



May 17, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Minority Leader Pelosi:

On behalf of the National Association of Wheat Growers, a national federation of 21 state wheat grower associations, we wish to express our views on several amendments to H.R. 2 The Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018. NAWG has emphasized the need for the Farm Bill to be reauthorized prior to its expiration in September 2018 and for the Farm Bill to have a strong farm safety net. This includes ensuring there are not cuts to crop insurance and maintaining a choice between revenue-based (Agriculture Risk Coverage) and price-based (Price Loss Coverage) programs as well as improvements to both programs. NAWG also has prioritized working lands conservation programs and increasing funding to the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) which assist in creating new markets for wheat.

Below, you will find a listing of amendments that have been made in order for consideration on the floor that would impact important aspects of the Farm Bill to wheat growers along with our positions. We strongly urge you to take our vote recommendations. Please reach out with any questions regarding these amendments and our positions.

- **OPPOSE the Foxx Amendment #32** – This amendment lower sugar's loan rates back to 1985 levels; further depress farmers' prices, which are already lower today than in 1980; and force the importation of more subsidized sugar from abroad. NAWG opposes this amendment which would hurt farmers, and if it were to pass it would imperil the Farm Bill process.
- **OPPOSE the McClintock Amendment #93** – This amendment would phase out ARC, PLC, crop insurance federal cost-share, and sugar policy over 10 years. These programs help to stabilize agricultural markets and keep farmers in business through tough economic conditions and weather disasters. The current low-price environment is expected to continue indefinitely, and now is not the time to reduce or eliminate support for farmers.
- **SUPPORT the LaHood Amendment #13** – This amendment would streamline the sign-up process for Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) by going from annual sign up to just a "one and done" for ARC and PLC only. Under the bill, producers would once again have a one-time opportunity to re-elect which program they will participate in for the life of the Farm Bill, but still have to enroll in the program every year. This provision simplifies the program for producers.



- **OPPOSE the Rogers Amendment #101**—This amendment would limit CRP acreage at 24 million acres while retaining the provision in the underlying bill that would put in place an 80% county rental rate cap, a cap of 25% of seed costs and reduced payments for re-enrollments.
- **SUPPORT the Faso Amendment # 42** – This amendment would enhance USDA’s ability to quantify the environmental benefits and program outcomes of voluntary conservation programs.

Given how critically important these amendments are, NAWG may score some of these amendments which will be compiled into a vote scorecard and published to our members next year.

Sincerely,

Jimmie Musick
President
National Association of Wheat Growers

Cc: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

About NAWG

[NAWG](#) is the primary policy representative in Washington D.C. for wheat growers, working to ensure a better future for America’s growers, the industry and the general public. NAWG works with a team of [21 state wheat grower organizations](#) to benefit the wheat industry at the national levels. From their offices in the Wheat Growers Building on Capitol Hill, NAWG’s staff members are in constant contact with state association representatives, NAWG grower leaders, Members of Congress, Congressional staff members, Administration officials and the public.