

## **Farm Bill Reform**

### *Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2012*

This Farm Bill represents the most significant reform in agriculture policy in decades. The bill saves more than \$23 billion by ending direct payments, eliminating more than 100 duplicative programs and authorizations, and cracking down on fraud and abuse.

#### **Eliminates Direct Payments**

Direct Payments and two other farm subsidy programs are repealed, creating \$15 billion in savings for deficit reduction. Direct Payments are made to farmers regardless of losses or even if a crop is planted.

#### **Ends Payments for Crops Farmers aren't Growing**

In the past, people received payments based on what crops were growing on their land as far back as the 1980s, when historical base acres were determined. This bill takes a responsible risk management approach that will support farmers only when they suffer a substantial loss through events beyond their control—and only for crops they have actually planted.

#### **Ends Farm Payments to Non-Farmers**

This bill closes the “management loophole” and ensures that benefits only go to actual farmers by tightening USDA’s definition of an actively engaged farmer.

#### **Tightens Payment Limits**

The bill stops any single person from receiving more than \$50,000 per year in farm payments. This is less than half the amount individuals can currently receive.

#### **Ends Farm Payments to Millionaires**

Strict new limits prevent any person with an adjusted gross income of more than \$750,000 from receiving farm program payments.

#### **Consolidates Programs**

The bill eliminates or consolidates more than 100 programs or authorizations and streamlines remaining programs to get better results with fewer taxpayer dollars.

#### **Closing Loopholes**

The bill cracks down on trafficking of food assistance benefits, stops lottery winners from being able to qualify for benefits, and tightens eligibility requirements, ensuring that benefits go only to those in need.