

# Farm Bill 2023

Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

Government Relations



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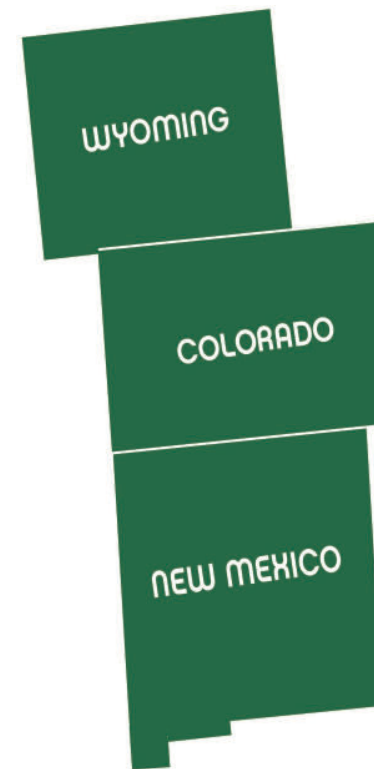
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# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

Grassroots organization founded in 1907.

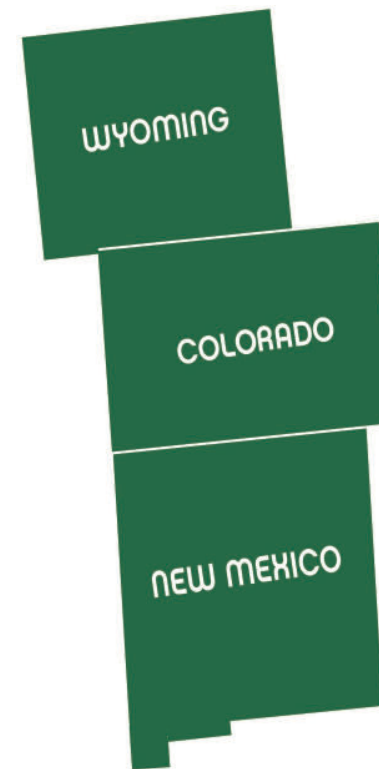
Represent family farmers and ranchers in Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico.

We have approximately 15,000 members across our region.



# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

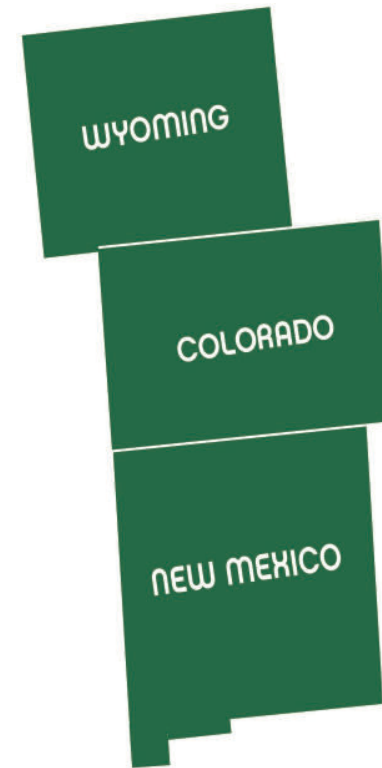
Our members represent the entire variety of agricultural production in our region, from small scale specialty production and farmers markets in urban communities to irrigated fields of corn and four-generation livestock operations on the high plains.



# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

Dedicated to sustaining rural communities, to wise stewardship and use of natural resources, and to the protection of our safe, secure food supply.

Support our goals through education and legislation, as well as by encouraging the cooperative model for mutual economic benefit.

