



Marker Bills to Watch¹

As farm bill negotiations pick up steam, many promising bills have been introduced this Congress with the goal of making it into the final package. This brief provides an overview of several bills that align with FBLE's recommendations, as detailed in the FBLE [2023 Farm Bill Reports](#). This list is not exhaustive – there are a lot to choose from and new proposals are still being introduced!

CLIMATE & CONSERVATION

FBLE's [Climate & Conservation](#) report covers a wide range of policies aimed at increasing agricultural sustainability with a particular focus on implementing climate-friendly farming techniques. Legislation encouraging farmers to adopt more sustainable practices could reduce the environmental harm associated with the agriculture industry and mitigate climate change on a broader scale. Many policy goals within the report address the importance of helping farmers to make these changes, including through technical or financial support.

Small Farm Conservation Act (S. 2180, H.R. 5354)

The Small Farm Conservation Act (SFCA) would establish a “small farm EQIP subprogram,” designed to facilitate payments to small farms to promote soil conservation efforts.² EQIP (the Environmental Quality Incentives Program) is a program designed to help farmers implement sustainable practices in their operations via training and funding assistance.³ The SFCA would allocate \$100 million to the program from 2024 through 2028.⁴ The SFCA directs \$35 million to increase Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding to help administer the program and provide technical assistance to farmers, with the remaining \$65 million reserved for direct payments to small-scale producers.⁵ When evaluating which farms are eligible for the program, the bill highlights factors such as farm size, status as a historically underserved or socially disadvantaged producer, and operations in high-poverty areas.⁶

The SFCA aligns with several FBLE Recommendations. It invests in conservation technical assistance by increasing NRCS capacity to promote improved soil health, addressing concerns that the NRCS remains understaffed. The SFCA directs funds to small farms, which are more likely to engage in regenerative agricultural practices

¹ This Issue Brief was written by Orly Levy and Mike Orlando (Clinical Students, Harvard Law School Food Law & Policy Clinic), with guidance and review from Emma Scott (Associate Director & Clinical Instructor, Harvard Law School Food Law & Policy Clinic).

² SMALL FARM CONSERVATION ACT, H.R. 5354, 118th Cong. (2023).

³ EMMA SCOTT ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., CLIMATE & CONSERVATION 8 (2022).

⁴ SMALL FARM CONSERVATION ACT, H.R. 5354, 118th Cong. (2023).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *Id.*

and grow a broader range of crops.⁷ By targeting small farms, the SFCA will help make EQIP more accessible to farmers who may otherwise not have the resources to apply for it or to compete with larger farms. Lastly, consideration of status as a socially disadvantaged producer will help farmers of color, who have been systemically denied access to farm assistance programs, utilize the program.⁸

Farmer to Farmer Education Act (S. 2614)

The Farmer to Farmer Education Act would amend Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) to include a “farmer-to-farmer network.”⁹ The purpose of this bill is to build farmer networks, connect farmers with mentors, create group learning opportunities, and increase the long-term adoption of science-based, site-specific practices designed to achieve conservation objectives on land.¹⁰ Currently, CTA supports farmers in accessing working land programs: EQIP and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).¹¹ Both programs pay farmers to adopt NRCS conservation practices and employ staff to help implement them; the goal is to encourage sustainable farming.¹² CTA also supports farmers in developing conservation plans to meet conservation compliance requirements, the minimum conservation standards needed to participate in many USDA programs.¹³

As noted in FBLE’s Climate & Conservation report, CTA employees play a critical role in helping farmers adopt complex conservation practices. Yet, these programs are understaffed, leaving many farmers to navigate these challenges on their own.¹⁴ The Farmer to Farmer Education Act would help bridge this gap. Under this legislation, the NRCS (which administers CTA) would enter cooperative agreements with eligible entities like nonprofits or farmer-to-farmer networks to strengthen educational opportunities in farming communities.¹⁵ This would allow experienced farmers to help each other implement environmentally sustainable technologies. Group learning opportunities will supplement the need for CTA staff. While expansion of CTA staff and training is still critical, this bill could help mitigate costs by encouraging mutual support and learning.

