



# Policy Update

April 24, 2026

## **ACTION ALERT: Tell Congress It's Time to Pass a 5-Year Farm Bill**

The House of Representatives will consider a new five-year farm bill, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 (H.R. 7567), the week of April 27. Please [urge Congress](#) to pass the farm bill.

**Why it matters:** Farmers have been operating without the certainty of a long-term farm bill since 2023. It's time to deliver stability and modernize farm policy.

### The Big Picture

- America has lost more than 160,000 farms since 2017.
- Producers are facing low commodity prices, rising input costs, and inflation.
- Without action, farm families risk losing access to critical programs that support their operations and communities.

Click [here](#) to ACT NOW. The time to pass a five-year farm bill is here. Without action, farmers face continued uncertainty and the risk of losing access to critical programs. Contact your members of Congress today and tell them it's time to get a strong, modern farm bill across the finish line.

## **2026 Primary Election Early Voting Begins**

Early voting for the 2026 primary election has started. In South Dakota, only registered Republicans can vote in the Republican primary. Voters registered as Democrats or Independents can vote in the Democratic primary. The official primary election day is June 2, 2026. The primary will determine who will be on each respective party's ticket for the general election in November.

It is important to vote in the primary election. In 2024, unfortunately, there was only 17% statewide voter turnout for the primary election. In some counties, the percentage was less than 10%!

Remember to register to vote by MAY 18, 2026, to vote in the primary election. Click [here](#) for more information about voting in the 2026 primary election.

## **Farm Bureau Market Intel Report Tracks Farmer Bridge Assistance Payments**

On February 23, USDA opened enrollment for farmers who planted program crops during the 2025 crop year. The deadline to submit a completed Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) payment application to USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) was April 17. In its latest Market Intel report, American Farm Bureau Federation found that nearly **\$9.6 billion in FBA payments** had been disbursed, with nearly 500,000 applications approved by the FSA. See how the payments were distributed throughout the country by commodity and what's next for the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

Click [here](#) to access the Market Intel Report.

## **Contact for Questions**

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