



## Farmers Fighting Climate Change Act

### COSPONSORS

Introduced by Representatives Lauren Underwood (IL-14) and Mike Gallagher (WI-08).

### BACKGROUND

Farmers and ranchers are on the frontlines of climate change, battling wildfires and floods on a regular basis, while also playing a critical role in delivering climate solutions. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is well-positioned to support agricultural producers in this important mission through its existing voluntary, incentives-based programs.

NRCS's Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) currently provides technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers, supporting both the active management of ongoing conservation practices and the adoption of new conservation activities over the course of 5-year contracts. Comprehensive groupings of conservation activities under CSP, known as bundles, result in a more competitive CSP contract and receive a higher level of financial assistance to encourage a holistic approach that maximizes conservation benefits.

CSP already covers practices that sequester carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; however, the program currently does not provide the option of bundles for producers who want to implement integrated climate change mitigation systems on their land. To expand farmers' options, the *Farmers Fighting Climate Change Act* directs NRCS to establish region-specific climate change mitigation bundles within CSP and does not increase the spending of the program. This will support and promote agricultural practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration, such as cover crops and no-till farming, many of which provide additional benefits like improving soil health and water quality. These incentives will help producers expand their climate stewardship practices and empower more producers to be leaders of America's response to climate change. It also helps ensure farmers are fairly compensated for their contribution to our nation's climate solutions.

The *Farmers Fighting Climate Change Act* was developed based on recommendations from the [House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis Congressional Action Plan](#) and [Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance \(FACA\) Joint Policy Recommendations](#).

## ENDORISING ORGANIZATIONS

Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Corn Growers Association, Illinois Soybean Association, Illinois Stewardship Alliance, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, Natural Resources Defense Council, Union of Concerned Scientists, League of Conservation Voters, Shedd Aquarium, Defenders of Wildlife, Environmental Working Group, Dairy Business Association, and Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative

## CONTACT

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