



Farm Bill 2018 – Ready or Not

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Budget Deficits – A Conflicted Congress

- National Debt Now Exceeds \$20 Trillion
- Push for Boost in Defense Spending- \$52 to 68 Billion
- Natural Disaster Assistance - \$100 Billion ?
- Historic Tax Reform Bill
 - Adds a projected \$1 plus trillion to deficits over 10 years



Challenges Ahead

- Low Commodity Prices Require Changes to the Commodity Title
- Budget Constraints Limit Options to Improve Agriculture Risk Coverage Option or Price Loss Coverage
 - Administrative and Yield Data Issues Likely to Be Addressed
- Doubling of Funding for Market Access and Foreign Market Development Programs – Need a “Pay For”
- Federal Crop Insurance Program Remains a Big Target
 - Harvest Price Option
 - Premium Assistance



The CBO Projections

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
ARC-County	1,019	160	121	126	148	204	201
PLC	208	2,229	1,491	1,578	1,720	1,983	2,009



NCGA's Top Priorities for the 2018 Farm Bill

- Defend Federal Crop Insurance against harmful policy changes and funding cuts
- Increased funding for Market Access Program and the Foreign Market Development Program
- Improve the ARC-County Option for an extended low price environment
- A strong conservation title emphasizing voluntary, working lands programs
- Support current investments in competitive agriculture and food research grants and develop a multi-crop initiative building on advances in plant genetics



Your Voice Matters!

- Individually and as a group – your advocacy of a new farm bill with strong risk management and conservations programs is critical
- Please help us tell the farmer's story

