

Organizational Sign-On Letter: Support the Farm System Reform Act (S. 3221 & H.R. 6718)

Dear Member of Congress,

We write to express our strong support for the Farm System Reform Act (S. 3221 and H.R. 6718). We urgently need to overhaul the fundamental structure of our food system; the critical reforms in this legislation will help to accomplish that.

This visionary legislation meets the scale of action necessary to transform our farming and food system in a timeline that reflects the urgency of its problems. Small, independent farmers are in crisis as increasing concentration makes it impossible for them to get a fair price. The U.S. food system is dominated by factory farms that confine tens of thousands of animals in cramped, unsanitary conditions; these conditions place the safety of our food at risk, pollute our air and water, harm the welfare of animals and workers, extract wealth from rural communities, increase the risk of antibiotic resistant bacteria and increase corporate control of our food. Multiple policy failures including weak environmental rules (and lax enforcement), farm policy that prioritizes overproduction of corn and soy to feed factory farmed animals, and failed antitrust policy that has allowed a handful of meat companies to dominate the marketplace and drive independent livestock producers out of business have led us to this point.

This model is not an accident. It is an intentional consolidation and corporate grab of resources designed to benefit the biggest players in the agricultural industry-- at the expense of the rest of us. But the Farm System Reform Act can fix it.

This legislation will revitalize independent family farm agriculture and rural communities by

- Placing a moratorium on new and expanding large factory farms
- Phasing out existing large factory farms by 2040
- Holding corporate integrators responsible for harm caused by factory farms
- Providing a \$100 billion voluntary buyout program for contract farmers who want to transition away from factory farms
- Strengthening the Packers & Stockyards Act to protect family farmers and ranchers
- Restoring mandatory Country of Origin Labeling for meat
- Prohibiting USDA from labeling foreign imported meat products as "Product of USA"

This visionary legislation will benefit independent farms, rural communities, food safety, our air and water, and the welfare of animals. It's time to ban new and expanding factory farms and build a better future.

We urge you to co-sponsor the Farm System Reform Act today.

Signed,

National Organizations

American Grassfed Association
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)
Animal Legal Defense Fund
Animal Welfare Institute
CatholicNetwork.US
Center For Biological Diversity
Center For Food Safety
Center for Rural Enterprise and Environmental Justice
Compassion in World Farming USA
CreatureKind
Cultivate America
Earthjustice
Encompass
ENVIRONEERS
Environmental Integrity Project
Environmental Working Group
Factory Farming Awareness Coalition
Fair World Project
Family Dairy Farms LLC
Family Farm Action
Family Farm Defenders
Farm Forward
Food & Water Action
Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)
Food Chain Workers Alliance
Food Integrity Campaign
Friends of the Earth
GreenFaith
HEAL (Health, Environment, Agriculture, Labor) Food Alliance
Humane Farming Association
Humane Society of the United States
The Humane League
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Jewish Initiative for Animals
Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future
Mercy For Animals
National Resources Defense Council
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association

Organic Consumers Association
Oxfam America
People's Action
Popular Resistance
Presentation Sisters
Progressive Democrats of America
Public Justice
Rapid Shift
Seeding Sovereignty
Shamayim: Jewish Animal Advocacy
Sierra Club
Slow Food USA
Slow Food Youth Network USA
Socially Responsible Agricultural Project
Stray Dog Institute
Sunrise Movement
Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry
Waterkeeper Alliance
Wild Farm Alliance
Women, Food and Agriculture Network (WFAN)
World Animal Protection
Youth Lobby for Animal-Free Farms
Zero Hour

State and Local Organizations

Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie, OH
Altamaha Riverkeeper, GA
Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc, MA
Assateague Coastal Trust, MD
Atchafalaya Basinkeeper, LA
Wabash Riverkeeper, IN
Berks Gas Truth, PA
Better Path Coalition, PA
Black Warrior Riverkeeper, AL
Bronx Climate Justice North, NY
Broome Tioga Green Party, NY
Bucks Environmental Action, PA
Buffalo River Watershed Alliance, AR
Cahaba Riverkeeper, AL
Call to Action Colorado, CO
Calusa Waterkeeper, FL
Cape Fear River Watch, NC

Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, NC
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, MD
Central Jersey Environmental Defenders, NJ
Central Maryland Beekeepers Assoc., MD
Central Valley Air Quality Coalition, CA
Church Women United, NY
Choctwhatchee Riverkeeper, AL
Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis, MD
Collier County Waterkeeper Inc., FL
Columbia Riverkeeper, OR
Community Action Works, New England
Concerned Citizens Against Industrial CAFOs, MD
Contract Poultry Growers Assoc. of the Virginias, VA
Coosa Riverkeeper, AL
Crate Free Illinois, IL
Crawford Stewardship Project, WI
CreatureKind, FL
Crossroads Group of the Sierra Club, MI
Cultivate Oregon, OR
Dakota Resource Council, ND
Dakota Rural Action, SD
Des Moines County Farmers and Neighbors for Optimal Health, IA
Dodge County Concerned Citizens, MN
Earth Action, Inc. FL
Farm Fresh Atlas of Wisconsin, WI
Flatbush Tenant Coalition, NY
FLOW For Water, MI
Franklin County Local Food Council, OH
FreshWater Accountability Project, OH
Friends of Family Farmers, OR
Friends of Hurricane Creek, AL
Gas Free Seneca, NY
GC Resolve, NE
Government Accountability Project, DC
Grand Riverkeeper, OK
Green Party of Butler and Venango Counties, PA
GROW North Texas, TX
Golden Ponds Farm, WI
Good Stewards of Rockingham, NC
Hasting Heritage Farm, NV
Haw River Assembly, NC
Hazon, NY