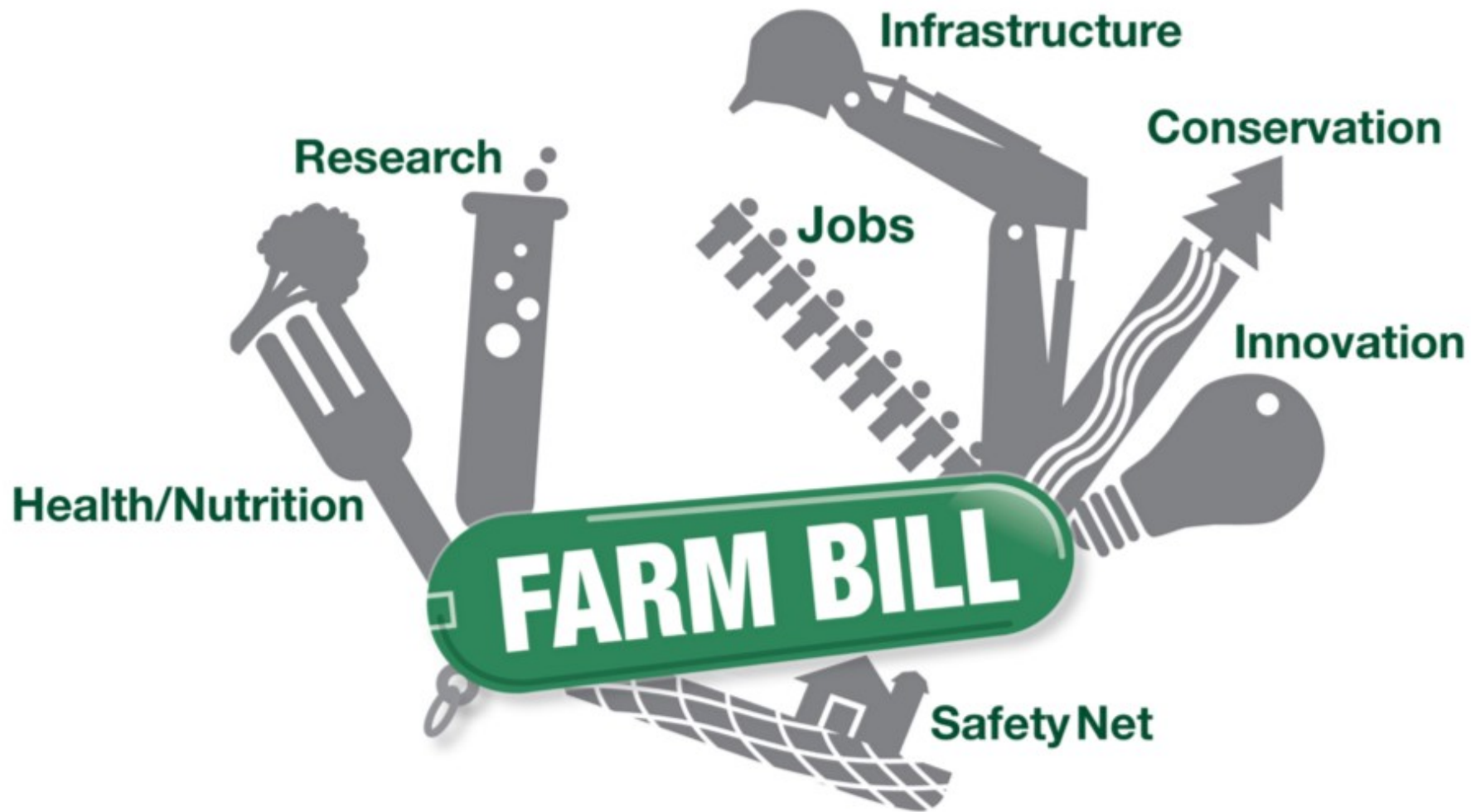


“Every five years, Congress passes legislation that sets national agriculture, nutrition, conservation, and forestry policy, commonly referred to as the ‘Farm Bill’.”

*-U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry*







**“It’s like a Swiss Army knife.”**

*- President Obama 2/7/14*

# Background on the Farm Bill



**2018**

**2014**

**2008**

**2002**

**1996**

**1990**

**1985**

**1981**

**1977**

**There have  
been 18 farm  
bills since  
1933.**

**1973**

**1970**

**1965**

**1956**

**1954**

**1949**

**1948**

**1938**

**1933**

# Sections of the 2018 Farm Bill

- Title I—Commodity Programs
- Title II—Conservation
- Title III—Trade
- Title IV—Nutrition
- Title V—Credit
- Title VI—Rural Development
- Title VII—Research, Extension, and Related Matters
- Title VIII—Forestry
- Title IX—Energy
- Title X—Horticulture
- Title XI—Crop Insurance
- Title XII—Miscellaneous



## TITLE I COMMODITY PROGRAMS

Title I provides for a major decline in revenue for major commodity crops, such as corn, soybean, wheat, rice and peanuts. It also provides protection against a fall in milk prices, disaster relief for livestock and tree fruit producers, and import barriers on sugar.



## TITLE II CONSERVATION

The conservation programs reward responsible environmental stewardship and improved land-management techniques.



## TITLE III TRADE

Not only does Title III support agriculture exports with programs like the Market Access Program (MAP), but it also provides for international food assistance with emergency and non-emergency programs.



## TITLE IV NUTRITION

Providing nutrition assistance through programs like SNAP and TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) helps 43 million Americans. Title IV also provides funding to help get USDA foods into schools.



## TITLE V CREDIT

The credit programs help ensure that loans, both from the government and from commercial lenders, will be available for ranchers and farmers if they meet the given requirements.



## TITLE VI RURAL DEVELOPMENT

You don't have to be a farmer to live away from cities. The Rural Development programs include internet and telecommunication access, planning for small communities, and helps support small businesses.



## TITLE VII RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND RELATED MATTERS

Funding for research about agriculture and ways to be more efficient is important. Title VII also provides for expanding public knowledge about food systems as a whole.



## TITLE VIII FORESTRY

Title VIII supports the USDA Forest service and the management of our natural forest resources.



## TITLE IX ENERGY

Biofuels, research, demonstrations, and providing energy for farms and small communities is the basis for Title IX. There are also programs that reward farmers for using different feedstock which could eventually be used for biofuel.



## TITLE X HORTICULTURE

Specialty crops, like fruits, nuts, vegetables and flowers, are sometimes overlooked in agriculture. Title X provides for product promotion, pest and disease prevention, research, and helps support Certified Organic agriculture.



## TITLE XI CROP INSURANCE

Crop Insurance programs from the Farm Bill enhance and supplement the existing federal crop insurance program. The STAX program is designed specifically for cotton, and the SCO program is for all other crops.



## TITLE XII MISCELLANEOUS

The Miscellaneous title provides programs for livestock and poultry producers and others not covered in the previous titles. It especially aims to help the limited resource and socially disadvantaged farmers.