EQUITY IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION & GOVERNANCE

FBLE’s [Equity in Agricultural Production & Governance](#) report outlines how the farm bill can help tackle both past and present inequities in the agricultural system. Recommendations include proposals designed to fight USDA discrimination, provide financial support for systemically marginalized producers, and help producers reclaim

⁷ *Id.* at 18.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ Farmer to Farmer Education Act, S.2614, 118th Cong. (2023)

¹⁰ *Id.* at §2(j).

¹¹ EMMA SCOTT ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., CLIMATE & CONSERVATION 8 (2022).

¹² *Id.*

¹³ *Conservation Compliance for Highly Erodible Land*, NATURAL RES. CONSERVATION SERV., <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getting-assistance/financial-help/conservation-compliance-for-highly-erodible-land/> (last visited March 7, 2024)

¹⁴ EMMA SCOTT ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., CLIMATE & CONSERVATION 14 (2022).

¹⁵ Samantha Levy, *New Bipartisan Farmer-to-Farmer Education Act introduced in Congress aims to advance farmer-led conservation education in the 2023 Farm Bill*, AM. FARMLAND TRUST (Jul. 31, 2023), <https://farmland.org/congress-introduces-farmer-to-farmer-education-act/>.



lost land. The report identifies policies targeted to help redress systemic inequities and initiatives to hold responsible parties accountable if such inequities continue.

Fair Credit for Farmers Act (S. 2668, H.R. 5796)

The Fair Credit for Farmers Act (FCFA) offers debt relief to farmers experiencing economic distress. The bill includes several provisions aimed at mitigating financial hardship to farmers, including deferment of payments on direct farm loans, granting of a two-year interest free period, and a two-year waiver of loan fees for historically underserved farmers.¹⁶ The FCFA would also discard term limitations currently in place for FSA loans.¹⁷ Other borrower-friendly aspects of the FCFA include a prohibition on excess loan collateralization and an automatic release of security attached to a farmer's principal residence when other assets suffice to cover the loan balance.¹⁸ Finally, the bill expands equitable relief through the National Appeals Division (NAD) to farmers who have experienced an adverse decision from the FSA.¹⁹ For farms with less than \$300,000 per year of adjusted gross income, the bill shifts the burden of proving an erroneous decision on appeal from the farmer to the FSA.²⁰

The FCFA contains multiple proposals that mirror FBLE recommendations and help promote equity in agricultural production. Waiving loan fees for historically underserved farmers will increase the affordability of credit to systemically marginalized and beginning new producers.²¹ FBLE has also called for ending loan term limitations, allowing economically disadvantaged farmers to utilize FSA loans for longer and reducing reliance on private credit.²² Finally, reforming the NAD appeals process could help underserved farmers combat discrimination by USDA agents and lead to increased transparency in FSA decisions.

Increasing Land Access, Security, and Opportunities Act (S. 2340, H.R. 3955)

The Increasing Land Access, Security, and Opportunities Act is a legislative proposal designed to enhance the availability and security of land for agricultural, residential, and commercial use within marginalized communities.²³ Land acquisition is one of the biggest challenges that farmers face, regardless of the number of years farming or geographic location.²⁴ This barrier discourages younger generations from going into farming; in fact, the average age of U.S. farmers is approaching 60 years old.²⁵

¹⁶ Fair Credit for Farmers Act, S. 2668, 118th Cong. § 2(b) (2023).

¹⁷ *Id.* at § 2(d).

¹⁸ *Id.* at § 2(c).

¹⁹ *Id.* at § 4.

²⁰ *Id.* at § 4(a)(2)(B)(i).

²¹ FRANCINE MILLER ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., EQUITY IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION & GOVERNANCE 47 (2022).

²² *Id.* at 50.

²³ *Increasing Land, Capital, and Market Access Program*, U.S. DEP'T OF AGRIC., <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/increasing-land-access/index/> (last visited March 7, 2024).

²⁴ *Budzinski, Nunn, Courtney, Spanberger Introduce Bipartisan Bill to Improve Young Farmers' Access to Land*, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE NINA BUDZINSKI, <https://budzinski.house.gov/posts/budzinski-nunn-courtney-introduce-bipartisan-bill-to-improve-young-farmers-access-to-land/> (last visited March 7, 2024).

