

Agriculture Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act

Congressman David G. Valadao (CA-R) and Congressman Jimmy Panetta (CA-D)

Background: In 2023, farmers and producers across the United States experienced significant agricultural losses due to natural disasters including floods, hurricanes, droughts, tornadoes, and wildfires. These disasters have severely affected crop and livestock production and continue to jeopardize our nation's food security and the economic stability of our rural communities. The agriculture industry supports millions of jobs and provides essential resources for both domestic and global markets. Providing immediate disaster funding is critical to safeguard the long-term sustainability of the agricultural sector, support rural communities, and ensure a reliable food supply chain for all Americans.

Agriculture Disaster Supplemental Appropriations Bill Summary:

- Appropriates \$14 billion to the Office of the Secretary for Agriculture for necessary expenses related to 2023 disasters.
- Includes a \$1.5 billion carveout for livestock losses and provides expanded assistance to livestock producers, including relocation of livestock, feed crop losses, and shelter-in-place procedures.
- Covers quality loss from smoke-tainted wine grapes due to wildfire.
- Includes additional provisions modeled after the 2021 Emergency Relief Program and the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022 covering the definition of drought, direct payments to producers, payment limitations, crop insurance requirements, etc.
- Includes a new provision to ensure payments are administered simultaneously for all producers, regardless of type of qualified loss.

Supporting Organizations: American Farm Bureau, California Farm Bureau, Western Growers, California Fresh Fruit Association, National Milk Producers Federation, Milk Producers Council, Dairy Farmers of America, California Dairies, Inc., Almonda Alliance, California Tomato Growers Association, California Association of Winegrape Growers, Napa Valley Vintners, and the Grower-Shipper Association of Central California

To co-sponsor the bill, please reach out to Clayton Smith, <u>Clayton.Smith@mail.house.gov</u>, in Rep. David Valadao's office or Liz Jacobson, <u>Liz.Jacobson@mail.house.gov</u>, in Rep. Jimmy Panetta's office.