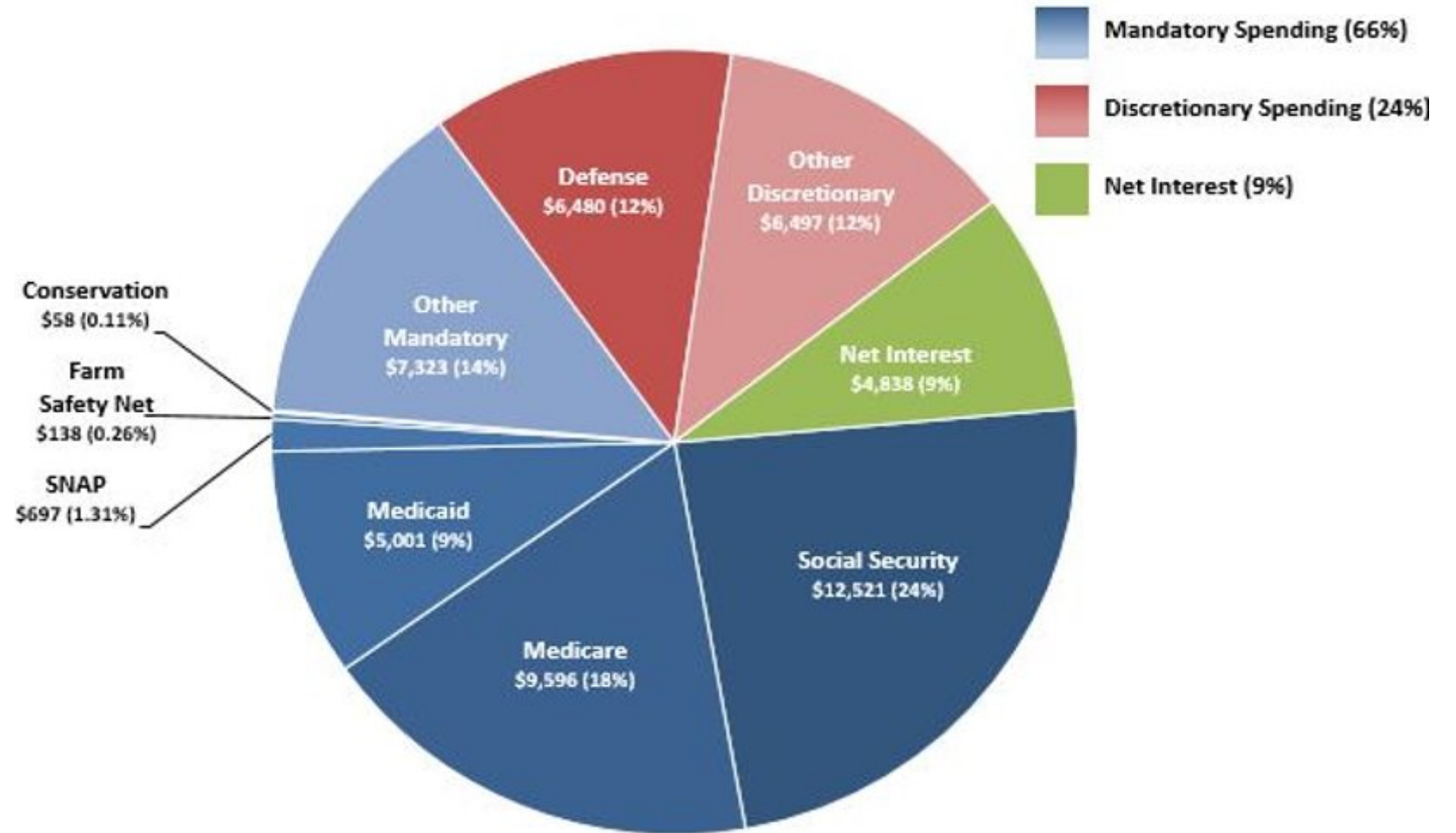
# Farm Bill Funding



# Farm Bill Baseline

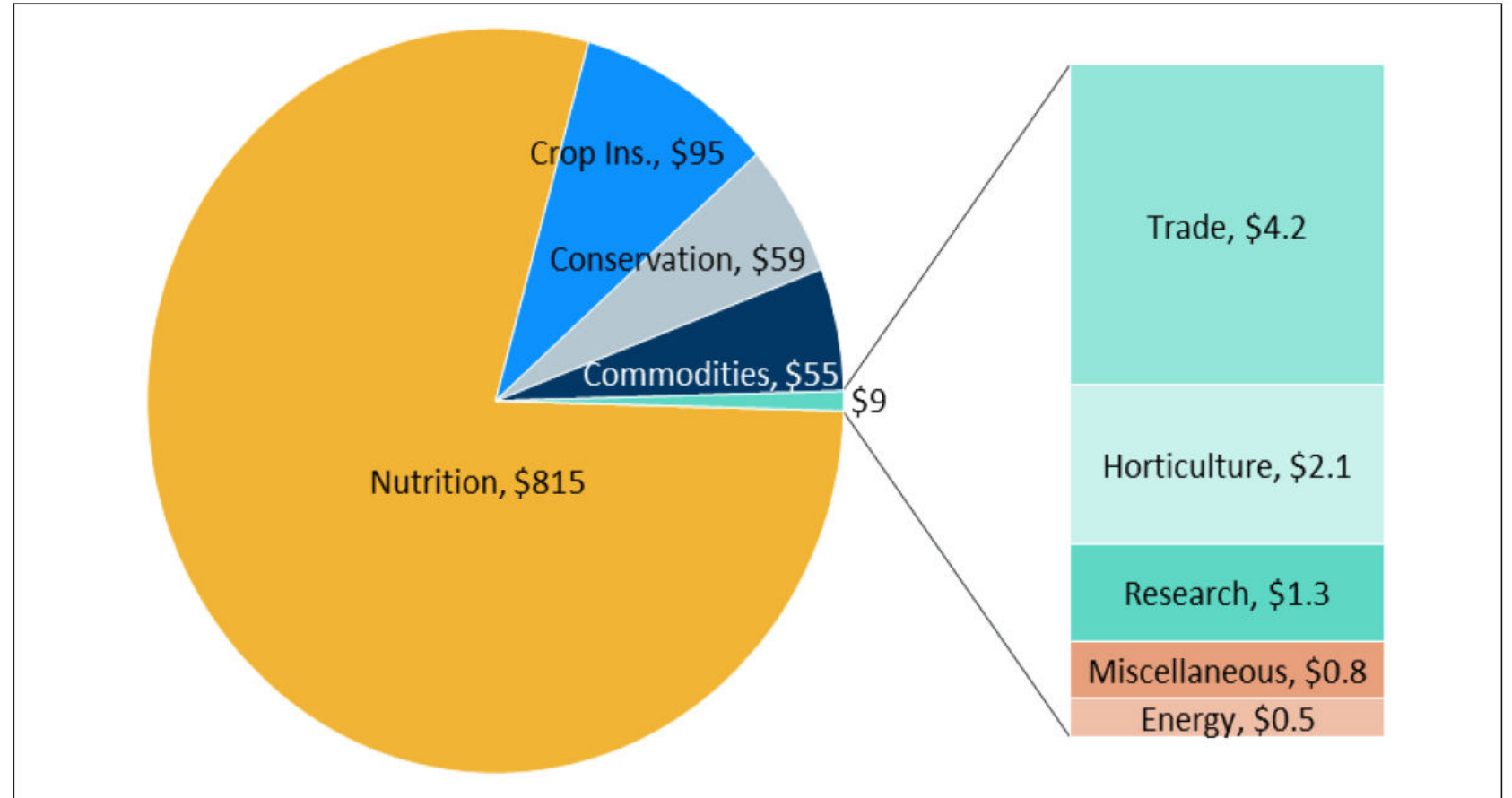
## Estimated Federal Outlays (FY2017-2026)

