



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF WHEAT GROWERS**

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The Honorable Glenn “GT” Thompson
Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Angie Craig
Ranking Member
House Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Thompson and Ranking Member Craig:

The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG), representing farmers across the United States, strongly support for the *Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026* and thanks the Committee for working on comprehensive farm bill legislation. We encourage the Committee to create bipartisan momentum and advance this critical legislation to ensure timely certainty and stability for U.S. agriculture.

Across wheat-growing states, farmers are navigating sustained economic pressure driven by volatile commodity prices, stubbornly high input costs, and increasing global competition. For a crop that depends heavily on export markets and reliable risk management tools, policy certainty here at home matters. The provisions included in this legislation directly affect farmers’ ability to plan, invest, and compete; making the timely advancement of a comprehensive farm bill particularly important for American families who grow wheat.

Trade Promotion Funding

The bill’s historic investment in agricultural export promotion, including more than doubling funding for the Market Access Program (MAP) and the Foreign Market Development (FMD) Program, represents a significant step forward for U.S. agriculture.

For wheat growers, MAP and FMD are cornerstone programs that allow export market development organizations like, US Wheat Associates, to maintain relationships with overseas buyers, conduct technical support and quality assurance programs, address sanitary and phytosanitary barriers, and promote the functional benefits of U.S. wheat classes. In a global marketplace where competitors such as Russia, the European Union, Canada, and Australia aggressively pursue market share, sustained and enhanced trade promotion resources are critical to defending long-standing export markets and expanding into emerging ones. Strong export demand directly supports farm-level prices, strengthens basis levels, and contributes to the economic stability of communities where wheat is grown.

Food for Peace Transfer to USDA

The transfer of Food for Peace Act authorities from USAID to USDA restores the program’s alignment with American farmers and reinforces the role of U.S.-grown commodities in global hunger response efforts. By granting USDA full administrative authority and reserving a significant portion of resources for the purchase and shipment of U.S. agricultural products, the legislation provides the consistency that is necessary for this program.

Permanently placing the Food for Peace program within USDA enhances integration with trade promotion, export programs, and market development efforts, creating greater consistency across U.S. agricultural policy. This alignment also benefits wheat growers by reinforcing demand channels during periods of market uncertainty and geopolitical instability.

Regulatory Certainty and Science-Based Policy

The bill also includes significant provisions to reinforce science-based pesticide policy and provide regulatory clarity. Reaffirming EPA's sole authority to make pesticide safety determinations under FIFRA based on scientific and risk-based analysis helps ensure that safety findings remain nationally consistent and grounded in federal standards. Clarifying the role of state lead agencies in implementing EPA regulations protects farmers from conflicting interpretations and across state lines.

In addition, this legislation strengthens coordination between EPA and USDA during pesticide registration and registration review processes, ensuring that agricultural expertise and on-farm realities are incorporated early in regulatory decision-making. Providing EPA adequate time to complete registration reviews while incorporating updated environmental considerations promotes thorough and transparent analysis. Requiring consultation through the FIFRA Interagency Working Group before implementing major ESA-related policies increases transparency. Finally, clarifying the regulatory treatment of plant biostimulants and certain plant-incorporated protectants supports innovation in crop inputs and plant breeding while maintaining appropriate oversight. Together, these provisions help ensure wheat growers maintain access to effective crop protection tools that are critical for weed and pest management, yield stability, and long-term productivity.

NAWG appreciates the Committee's continued work to strengthen the farm safety net, reauthorize conservation programs including the Conservation Reserve Program, maintain a strong crop insurance system, invest in our land grant universities and agriculture research, and support rural infrastructure. These programs collectively contribute to the stability and resilience of America's family owned and operated wheat farms and the communities they support.

We commend the Committee for its leadership in advancing this legislation and stand ready to work with you as the bill proceeds through markup and consideration by the full House. NAWG looks forward to continued bipartisan collaboration to ensure a comprehensive farm bill that provides stability, predictability, and long-term opportunity for America's wheat farmers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Kieffer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sam Kieffer
CEO