

GIVE AMERICA'S INDEPENDENT FARMERS, WORKERS, AND SMALL BUSINESSES A FIGHTING CHANCE

America's independent farmers and small businesses are the backbone of the nation's food system. Yet, that food system is currently in a crisis. Over the last several decades, unprecedented consolidation across the food and agriculture system has driven farmers from their land, stolen valuable market opportunities, and eroded once vibrant rural economies. The multinational and foreign corporations that dominate today's markets continue amassing more power and profit off the backs of everyone else.

But, the trends of market consolidation can be reversed and America's independent farmers and small businesses can finally be given the fighting chance they deserve.

Support Legislative Action:

- Protect farmland for farmers by increasing oversight of foreign farmland ownership, restricting corporate farmland ownership, and making foreign individuals ineligible for Farm Credit institution financial services, see the Foreign Agricultural Restrictions to Maintain Local Agriculture and National Defense (FARMLAND) Act, the Security and Oversight for International Landholdings (SOIL) Act, the Farmland for Farmers Act, and the Farm Credit for Americans Act**
- Strengthen U.S. antitrust laws by providing federal enforcers with more resources, enhancing prohibitions on anticompetitive mergers and conduct, and implementing reforms, see the Competition and Antitrust Law Enforcement Reform Act, the Prohibiting Anticompetitive Mergers Act, and the Food and Agribusiness Merger Moratorium and Antitrust Review Act**
- Direct the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to investigate potential anticompetitive practices and violations of antitrust laws within the beef packing industry, including price-fixing and monopolization, and to report findings and recommendations for legislative action within one year, see the Bipartisan Beef Packing Investigation Resolution**
- Disallow checkoff programs from contracting with organizations that engage in political advocacy, have conflicts of interest, or employ anticompetitive conduct; require programs to publish all budgets and disbursements to the public and submit to periodic audits by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Inspector General; and require programs to undergo periodic audits by the Comptroller General of the United States, see the Opportunities for Fairness in Farming Act**
- Restore farmers' right to repair their own equipment, see the Agricultural Right to Repair Act**
- Strengthen the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act) to protect livestock producers, see the Fairness for Small-Scale Farmers and Ranchers Act, the Farm System Reform, the Strengthening Antitrust Enforcement for Meatpacking Act, and the Meat and Poultry Special Investigator Act**
- Create the USDA Office of the Special Investigator for Competition Matters to investigate and prosecute violations of the P&S Act, see the Meat and Poultry Special Investigator Act**
- Protect food workers, see the Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act, the Agricultural Worker Justice Act, and the Striking and Locked Out Workers Healthcare Protection Act**
- Require the USDA to conduct a study on the fertilizer market to examine factors affecting prices, including competition, trends, and transparency, to help farmers better understand and manage rising input costs, see the Fertilizer Research Act**





Urge Administrative Action:

- Direct USDA to finalize, implement, and enforce the P&S Act rulemakings that are in various stages of finalization and implementation
- Direct USDA to aggressively monitor foreign investment in U.S. farmland and report annually to Congress
- Direct the FTC to complete its investigation of John Deere for violating the Federal Trade Commission Act and to enforce the law to the fullest extent

Champion New Legislation:

- Direct and provide an appropriation for the USDA Office of Inspector General to review whether USDA, the Qualified State Soybean Boards, and the Qualified States Beef Councils are administering the soybean and beef checkoff programs in compliance with statutory requirements and the department's published guidelines
- Prohibit the USDA from finalizing a rule requiring mandatory electronic ID for cattle and bison moving across state lines
- Reinstate the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) as a stand-alone agency with full funding and enforcement authority of the P&S Act
- Increase appropriations to the USDA to fully implement the provisions of the Agriculture Foreign Investment Disclosure Act