CBO August 2016 Baseline (in billions)

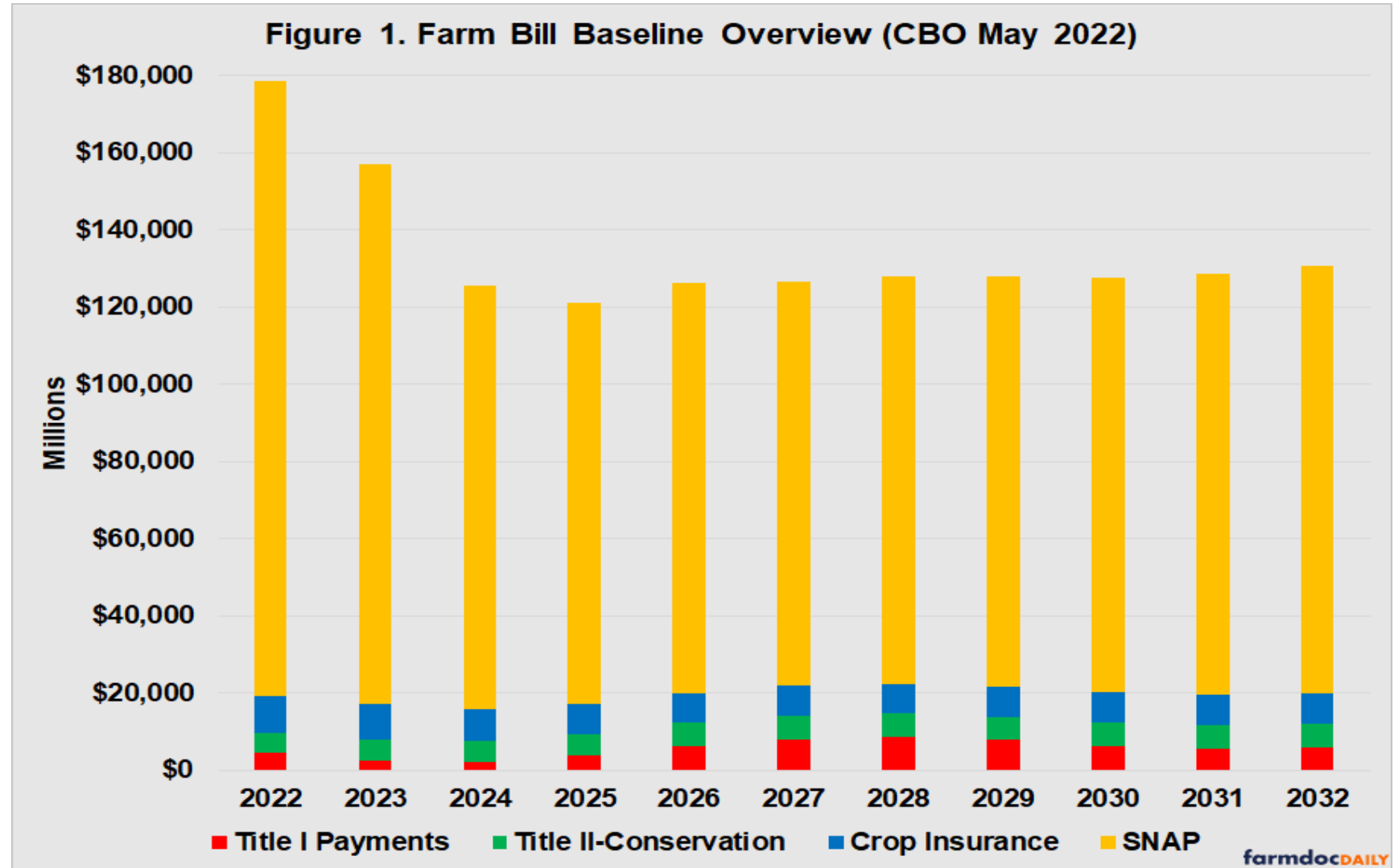


# Farm Bill Baseline

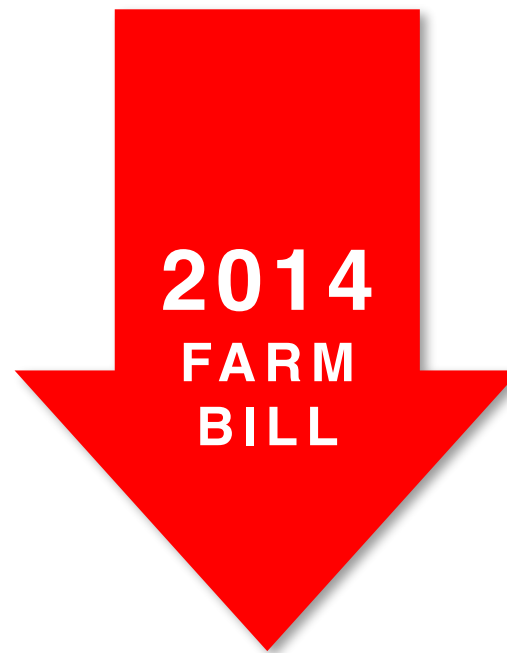
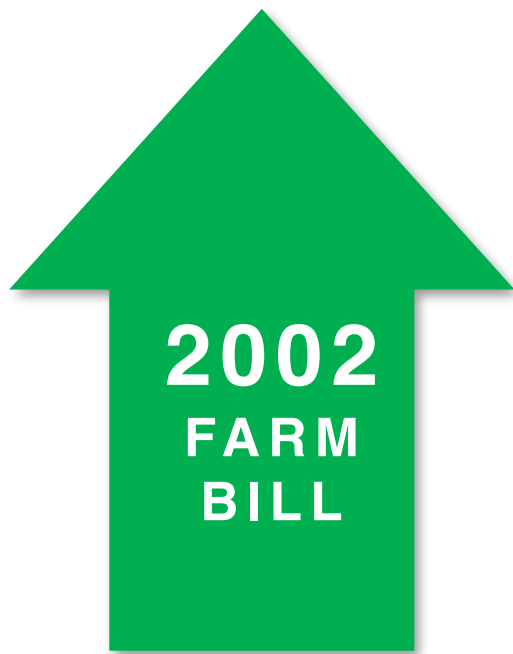
**Figure 2. Baseline for Farm Bill Programs, by Title**  
(\$ billions; \$1,033 billion over 10 years, FY2022-FY2031)