²⁵ *Id.*

Recognizing that land access is crucial for the future of farming, this bill would expand USDA’s “Increasing Land, Capital, and Market Access Program” (LCM) with appropriations of \$100 million per year.²⁶ LCM provides grants to eligible entities to strengthen land, capital, and market access to historically underserved farmers, ranchers, and forest owners.²⁷ Eligible entities include Native communities, foundations, community development financial institutions, institutions of higher education, and more.²⁸ The funds are allocated for activities associated with increasing access to markets and capital, providing direct assistance for intended beneficiaries, and providing technical assistance to meet specific needs of intended beneficiaries.²⁹ LCM is designed to offer farmers a wide range of eligible projects with eligible entities that are already involved in the communities they serve.³⁰ While beneficial, LCM does not have enough funding to fully meet farmers’ needs to secure land and carry out programing.³¹ The adoption of this bill (and expansion of LCM) would further mitigate the difficulties farmers face and help create a more diverse and inclusive farming community.

BONUS BILL

Introduced May 1, 2024, the **Heirs Education and Investment to Resolve Succession (HEIRS) of Property Act (H.R. 8198)** would direct USDA to work with nonprofit service providers to assist families with heirs’ property in resolving ownership and succession of farmland. The bill would also reauthorize the Heirs Property Relending Program, enacted in the 2018 Farm Bill.

FARM VIABILITY

FBLE’s [Farm Viability](#) report highlights policy changes that could increase the success of small and mid-sized farms. Over the past few decades, the structure of the agriculture industry has shifted such that a select number of large operations earn most of the profits while farmers with smaller operations can rarely earn a living on farming alone. FBLE’s recommendations seek to address the barriers that impede the viability of small and mid-sized farms by expanding market opportunities; increasing access to insurance, cost-share programs, and incubation programs; and improving implementation of more competitive policies.

Insuring Fairness for Family Farmers Act of 2023 (S. 2421, H.R. 4804)

The Insuring Fairness for Family Farmers Act of 2023 (Act) attempts to increase enrollment of small farms in subsidized federal crop insurance plans.³² Currently,

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ Increasing Land Access, Security, and Opportunities Act, H.R. 3955, § 4 (2023).

²⁸ *Id.* at § 2.

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ AM. FARMLAND TRUST, THE INCREASING LAND ACCESS, SECURITY, AND OPPORTUNITIES ACT (2023), <https://farmland.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Summary-Land-Capital-Market-Access-Bill.pdf>.

³¹ *Celebrating our Response to the USDA Increasing Land, Capital, and Market Access Program*, NAT’L YOUNG FARMERS COAL., <https://www.youngfarmers.org/2023/02/celebrating-our-rapid-response-to-the-usda-increasing-land-capital-and-market-access-program/> (last visited March 7, 2024)

³² *Booker, Salinas, Blumenauer Introduce Bicameral Bill to Boost Crop Insurance Coverage for Small Farms and Specialty Crop Farms*, Cory BOOKER (Jul. 20, 2023),



private insurance providers administer plans on behalf of the federal government and, in return, are reimbursed for their administrative and operating expenses.³³ Present commission structures reward insurance agents more for selling policies to large operations while marketing to smaller farms requires more effort for a lesser payout.³⁴ The Act tries to invert this system and change the incentive structure to favor selling to smaller producers.³⁵

The Act addresses a key FBLE recommendation: bolstering support for small and mid-sized farms.³⁶ While the Act does not increase aid to small farms directly, it creates financial enticements for insurance agents to seek out and enroll small farms in subsidized insurance policies. Certain provisions expressly encourage agents to target farms that have never held a federal insurance policy, broadening the reach of these programs.³⁷ By making small-farm insurance policies more lucrative for agents than large-farm policies, the Act could divert a greater share of federal support to small farmers.

BONUS BILL

The **Farmland for Farmers Act (S. 2583)** would, among other things, restrict corporations, multilayered subsidiaries, pension funds, and investment funds from purchasing or leasing agricultural land for investment purposes and restrict access to USDA programs for existing holdings. The bill includes exemptions for certain corporate forms provided the parties are actively engaged in farming. Removing these corporate investors as competitors in the market may help bring land prices back within reach of those committed to farming or land conservation.

