

Support the Industrial Agriculture Accountability Act (S. 272 & H.R. 805)

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate
Chairwoman Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, & Forestry

The Honorable John Boozman
United States Senate
Ranking Member Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, & Forestry

The Honorable Glenn “GT” Thompson
United States House of Representatives
Chairman House Committee on Agriculture

The Honorable David Scott
United States House of Representatives
Ranking Member House Committee on Agriculture

Dear Chairwoman Stabenow, Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Boozman, and Ranking Member Scott:

We are writing to express our strong support for the Industrial Agriculture Accountability Act (S. 272 / H.R. 805) and to urge Congress to include important provisions from this landmark piece of legislation in the upcoming 2023 Farm Bill. It is time that corporations are held accountable for the damage caused when their abusive, consolidated system fails.

The factory farm model is incredibly high-risk for everyone but the handful of corporations that control it, posing significant threats to the well-being of workers, farmers, the environment, neighboring communities, consumers, and animals wrapped up in the industrial system. Industrial agribusiness’s domination and consolidation of power in our food system has only increased its fragility, which was highlighted by the unprecedented supply chain failures during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Industrial Agriculture Accountability Act would rein in some of the worst practices built into our current industrial agriculture system and shift the responsibility for disasters where it belongs—on the corporations and industrial operators who profit the most from factory farming. The time has come for corporations to internalize the true costs of the industrial system they created—giving independent farmers the opportunity to compete in the market and ending taxpayer bailouts during disasters. This impactful legislation is a critical step in repairing our food system, putting forth common sense solutions to address these long-held concerns and increasing corporate accountability.

The Industrial Agriculture Accountability Act will hold industrial agriculture operators accountable for righting some of the worst wrongs in our food system by:

- Requiring industrial operators to register high-risk CAFOs, submit disaster preparedness plans, and pay to cover the costs of preparing for and responding to disaster events
- Restricting the use of certain particularly inhumane methods of depopulation
- Creating new protections for livestock and poultry workers, including prohibiting the use of incarcerated workers during depopulation events, as well as ending dangerous line-speed increases and self-inspection programs
- Creating new humane transport standards for livestock and poultry

- Protecting billions of animals slaughtered each year by creating new requirements for more humane slaughter, including bringing poultry under the purview of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act
- Providing federal funding for grants to small processing facilities to transition to more humane slaughter methods and to expand USDA inspection and technical assistance for small processing facilities

The COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing avian influenza outbreak have demonstrated how fragile the industrial agriculture system is, highlighting that the animal welfare, environmental, and worker protections Americans expect are not built into the current model. This critical legislation would ensure that animals and the environment are protected while prioritizing higher-welfare farmers and ranchers, ensuring that tax dollars are no longer used to line the pockets of industrial agriculture. We respectfully urge you to support the inclusion of Industrial Agriculture Accountability Act provisions in the 2023 Farm Bill.

Sincerely,

Nonprofit and Labor Organizations

350Brooklyn

Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet

Advancing Collective Equity

Alabama State Association of Cooperatives

Alianza Nacional de Campesinas

American Federation of Government Employees

American Federation of Government Employees

Local 3354

American Grassfed Association

American Indian Mothers Inc. (AIMI)

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

American Sustainable Business Network

Animal Equality

Animal Legal Defense Fund

Animal Partisan

Animal Place

Animal Wellness Action

Animals Are Sentient Beings Inc

Bucks Environmental Action

Cahaba Riverkeeper

Center for Biological Diversity

Center For Food Safety

Chicago Food Policy Action Council

Chilis on Wheels

Church Women United in New York State

Citizens United for Renewable Energy (CURE)

Climate Communications Coalition

Climate Systems Solutions

Compassion in World Farming USA

Crate Free USA

CreatureKind

Cultivate Empathy for All

CWA Local 1081

Dharma Voices for Animals

Earthjustice

Environmental Communion NJA UCC

Factory Farming Awareness Coalition

Fair Start Movement

Family Farm Defenders

Farm Action Fund

Farm Forward

Farm Sanctuary

Farmworker Association of Florida

Food & Water Watch

Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)

Food Chain Workers Alliance

FoodCorps

Food in Neighborhoods Community Coalition

Food System Innovations

FoodCorps

FOUR PAWS USA

Fresh Approach

FreshWater Accountability Project
Friends of the Earth
GMO/Toxin Free USA
Government Accountability Project Food
Integrity Campaign
Greenbaum Foundation
HEAL (Health, Environment, Agriculture,
Labor) Food Alliance
Health Care Without Harm
Hempstead Project Heart
House Rabbit Society of Wisconsin
Humane Action Pennsylvania
Humane Action Pittsburgh
Immigrant Alliance for Justice and Equity
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement
Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future
Josephine County Farm Collective
Kiss the Ground
La Semilla Food Center
Land Stewardship Project
Latino Farmers & Ranchers International, Inc.
Maryland Latinos Unidos
Mercy For Animals
NAACP Maryland State Conference
Natural Resources Defense Council
NC Environmental Justice Network (NCEJN)
Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance
Northeast Organic Farming Association of
Massachusetts
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New
Hampshire
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New
Jersey
Northeast Organic Farming Association of
Vermont
Northeast Organic Farming
Association-Interstate Council
NY4Whales
NYCLASS
Occupy Bergen County
Oklahoma Black Historical Research Project
Our Honor
Oxfam America

PACE Organization of RI
Pasado's Safe Haven
Pass the Federal Green New Deal Coalition WA
Pesticide Action Network
Planting Justice
Plataforma ALTO
Poweshiek CARES
Project Coffeehouse
Public Justice Food Project
Rural Advancement Fund of the National
Sharecroppers Fund, Inc
Rural Coalition
Rural Development Leadership Network
Slow Food Sonoma County North
Slow Food - University of Wisconsin-Madison
Slow Food USA
Slow Food UW
Social Compassion in Legislation
Socially Responsible Agriculture Project
Soul Fire Farm Institute
Southside Community Land Trust
Strategies for Ethical and Environmental
Development (SEED)
Sustainable Food Colloquium
The Center for a Humane Economy
The Center for Rural Enterprise and
Environmental Justice
The Humane League
The Transformation Project
Union of Concerned Scientists
United Methodist Church
United Poultry Concerns, Inc
Vegan Activist Alliance
Veterinarians Against Ventilation Shutdown
Voters For Animal Rights
Waterkeepers Chesapeake

Farms and Businesses

Barreca Vineyards
Bezaleel Israel Farm Collective
Bull City Farm
Climate Refarm
Daily Blessings Farm
Folkmethod

Friends of the Trees Botanicals
Green State Solutions
Happy Valley Meat Company
Healing by Growing Farms (a Therapeutic
Respite Farm)
iEat Green, LLC
Indigenous Edibles
J & J Martin Produce LLC
Kitchen Sync Strategies
May's Menagerie
MegaFood
Nature Fresh Farm
Naturepedic Organic Mattresses & Bedding
Pure Strategies
Rook Pastures, LLC
Root Cellar
Simple Little Farm
Sullivan Farms
Thousand Hills Lifetime Grazed
Walk Your Talk Productions
Withywindle Valley Farm

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Veterinarians and other Health Professionals

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