ACTIONS TO USHER IN A BETTER FUTURE FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE:

4. Redefining the Status Quo

Family Farm Action Alliance

Family Farm Action

Today's agrifood system is based on a false economic model that ignores and pushes the cost of externalities such as public health, environmental impacts, and community wellbeing onto taxpayers to subsidize them. For example, while industrial agriculture's runoff pollutes water and air, the very communities suffering from lack of economic opportunity are asked to foot the bill and clean it up. Everything from property rights, to feeding livestock, to rural development must be rethought in ways that acknowledge social and ecological consequences. Federal policy needs to go further, holding corporations accountable and actively creating the conditions that allow communities to reclaim their health, liberty, and economic opportunity.

SUPPORT EXISTING LEGISLATION

- ❏ Farm System Reform Act - (116th: H.R.6718/S.3221)
- ❏ Agriculture Resilience Act - (116th: H.R.5861)
- ❏ Food and Agribusiness Merger Moratorium and Antitrust Review Act of 2019 - (116th: H.R.2933/S.1596)
- ❏ Safe Line Speeds in COVID-19 Act - (116th:H.R. 7521/S.4338)

URGE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

- ❏ Require regional HHI measurements, and deploy additional contextual measures when evaluating merger requests. Depending on the application of the HHI, it does not detect financial control across sectors, nor does it account for geographic monopolies, which is of concern with so few agrifood corporations operating in the U.S. (FTC & DOJ)
- ❏ Amend merger and acquisition guidelines to reflect a review based on competition and end the use of the failed "efficiency rule" regarding consumer welfare standards. (FTC & DOJ)

CHAMPION NEW LEGISLATION AND ACTION

- ❏ Create an independent commission to study and examine true and full costs of industrialized agriculture to include but not be limited to its externalized costs on the environment, healthcare, local economies, and property values.
- ❏ Implement the Clyburn 10/20/30 Formula throughout all federal funding and spending allocations, which would direct at least 10% of investment be made in persistent poverty communities (counties where 20% or more of the population lives below the poverty line for the last 30 years).