# Farm Bill Baseline



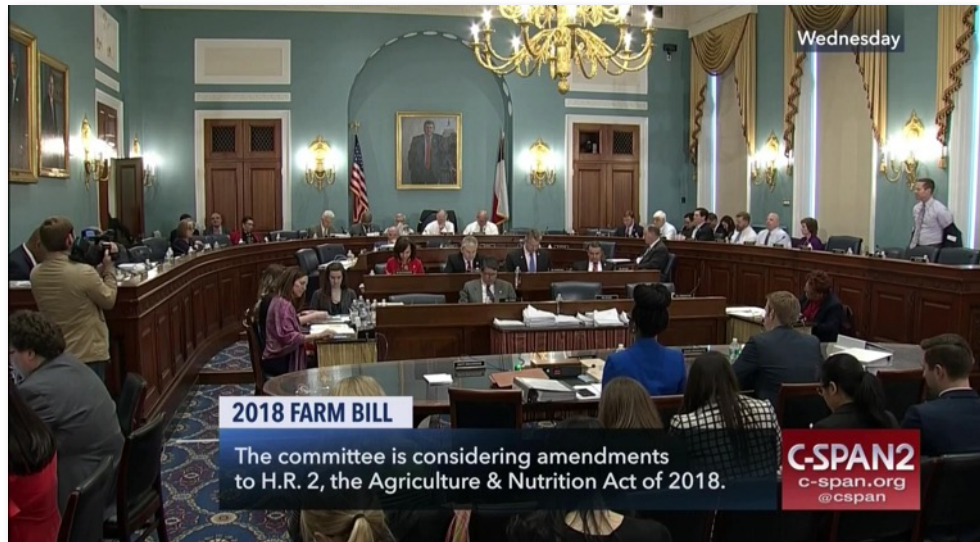
# Farm Bill Baseline



# The Farm Bill Legislative Process

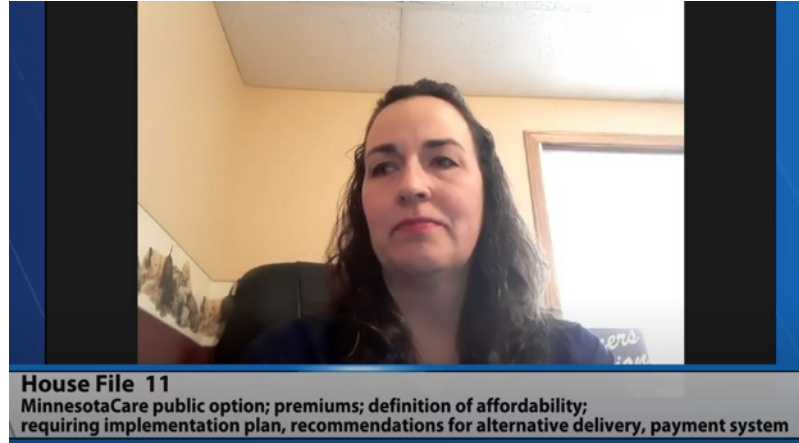


# Farm Bill Process





# Advocacy





# Constituent Meetings





# Committee Hearings



**Sen. Debbie Stabenow**  
Michigan  
Chairwoman  