Farm System Reform Act of 2023 (S. 271, H.R. 797)

The Farm System Reform Act would place a moratorium on large concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), phasing them out by January 1, 2040, and provide assistance for owners to transition to more sustainable practices.³⁸ This could increase farm viability, providing farmers with opportunities to engage in practices that are not only environmentally sustainable but also potentially more profitable in the long run by reducing dependency on industrial farming models. It would provide some economic advantage to smaller farms and increase competitiveness in the agricultural market.

Furthermore, the bill seeks to reinforce the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921 (PSA) which regulates competition in the marketing of livestock, meat, and poultry.³⁹ Over the past several decades, the agricultural industry has become increasingly concentrated, forcing producers to accept the prices that buyers offer even if they are

<https://www.booker.senate.gov/news/press/booker-salinas-blumenauer-introduce-bicameral-bill-to-boost-crop-insurance-coverage-for-small-farms-and-specialty-crop-farms>.

³³ *Id.*

³⁴ *Id.*

³⁵ *Id.*

³⁶ ESTHER AKWII ET AL., FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FARM VIABILITY ii (2022).

³⁷ Insuring Fairness for Family Farmers Act of 2023, S. 2421, 118th Cong. § (2)(b)(2)(C)(ii)(III) (2023).

³⁸ Farm System Reform Act, H.R.797, 118th Cong., §§ 102, 103 (2023).

³⁹ *Id.* at § 201.

unfair.⁴⁰ The PSA provides producers and growers recourse against packers who engage in unfair practices and addresses antitrust issues like monopolies and anti-competitive practices.⁴¹ Enforcement of the PSA has been weak due to unclear requirements and poor USDA enforcement mechanisms.⁴² The Farm System Reform Act would enhance PSA protections by creating stricter requirements and enforcing fair pricing and contracting processes for farmers.⁴³ Strengthening PSA enforcement could give producers more financial stability and combat concentrated market power in the agricultural industry.⁴⁴

FARMWORKERS

Recognizing the range of challenges that farmworkers face, FBLE's [Farmworkers](#) report recommends policies that promote farmworkers' wellbeing.⁴⁵ One key focus is strengthening agency oversight of work environments. Farm work can be especially dangerous, involving intense physical labor, environmental exposures, and dangerous machinery.⁴⁶ While the Department of Labor leads regulation and enforcement of most farmworker protections, USDA can play a bigger role in ensuring that workers in the agricultural sector are safe and that farmwork is an economically viable career.

Voice for Farm Workers Act of 2023 (S. 2702) & Supporting Our Farm and Food System Workforce Act of 2023 (S. 2073)

The Voice for Farm Workers Act of 2023 (S. 2702) and the Supporting Our Farm and Food System Workforce Act of 2023 (S. 2073) aim to increase USDA support to farmworkers. S. 2702 would expand the responsibilities of the existing Farmworker Coordinator, calling for increased interagency cooperation to ensure federal policymakers hear and defend the needs of farmworkers.⁴⁷ S. 2703 builds upon S. 2702 and would establish a dedicated office within the USDA designed to communicate more effectively with farm and food system workers.⁴⁸ The bills are designed to work in tandem to address the unmet needs of farm and food system workers, many of whom face language barriers, housing insecurity, and inadequate access to healthcare.⁴⁹

Both bills address a key FBLE recommendation: restructuring the USDA to serve both farmers and farmworkers.⁵⁰ The bills touch on multiple issues identified by FBLE, such as bridging communication barriers, working with community-based nonprofits, and increasing awareness of USDA programs designed to benefit farmworkers.⁵¹ It directly

⁴⁰ ESTHER AKWII ET AL., FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FARM VIABILITY V (2022).

⁴¹ *Id.* at 38.

⁴² *Id.* at v.

⁴³ Farm System Reform Act, H.R.797, 118th Cong., § 202 (2023).

⁴⁴ ESTHER AKWII ET AL., FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FARM VIABILITY V (2022).

⁴⁵ EMMA SCOTT ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FARMWORKERS I (2022).

