

Policy Priorities for USDA's First 100 Days

- 1. Address the historic racism at USDA by enacting these provisions of the Justice for Black Farmers Act
 - a. Create Independent Civil Rights Oversight Board
 - b. Establishes a Civil Rights Ombudsman within OASCR to assist individuals in navigating the complaint process.
 - c. Prohibits the Office of General Counsel from interfering in civil rights complaints brought against the Secretary
 - d. Establish an Equity Commission Review all programs within USDA to understand barriers
 - e. Collect lending data on race approvals, and denials
- 2. Improve credit access for historically underserved farmers and ranchers
 - a. Work to eliminate credit deserts for Indigenous farmers
 - b. Reform FSA programs to allow farmers to plan and invest beyond the 7-year limit with an emphasis on providing for practices that protect the environment
 - c. Authorizes the CFPB to investigate claims of discrimination by FCS institutions
- 3. Place a high priority on antitrust enforcement
 - a. Elevate the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration to undersecretary level
 - b. Reinstate the <u>2010 Farmer Fair Practices Rules</u> by Executive Order or rulemaking
 - c. USDA should adopt all of the recommendations set out in the GAO report, <u>Additional Data Analysis</u> <u>Could Enhance Monitoring of U.S. Cattle Market</u>, to include requiring AMS to share market data with the Packers and Stockyards administration
 - d. Revoke line speed waivers and proposed rule change to increase max line speeds by 25%; revoke self-inspection waivers
 - e. Order USDA to collaborate with DOJ on a full antitrust review of the largest meatpackers
- 4. Create transparency and fairness in labeling
 - a. Enact and enforce Country of Origin Labeling standards through FSIS and Made in U.S.A standards through FTC
 - b. Reissue certified organic animal welfare rule in organic labeling from 2017
- 5. Reign in commodity checkoff program abuses
 - a. Require greater transparency of checkoff programs to include mandatory reporting and independent audits
 - b. Order organizations receiving checkoff funding to eliminate any federal lobbying
 - c. Make all checkoff voluntary
- 6. Begin the transformation to a more resilient food system
 - a. Order a study to examine true and full costs of industrialized agriculture to include but not be limited to its externalized costs on the environment, healthcare, local economies, and property values
 - b. Issue an order requiring greater procurement of local and sustainably produced food by the federal government
 - c. Order FSIS to prioritize small and medium size meat processors inspection and technical assistance