Senate Ag Committee



**Rep. Glenn Thompson**  
Pennsylvania  
Chairman  
House Ag Committee

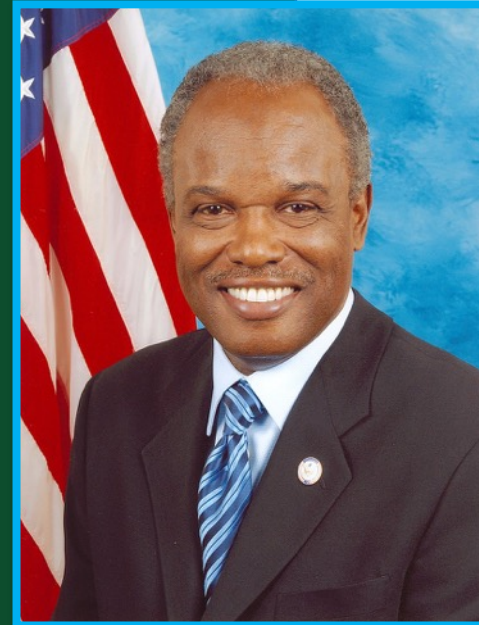


**THE  
FOUR  
CORNERS**

**Sen. John Boozman**  
Arkansas  
Ranking Member  
Senate Ag Committee

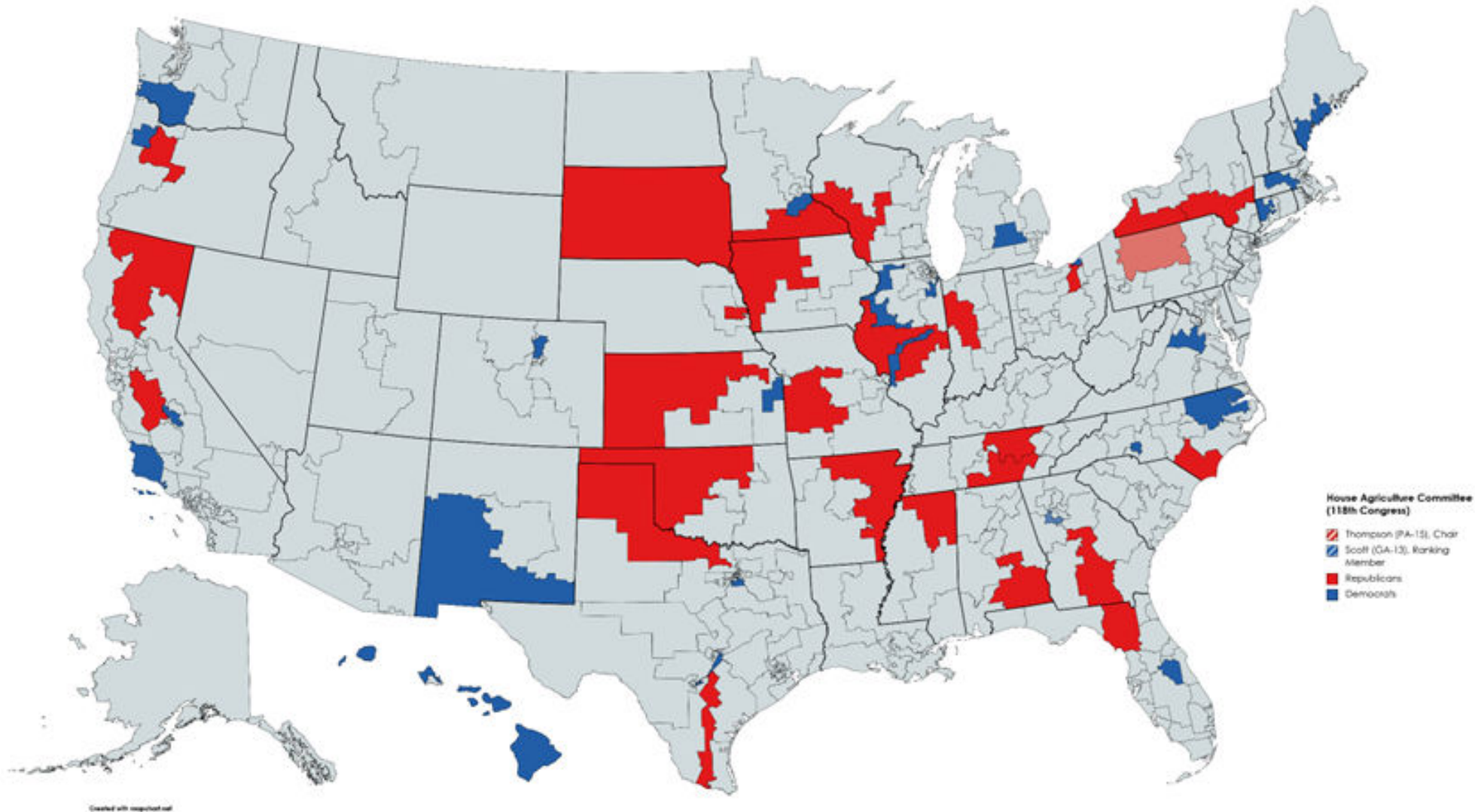


**Rep. David Scott**  
Georgia  
Ranking Member  
House Ag Committee



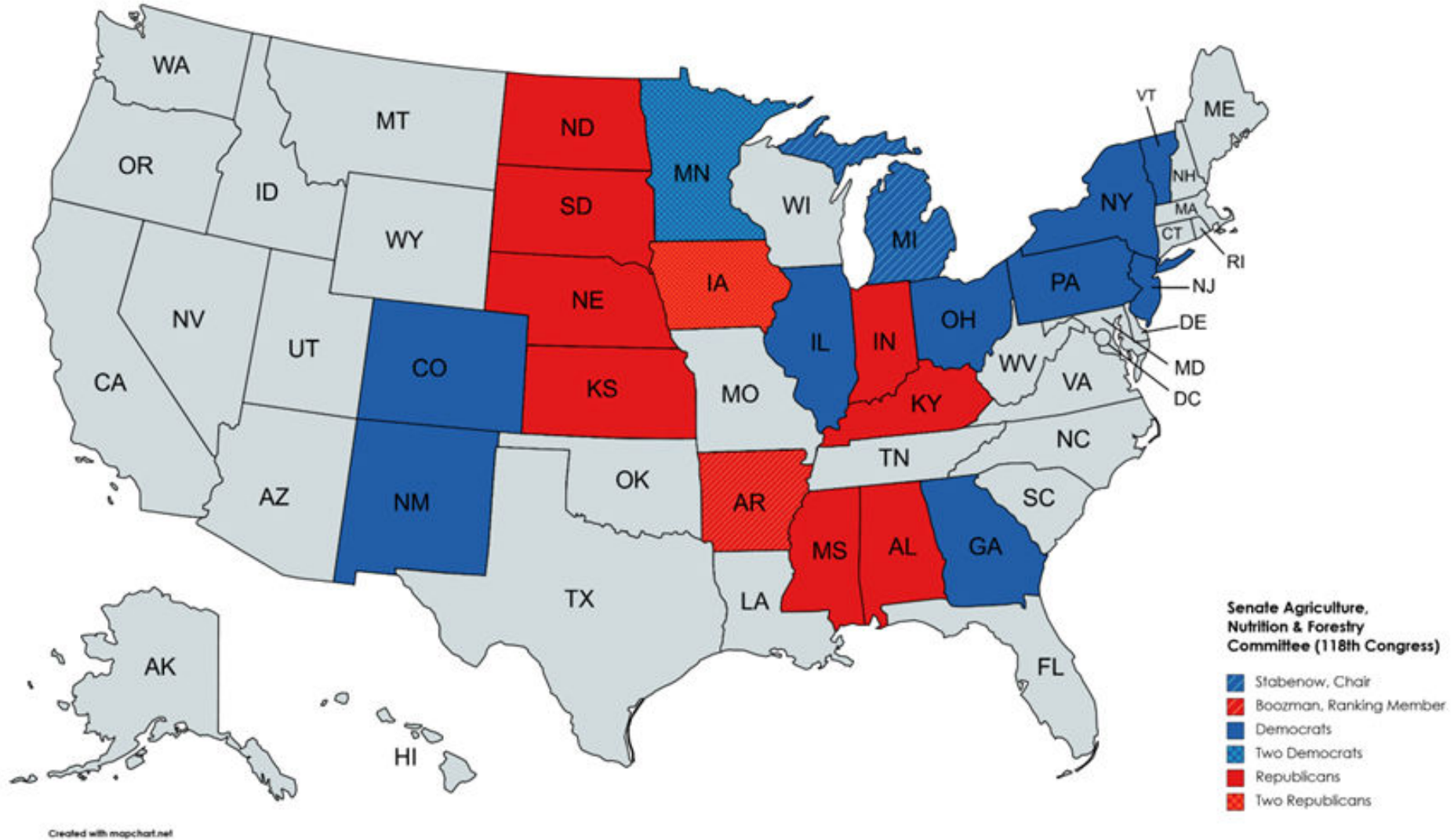


# HOUSE AG COMMITTEE (2023-2024)



Rocky Mountain  
Farmers Union

# SENATE AG COMMITTEE (2023-2024)





# Field Hearings



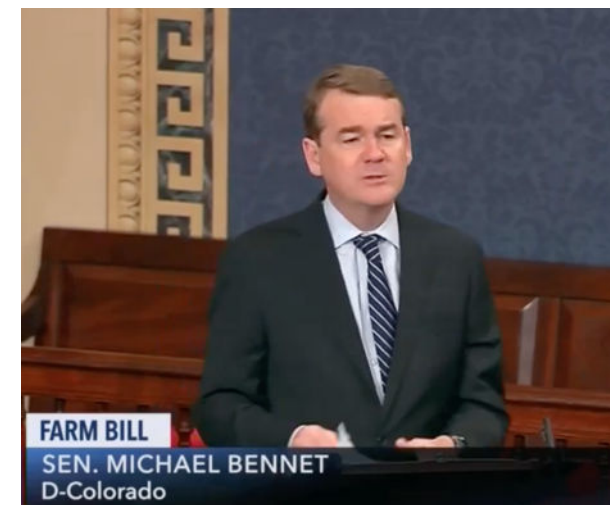
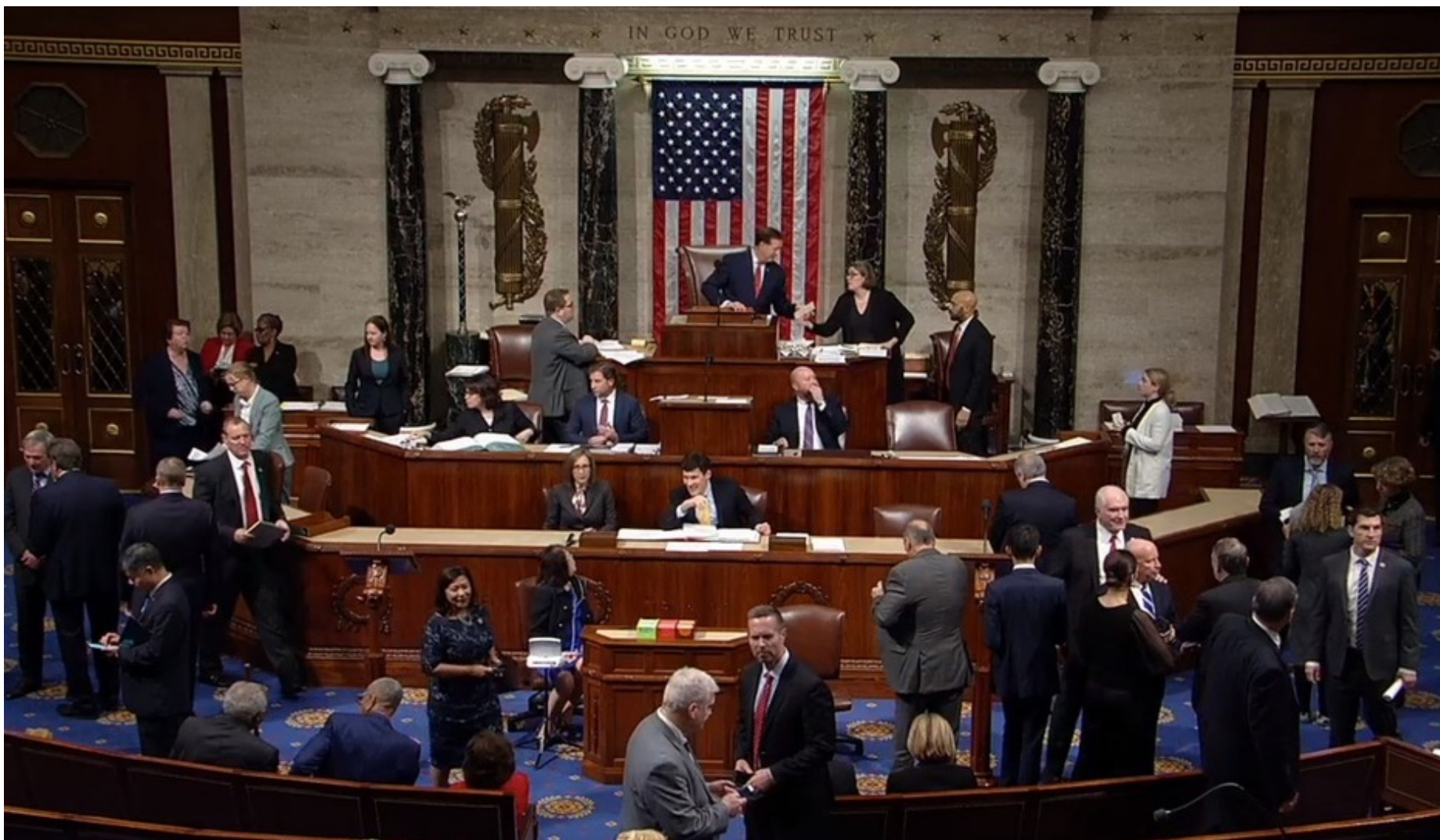
# Committee Mark-Ups