⁴⁶ *Id.*

⁴⁷ Voice for Farm Workers Act of 2023, S. 2702, 118th Cong., § 2(1)(1) (2023).

⁴⁸ Supporting Our Farm and Food System Workforce Act of 2023, S. 2703, 118th Cong. (2023).

⁴⁹ *Padilla Introduces Bills to Strengthen USDA Support for Farm and Food System Workers*, ALEX PADILLA SENATOR FOR CALIFORNIA (Aug. 1, 2023),

<https://www.padilla.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/padilla-introduces-bills-to-strengthen-usda-support-for-farm-and-food-system-workers/>.

⁵⁰ EMMA SCOTT ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FARMWORKERS 21 (2022).

⁵¹ See *generally* Supporting Our Farm and Food System Workforce Act of 2023, S. 2703, 118th Cong. (2023), see *also* Voice for Farm Workers Act of 2023, S. 2702, 118th Cong. (2023).



responds to FBLE's call to "enhance the role and impact of USDA's farmworker coordinator."⁵² The bills also include provisions requiring that USDA officials monitor progress toward meeting their proposed goals, providing an accountability mechanism moving forward.⁵³

Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act of 2023 (S. 270, H.R. 798)

The Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act of 2023 ("the Act") would introduce reforms that target various aspects of the meatpacking industry to better protect workers' wellbeing.⁵⁴ One of the Act's core objectives is to enhance worker safety. Meatpacking plants are incredibly dangerous – workers risk injury from machinery, repetitive motions, overexertion, cold temperatures, and close-quarter working conditions that increase disease transmission.⁵⁵ The Act aims to address worker health by expanding funding for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to increase the number of inspectors dedicated to overseeing meatpacking plants and ensuring compliance with safety standards.⁵⁶ Additional measures include expanding protections through anti-retaliation measures (as workers have been hesitant to report issues due to fear of retribution from employers) and improving health and safety training.⁵⁷ These proposed initiatives could significantly improve the working conditions and welfare of meatpacking workers.⁵⁸ The Act further requires USDA to consult with OSHA concerning any potential line speed waivers and restricts USDA from increasing line speeds.

FOOD ACCESS & NUTRITION

FBLE's report on [Food Access & Nutrition](#) offers ideas to help fight food insecurity, improve the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and promote an equitable food system. The report pitches numerous recommendations to increase access to healthy foods nationwide, with a specific emphasis on combatting food insecurity and related public health issues in underserved communities.⁵⁹

Healthy Food Financing Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2023 (S. 760, H.R. 1509)

The Healthy Food Financing Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2023 ("HFFI Reauthorization Act") would extend funding for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative ("HFFI") through 2028.⁶⁰ HFFI (originally passed in 2014 and reauthorized in 2018) helps

⁵² EMMA SCOTT ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FARMWORKERS 21 (2022).

⁵³ Supporting Our Farm and Food System Workforce Act of 2023, S. 2703, 118th Cong. § 2(a) (2023).

⁵⁴ Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act, S.270, 118th Cong. (2023).

⁵⁵ EMMA SCOTT ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FARMWORKERS 3 (2022).

⁵⁶ Protecting America's Meatpacking Workers Act, S.270, 118th Cong. § 128 (2023).

⁵⁷ *Id.* at § 126, § 123.

⁵⁸ Omanjana Goswami, *The Food and Farm Bill Can Do a Lot for Workers*, THE EQUATION (Aug. 24, 2023), <https://blog.ucsus.org/omanjana-goswami/the-food-and-farm-bill-can-do-a-lot-for-workers/>.

⁵⁹ See generally MOLLY COHEN ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FOOD ACCESS & NUTRITION (2022).