Hoosier Environmental Council, IN
Hope's Harvest, RI
Howard County Climate Action, MD
The HUB for Progress, PA
Humane Farming Association, MT
iEat Green, NY
Idaho Organization of Resource Councils
Illinois Stewardship Alliance
Indian Nations Conservation Alliance, MT
Indiana Farmers Union, IN
Interfaith Earth Network of Southeastern Wisconsin
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement, IA
Jewish Climate Action Network, MA
Kentucky Riverkeeper, KY
Kewaunee CARES, WI
Lake Erie Waterkeeper, Lake Erie Watershed
The Land Connection, IL
Land Stewardship Project, MN
Living Rivers & Colorado Riverkeeper, UT
Los Angeles Waterkeeper, CA
Lower Ohio River Waterkeeper, IN/KY
Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Assoc., PA/MD
Marcellus Outreach Butler, PA
Maryland Conservation Council, MD
Maryland Legislative Coalition, MD
Maryland Pesticide Education Network, MD
Massachusetts Avenue Project Inc., NY
Midwest Environmental Advocates, WI
Midwest Environmental Justice Organization, WI
Milwaukee Riverkeeper, WI
Missouri Confluence Waterkeeper, MO
Monadnock Farm and Community Coalition, NH
Montana Organic Association, MT
MountainTrue, NC
Mountain Watershed Association, PA
Nature Coast Conservation, Inc., FL
NC Environmental Justice Network, NC
Nebraska Communities United, NE
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment, NY
North Sound Baykeeper, WA
North Bronx Racial Justice, NY
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York, NY

Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont

Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides, ID

Occupy Bergen County, NJ

Ogeechee Riverkeeper, GA

Oklahoma Stewardship Council, OK

Oregon Rural Action, OR

OVEC-Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition WV

Partners for Education, Agriculture, and Sustainability, TX

Pax Christi USA, IA

Physicians for Social Responsibility, AZ

Pennsylvania Farmers Union, PA

People Demanding Action, AZ

Pittsburgh Food Policy Council, PA

Planting Justice, CA

Poweshiek CARES, IA

Progressive Women's Party, MI

Project CoffeeHouse, PA

Pu'u O Kumau Ranch, HI

Puget Soundkeeper Alliance, WA

Rachel Carson Council, MD

RegeNErate Nebraska, NE

Reviving Our American Democracy, MI

RI Food Dealers Association, RI

Rio Valle Concerned Citizens, NM

Roots, Fruits and Shoots, OH

Russian Riverkeeper, CA

San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper, TX

San Francisco Baykeeper, CA

San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition, CO

Seneca Lake Guardian, NY

Sentinels of Eastern Shore Health, MD

Slow Food Athens, GA

Slow Food Atlanta, GA

Slow Food Austin, TX

Slow Food California, CA

Slow Food Charleston, SC

Slow Food Chicago, IL

Slow Food DC

Slow Food Denver, CO

Slow Food DFW, TX

Slow Food East Bay, CA

Slow Food Hawaii, HI

Slow Food Illinois, IL

Slow Food Middle Tennessee, TN

Slow Food New York State

Slow Food North Louisiana, LA

Slow Food North Shore, New York

Slow Food NYC, New York

Slow Food Philadelphia, PA

Slow Food PHX, AZ

Slow Food Portland, OR

Slow Food Russian River, CA

Slow Food St. Louis, MO

Slow Food San Francisco, CA

Slow Food Santa Fe, NM

Slow Foods Seacoast, NH

Slow Food Sonoma County North, CA

Slow Food South Bay, California

Slow Food Tetons, WY

Slow Food Twin Cities, MN

Slow Food Utah, UT

Slow Food Vegas, NV

Slow Foods Washington, WA

Slow Food Wayne - Fort Wayne, IN

Slow Food Western Slope, CO

Sisters of Charity Federation, NY

Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, PA

Snake River Waterkeeper, ID

Southern Boone County Farmers and Neighbors, IA

Spokane Riverkeeper, WA

Stop Fracking Long Beach, CA

Sunrise Movement Baltimore, MD

The Sugar Beet Food Co-op, IL

Sunray Farm, CA

Sunrise NYC, NY

Sussex Health & Environmental Network, DE

Sustain Rural Wisconsin Network, WI

Sustainable Monroeville, PA

Tennessee Clean Water Network, TN

Toxics Information Project (TIP), RI

Tualatin Riverkeepers, OR

Twin Harbors Waterkeeper, WA

UCC Penn Central Conference Creation

Justice Ministry Team, PA

Upper Missouri Waterkeeper, MT
Upper Neuse Riverkeeper, NC
Unitarian Universalist PA Advocacy Network, PA
Urban Farming Education, AZ
Vegan Spirituality-Southwest PA
Virginia Pipeline Resisters, VA
Waccamaw Riverkeeper, SC/ NC
Wall of Women, CO
Waterkeepers Chesapeake, D.C.
Waterkeepers Hawaiian Islands, HI

Western Colorado Alliance, CO
Wilderness Society, PA
Winyah Rivers Alliance, NC/SC
Women's Progressive Party, MI
Worth County Citizens for Responsible
Agriculture, IA
100 Grannies for a Livable Future, IA
350 Seattle, WA
350 Chicago, IL