

Food, Not Feed Advocacy Day Report

Topline Takeaways

- Over the course of two days, the Food, Not Feed coalition was able to make meaningful contact with some of the most critical policy makers in Washington, D.C. ahead of Farm Bill debate. We were able to bring our message to decision makers at the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Justice, the White House, and both the House and Senate Agriculture Committees.
- We met with three of four members of House Democratic Leadership. Additionally, we met with Senate Majority Whip Durbin and President Pro Tempore Patty Murray. However, we did not meet with any representatives from House Republican Leadership, and only met with Republican Policy Committee Chairman Joni Ernst.
- We also met with 67 off-Committee Senators and Representatives. Unfortunately, we were unable to connect with a majority of the House Agriculture Committee; going forward, it will be critical to engage these offices.
- More positively, we connected with well over half of the Senate Agriculture Committee, and nurtured already strong connections among the panel likely to draft the version of the Farm Bill that most resembles what will eventually be signed into law.
- Almost every office we connected with—85%—were receptive to at least a portion of our message. Strengthening local foods and local economies had widespread bipartisan support, as did competition issues. Health/nutrition concerns resonated with many offices, but with a slightly more partisan bent. Environmental issues were also very popular, but primarily among Democratic offices.

By the Numbers

- Noteworthy takeaways
 - 102 total meetings
 - All four corners of Agriculture Committee
 - Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries
 - Democratic Whip Katherine Clark
 - Assistant Minority Leader Jim Clyburn
 - 67 meetings with off-Committee Senators and Representatives
 - 19 Republican offices
 - 78 Democratic offices
 - At USDA
 - Bruce Summers - Agricultural Marketing Service Administrator
 - Zach Ducheneaux - Farm Service Administration Administrator
 - Tim Gannon - Farm Production and Conservation Chief of Staff
 - Andy Green - Senior Advisor for Fair and Competitive Markets
 - At DOJ
 - Michael Kades - Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division,
 - Sally Hubbard - Senior Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General
 - Robert Lepore, Transportation, Energy, and Agriculture Section Chief
 - Bindi Bhagat, Counsel to Assistant Attorney General
 - At White House
 - Will McIntee - Senior Advisor, Public Engagement

House Agriculture Committee Members (12/52, 23%)

<i>GT Thompson (Chair, R-PA-15)</i>	<i>Jim Baird (R-IN-04)</i>	<i>Derrick Van Orden (R-WI-03)</i>	Bobby Scott (D-Ranking Member, GA-13)
Jim McGovern (D-MA-02)	Alma Adams (D-NC-12)	Jahana Hayes (D-CT-05)	Sharice Davids (D-KS-03)
Yadira Caraveo (D-CO-08)	Jill Tokuda (D-HI-02)	Gabe Vasquez (D-NM-02)	Chellie Pingree (D-ME-01)

Senate Agriculture Committee Members (16/23, 70%)

Chair Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)	Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	Michael Bennet (D-CO)	Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
Tina Smith (D-MN)	Dick Durban (D-IL)	Cory Booker (D-NJ)	Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM)
Raphael Warnock (D-GA)	Peter Welch (D-VT)	<i>Ranking Member John Boozman (R-AR)</i>	<i>Joni Ernst (R-IA)</i>
<i>Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MI)</i>	<i>Tommy Tuberville (R-AL)</i>	<i>Mike Braun (R-IN)</i>	<i>Chuck Grassley (R-IA)</i>

Reception (Note: We have only received reports from 80 meetings)

- 85% of meeting reports indicated that meetings went “Well” or “Very Well,” with staff responding enthusiastically to our message and talking points.
- Only two of the 78 meeting reports we received indicated that the meeting participants don’t recommend further engagement with that office.
- Our post-meeting survey asked coalition members to reflect on which issues impacted by a shift to Food, Not Feed most resonated with each office.
 - Local Food - 54 offices resonated with this messaging
 - Nutrition/Health - 50 offices resonated with this messaging
 - Environment - 49 offices resonated with this messaging
 - