



Thank you for choosing to have your voice heard! The Farm Bill affects all individuals across the food chain, from farmers to eaters, so it is important to let your Congress Members know that you want a Farm Bill that enables a good, clean, and fair food chain for all.

The Slow Food USA Food and Farm Policy Steering Committee drafted a letter highlighting key areas that must be included in the reconciled version of the House and Senate bills to ensure a more equitable and sustainable food and farm future for our nation. Follow the instructions below to have your voice heard!

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Check the lists below of House and Senate Farm Bill Conferees responsible for reconciling the differences between the House and Senate versions of the 2018 Farm Bill.
2. If your House Representative and/or one of your Senators is on one of the Conference Committees, you can find her/his contact information [here](#).
3. Use the letter provided below, just update the information highlighted in <red>.
4. Submit the updated letter to your Senator or Representative on a Farm Bill Conference Committee via his/her contact page or mail it in.

SENATE

State	Senator
Kansas	Pat Roberts
Kentucky	Mitch McConnell
Arkansas	John Boozman
North Dakota	John Hoeven
Iowa	Joni Ernst
Michigan	Debbie Stabenow
Vermont	Patrick Leahy
Ohio	Sherrod Brown
North Dakota	Heidi Heitkamp

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State	Representative
Texas	Mike Conaway
Pennsylvania	Glenn Thompson
Virginia	Bob Goodlatte
Oklahoma	Frank Lucas
Alabama	Mike Rogers
Georgia	Austin Scott
Arkansas	Rick Crawford
Missouri	Vicky Hartzler
Illinois	Rodney Davis
Florida	Ted Yoho
North Carolina	David Rouzer
Kansas	Roger Marshall
Texas	Jodey Arrington
North Carolina	Virginia Foxx
Georgia	Rick Allen
Illinois	John Shimkus
North Dakota	Kevin Cramer
Texas	Jeb Hensarling
Wisconsin	Sean Duffy

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (cont.)

State	Representative
Ohio	Steve Chabot
North Carolina	Mark Walker
Kentucky	James Comer
Utah	Rob Bishop
Arkansas	Bruce Westerman
Louisiana	Ralph Abraham
Florida	Neal Dunn
California	Jeff Denham
Ohio	Bob Gibbs
Minnesota	Collin Peterson
Georgia	David Scott
California	Jim Costa
Minnesota	Tim Walz
Ohio	Marcia Fudge
Massachusetts	Jim McGovern
Texas	Filemon Vela
New Mexico	Michelle Lujan Grisham
New Hampshire	Ann Kuster
Arizona	Tom O'Halleran
North Carolina	Alma Adams
New York	Paul Tonko
California	Maxine Waters
New York	Eliot Engel
Arizona	Raúl Grijalva
Virgin Islands	Stacey Plaskett
Texas	Eddie Bernice Johnson
Illinois	Cheri Bustos
California	Ed Royce

Honorable <Representative's Full Name>
Member, <Senate or House> Farm Bill Conference Committee

<August 6, 2018>

Re: 2018 Farm Bill

Dear <Senator or Representative> <Representative's Last Name>,

I write regarding the 2018 Farm Bill. I am a constituent and a supporter of Slow Food USA, the national, nonprofit organization dedicated to a food chain that is Good, Clean, and Fair for All. Slow Food USA is embedded in 150 communities nationwide, many in <Your State>, and has over 750,000 followers across digital social media platforms. We believe that everyone has the right to enjoy ample, sustainably and humanely produced food that is good for human health and well-being, for our planet, protecting and replenishing our resources, and for those who work to put food on our tables, providing them with dignity and a decent living.

The Farm Bill is the primary legislative vehicle for critical investments in programs that support family farms, rural communities, conservation, and healthy food access to food-insecure Americans. I applaud the swift movement on the House and Senate bills. Given its immense importance, especially in this time of great challenges to American agriculture, it is imperative that Congress completes a new bill, in a timely fashion, before the current bill's expiration on September 30 of this year.

I urge you to work to achieve a bipartisan bill in the best traditions of nearly a century of farm bill history.

Nutrition

- Maintain current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provisions and funding to prevent millions of Americans, including children, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities, from losing access to food assistance and reject the counterproductive expansion of work requirements.

Commodity Supports

- Close loopholes and strengthen means testing, retain payment limits, and require that recipients be actively engaged in farming.

Conservation

- Preserve current funding for the Conservation Title, reject the elimination of the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and retain Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding.
- Support the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) and improve Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) grasslands protection options and provide opportunities for water quality and wildlife protection.
- Grant the USDA authority and funding to measure, evaluate, and report on conservation program outcomes on a regular, iterative basis.

Crop Insurance

- Support strengthened links between conservation and crop insurance and improved conservation outcomes of federal crop insurance, Risk Management education funding and Partnerships, and simplify and strengthen Whole Farm Revenue Insurance.

Agricultural Research

- Increase funding for the Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI), making soil health a new priority, and improve the National Genetics Advisory Committee, requiring assessment of seed banks.

Local and Regional Food and Rural Development

- Support a new Local Agriculture Market Program (LAMP), the National Organic Cost Share Program, Harvesting Health (Produce Prescription) Pilots, the Food Insecurity Incentives Program, the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program, and Community Food Projects.

Beginning, Disadvantaged, and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers

- Support the combined Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development (BFRDP) and Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers (2501) Programs and the Conservation Reserve Program Transition Incentives Program (CRP-TIP).
- Ensure that increased Farm Service Agency (FSA) loan limits do not reduce loan availability for beginning, disadvantaged, and veteran farmers, set aside CSP and EQIP funds for underserved producers and provide advance payments, improve access to Crop Insurance for diversified farms and for beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers, and extend beginning farmer Whole Farm Crop Insurance access to those who have been farming less than ten years.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters so critical to a more equitable and sustainable food and farm future for our nation.

Sincerely,

<Your Name>