

Friends Committee on National Legislation Vote Recommendation on H.R. 7567, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026

April 29, 2026

Dear Representative:

The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) is **urging a NO vote on the Farm, Food, and National Security Act (H.R. 7657)**. FCNL, a national, nonpartisan, Quaker organization, has advocated for peace, justice, and environmental stewardship since 1943. We believe any farm package should include relief for families struggling to put food on the table by at least giving all states the same two-year delay in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit cost shift. Additionally, we are concerned that the bill privatizes the SNAP's workforce, underfunds and restricts rural clean energy programs, and fails to extend the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Self-Determination Demonstration Project.

We are deeply concerned by the SNAP cuts enacted in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) last summer. **We are especially troubled by the looming SNAP benefit cost shift, a first in the program's history.** While Congress gave a few states extra time to reduce their administrative error rates, the other states are scrambling to address those numbers before they are locked in at the end of September. The government shutdown and delayed guidance from USDA have made it even harder. Since the OBBBA's enactment last summer, **2.5 million people have already lost their SNAP benefits.** It is important the farm bill address this looming nutrition crisis.

We also oppose the provision allowing for the privatization of SNAP's workforce, which could result in tens of thousands of civil service jobs being shipped outside the communities they serve. SNAP is a complicated system to administer, requiring adequate funding and a well-trained and stable workforce. Outsourcing will not ameliorate but would likely exacerbate SNAP backlogs, error rates, and administrative costs. This was the case in Texas and Indiana, which had pilot projects privatizing the SNAP workforce.

The current version of the Farm Bill falls short on clean energy largely because it underfunds or restricts key programs that rural communities rely on to deploy renewable energy. For example, the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) is historically one of the most effective tools for helping farmers and small rural businesses install solar, wind, and energy efficiency upgrades. The program faces reduced funding levels or tighter eligibility criteria compared to what is needed. While earlier investments temporarily boosted these programs, the Farm Bill itself does not consistently sustain or expand that momentum. Instead, it often prioritizes traditional subsidy structures without embedding strong, long-term incentives for clean energy adoption.

Finally, **this Farm Bill will not extend or make permanent the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Self-Determination Demonstration Project.** FDPIR, also known as the commodity food program, distributes food to SNAP-eligible individuals and families on Indian

reservations in lieu of traditional benefits. The Demonstration Project allows tribes and tribal organizations to enter into self-determination contracts to purchase culturally relevant foods of their choosing through vendors of their choice to be distributed alongside USDA-procured commodity foods. Using the program, tribes have distributed beans, salmon, bison, wild rice, and other culturally relevant alongside USDA-procured foods. The project strengthens Native communities by supporting local vendors, encouraging culturally relevant and healthy food choices, and reducing reliance on the USDA food procurement system.

FCNL asks legislators to consider the words of Jesus Christ: *“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me”* (Matthew 25:35). It is in this spirit that we urge a **NO Vote on the farm bill**.

Sincerely,

Bridget

Bridget Moix

General Secretary

Friends Committee on National Legislation

Lobbying with Quakers

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