers and rural communities depends on a strong, modern Farm Bill.

Coalition Priorities

Protect America's food security

- Recognize that food security is national security.
- Support policies that maintain a resilient domestic food supply and strong agricultural economy.

Modernize the farm safety net

- Modernize the Farm Bill to reflect today's production costs and economic realities.
- Provide producers with certainty and long-term stability needed to continue producing food, fiber, and fuel.

Support research, innovation, and education

- Increase investment in agricultural research, Extension, and land-grant universities.
- Accelerate development and implementation of new technologies that improve productivity, reduce costs, and strengthen resilience.

Ensure agriculture remains a viable profession

- Create opportunities that allow current and future generations to choose farming and ranching as a sustainable career.
- Strengthen policies that support long-term economic viability across agriculture.

Maintain strong domestic food and nutrition programs

- Preserve a strong Nutrition Title within the Farm Bill.
- Recognize that nutrition programs support families while also creating important domestic markets for agricultural producers.

Expand and strengthen markets

- Support policies that create reliable domestic demand and expand fair international trade opportunities for U.S. agricultural products.
- Promote competitive domestic markets that allow producers to succeed.

Invest in conservation

- Continue voluntary conservation programs that encourage innovation, improve resource stewardship, and recognize the unique needs of western agriculture.

- Support the modernization of existing water infrastructure and the development of new infrastructure to maximize efficient and reliable use of water resources.

Support effective agricultural agencies

- Ensure USDA and its partner agencies have adequate staffing and resources to deliver timely technical assistance, program administration, research, and producer services.

Protect animal and plant health

- Strengthen disease traceability systems.
- Increase inspection of imported food products to help protect domestic agriculture, consumers, and export markets.