

## In-District Engagement: 2018 MIDTERM ELECTIONS and THE FARM BILL

Currently, the Farm Bill is stuck in a conference committee. The Farm Bill may not be addressed until a Lame Duck congressional session after Election Day.

This is why we are asking you to talk to your Representative and Senators to get certainty of passing a Farm Bill. Below are recommended questions and statements to pose to current lawmakers on the Farm Bill at campaign events and meetings. Failure to pass a farm bill would undermine the financial security and have serious political repercussions for America's farmers and ranchers.

## Key Questions to Ask

What are you doing to help pass the farm bill? I am a farmer/rancher in [county/town] and it's important that congress passes a farm bill as soon as possible.

When will the farm bill be voted on? I am a farmer/rancher in [county/town] and it's important that congress passes a farm bill as soon as possible.

Will you tell the Ag Committee leadership to move this bill to a vote asap? I am a farmer/rancher in [county/town] and it's important that congress passes a farm bill as soon as possible.

## **Key Supporting Messages**

- Farmers and Ranchers need certainty in farm programs and resources.
- The downturn in the farm economy, growing debt and loss of markets is creating an economic crisis for farmers/ranchers like me.
- The risk management tools in the farm bill are important to me and fight against heavily subsidized commodities produced from foreign markets.
- The farm bill helps farmers/ranchers to weather natural disasters, price declines or crop loss and helps farms to maintain their economic footing for the year ahead.
- The programs in the farm bill give farmers and ranchers the ability to plan for future harvests and to properly manage their land.