⁶⁰ Healthy Food Financing Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2023, S. 760, 118th Cong. § 2 (2023).

expand access to fresh foods in underserved areas.⁶¹ The program operates by extending grant opportunities and technical assistance to private food businesses, incentivizing them to open in areas without ready access to nutritious foods.⁶²

FBLE has explicitly endorsed re-establishing HFFI.⁶³ Beyond simply re-approving HFFI, FBLE called for at least \$25 million per year of mandatory funding.⁶⁴ Historical HFFI funding has fluctuated widely, with the program receiving \$1-5 million per year in discretionary funding from 2017-2021, before getting an influx of \$155 million from additional funding USDA received in the American Rescue Plan Act in 2022.⁶⁵ The HFFI Reauthorization Act provides for predictable, mandatory funding starting at \$25 million per year and steadily increasing to \$50 million by 2028.⁶⁶ Geographic proximity to healthy food is a key component of an equitable food system—the HFFI Reauthorization Act will allow HFFI to continue to support the growth of food retailers, distributors, and other enterprises that proliferate healthy foods in places that lack them.

GusNIP Expansion Act of 2023 (H.R. 4856)

The GusNIP Expansion Act is aimed at enhancing nutritional options available to SNAP beneficiaries.⁶⁷ Specifically, this act focuses on expanding the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP), which awards grant funding to agencies and nonprofits for projects that incentivize SNAP recipients to spend more on fruits and vegetables.⁶⁸ Under this program, for every dollar spent on eligible produce, participants receive additional funds to spend more on fruits and vegetables, increasing their purchasing power for nutritious foods.⁶⁹ GusNIP also offers grants to produce prescription programs, services which provide healthy foods to disadvantaged individuals who are susceptible to diet-related diseases.⁷⁰ This act would expand GusNIP in several key ways.⁷¹ It would increase funding for the program, reduce the state match for grants from 50% to 20%, and create USDA cooperative agreements to scale programs statewide. For produce prescription programs, it would implement a two-tiered grant structure with a proposal review panel for the produce prescription program and evaluate the most effective programs to maximize healthy foods as medicine. In sum, this act would improve nutrition by

⁶¹ *Reps. Brown, Lee, and Evans Join Sens. Casey and Gillibrand to Introduce Legislation that Increases Access to Affordable, Healthy Food*, SHONTEL BROWN (Mar. 21, 2023), <https://shontelbrown.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-brown-lee-and-evans-join-sens-casey-and-gillibrand-introduce-legislation>.

⁶² *Id.*

⁶³ MOLLY COHEN ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FOOD ACCESS & NUTRITION 37 (2022).

⁶⁴ *Id.*

⁶⁵ CONG. RSCH. SERV., THE USDA HEALTHY FOOD FINANCING INITIATIVE 2 (2022), <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF1214>.

⁶⁶ *Id.* at 38; Healthy Food Financing Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2023, S. 760, 118th Cong. § 2 (2023).

⁶⁷ H.R. 4856, 118th Cong. (2023).

⁶⁸ MOLLY COHEN ET AL, FARM BILL LAW ENTER., FOOD ACCESS & NUTRITION IV (2022).

⁶⁹ *Id.*

⁷⁰ *Id.*

⁷¹ *Reps. Crawford and Kildee Introduce Legislation to Expand Low-Income Americans' Access to Fresh Fruits and Vegetables*, U.S. CONGRESSMAN RICK CRAWFORD, <https://crawford.house.gov/posts/rep-crawford-and-kildee-introduce-legislation-to-expand-low-income-americans-access-to-fresh-fruits-and-vegetables/> (last visited March 7, 2024).



expanding an already successful program that increases fruit and vegetable consumption among low-income households.

CONCLUSION

At the time of this brief's release (May 2024), the House and Senate Agriculture Committees have begun sharing their frameworks for a 2024 Farm Bill. Some of the proposals described above have been included in these first drafts. For instance, the Senate's proposed "Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act of 2024" would expand the role of the Farmworker Coordinator through a section dedicated to "Strengthening the Farm and Food System Workforce" and would reduce the match requirement for GusNIP to 20%, as proposed in the GusNIP Expansion Act.⁷² Yet it remains to be seen how negotiations between the "four corners" (the majority and minority parties of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees) square the competing priorities at play. Additionally, the mark up and conference committee processes offer opportunities for amendments enacting the policies described in this brief even if those policies are omitted from the initial drafts.

⁷² Emma Scott, *How The Senate Draft Stacks Up To FBLE's Recommendations*, FARM BILL L. ENTER. (May 15, 2024), <https://www.farmbilllaw.org/2024/05/15/how-the-senate-draft-stacks-up-to-fbles-recommendations/>.