



# THE 2023 FARM BILL IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO SOYBEAN FARMERS

**ASA supports a bipartisan, meaningful, comprehensive, and sufficiently funded 2023 Farm Bill.**

Strengthening the farm bill is more important than ever. **ASA supports a farm bill that:**

## Improves the Title I farm safety net to be more responsive and predictable.

After experiencing firsthand the challenges of an ineffective farm safety net during the China trade war, we have identified several specific Title I improvements to enhance effectiveness and accessibility: increasing the soybean reference price for calculating Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage; adjusting the ARC calculations; and providing the option to update base acres to reflect a more recent, defined period of time while allowing new acres to be protected.

1

## Protects and enhances crop insurance to assist with volatile weather and crop loss.

2



Please reject any harmful amendments that would make it more difficult for farmers to secure crop insurance protection and thus impact their ability to obtain operating credit each year.

## Expands trade promotion programs to help grow and diversify agricultural markets.

Continuing tensions with U.S. agriculture's largest export market - China - underscore the need to double funding for the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development Program. Support is also important for proposals that ensure in-kind food aid remains the foundation of international food assistance programs.



3

## Enables greater access to voluntary conservation programs to meet demand.

4



Recognize the value that farmers place on voluntary, incentive-based working lands programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Conservation Stewardship Program and the importance of flexibility and regulatory simplification in meeting the nation's wide range of conservation needs, crops, soil types, farming practices, and weather systems.



### Builds biobased market opportunities to promote soy utilization.

Reauthorization of and enhancements to the BioPreferred Program can improve utilization of more than 1,000 existing soy-based products.



5

### Provides biofuels opportunities to help the nation become more energy independent.

6



Soy-based biofuels usage can be enhanced by codifying the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program, as well as reauthorizing other energy title programs.

### Invests in research for innovation and competitiveness.

Research into biobased products, input management, sustainable farming practices and new seed varieties benefits soybean growers and the entire value chain.



7

### Maintains the farmer-financed soybean research and promotion checkoff.

8



Please reject any harmful amendments that would compromise the success of the soy checkoff, which is farmer-financed, farmer-led, overseen by USDA, and provides a high return on investment—\$12.34 for every farmer dollar invested in the checkoff.