Agriculture, Nutrition  
and Forestry Committee  
SR-332



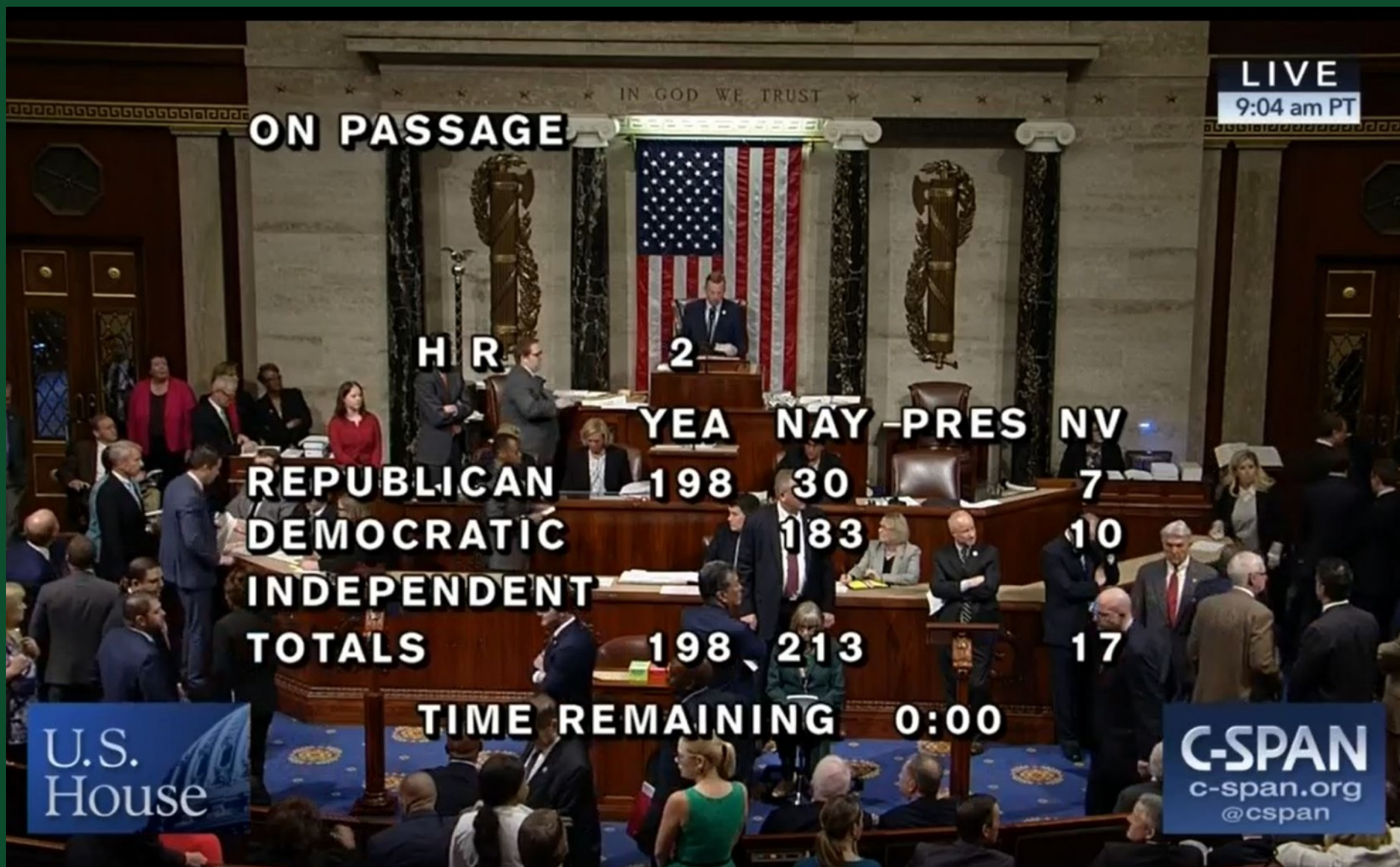
# Floor Debate and Votes





The 2014 and  
2018 Farm Bills  
failed on  
the House  
floor...

But still  
became  
law.





# Conference Committee



# Signing





**FARM  
BILL  
NOW**



# Likely Debates

**Political Climate**—How priorities fit into the bill

**Baseline**—Will there be enough \$?

**Unity**—The last two bills have failed in the House

# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Priorities





# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Priorities

Maintain an effective safety net that protects against both acute and prolonged natural disasters regarding erratic weather, while mitigating potential fraud. This should be done in tandem with voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs in order to adequately mitigate the effects of climate change.

# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Priorities

Utilize Title IV—Nutrition funding to strengthen local food systems and evaluate if current policies are leading to further consolidation in the marketplace.

# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Priorities

Expand the value chain within the food system.

# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Priorities

Broadening the safety net for all involved in agriculture thereby creating more transparency and market-based incentives for participation and ensuring equitable, culturally relevant access to all USDA programming.



# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Priorities

Create a new title in the Farm Bill entitled:  
Fair and Competitive Market Protections.

# Rocky Mountain Farmers Union Priorities

Expand the capacity of local FSA/NRCS/USFS/BLM Offices and empower County Committees while ensuring equitable access to USDA programs.



# Thank you!



## Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

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