



AGRICULTURAL
RETAILERS
ASSOCIATION

2024 Public Policy Priorities

Farm Bill

- Increased TSP Access Act of 2023 (HR 3036/S 1400).
- Plant Biostimulant Act of 2023 (HR 1472/S 802).
- Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act (HR 5089) - NPDES Pesticide General Permits (PGP) for applications approved under FIFRA is unnecessary, costly, & offers no more environmental protections.
- Legislation ensuring EPA OPP & state agencies have exclusive pesticide regulatory authority, bipartisan language from 2018 House Farm Bill.
- Agricultural Labeling Uniformity Act (HR 4288).
- Preserve crop insurance program & safety nets.
- Work with USDA-RMA to modify prevented planting dates, lessening impact on ag retail.
- Maintain current acreage dedicated to Conservation Programs (CRP/CSP) & protect working lands.
- Statistical survey work by National Agricultural Statistical Service to support the Conservation Effects Assessment Project by USDA NRCS.

Energy

- Work with coalitions to promote development & use of all liquid fuels (oil, gas, biofuels) to reduce dependence on foreign energy sources.
- Continued investment in biofuel research & low-carbon emission technologies.
- Oppose cuts to Renewable Fuel Standards to avoid devastating impact on ag, rural economies, & ethanol plant investment.
- Support federal energy policies to increase domestic natural gas production, reduce US manufacturing costs for crop input materials & promote renewable fuel development & use.
- Oppose internal combustion engine bans/restrictions & electric vehicle mandates.

Transportation & Supply Chain

- Reauthorize Surface Transportation Board to address rising demurrage & detention costs to shippers & promote more competition.
- Reliable Rail Service (S. 2071) will better define Class 1 rail carriers' common carrier obligation & provide clear oversight rules for regulators.
- Reauthorize the Water Resources Development Act, which authorizes critical waterway projects to improve ports, harbors, inland waterways, & other water resources infrastructure.
- Expand the "Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program" to allow an increased number of 18- to 20-year-old drivers to participate & more opportunities under the program.
- Support HR 3318, legislation to allow a 10% axle variance for dry bulk without increasing overall federal gross vehicle weight limit.
- Support Hours of Service legislation eliminating "planting & harvesting" seasonal provisions & authorize a pilot program for farm supply transporters to operate up to a 200-air mile radius.

Modern Ag Crop Production Tech

- Protect farmers' essential tools (seed, pesticide, fertilizer, biostimulants, precision ag tech).
- Government decisions based on sound science & risk-based, peer reviewed data.
- Invest in R&D to enhance yields & plant health.

Agricultural Retailers Association

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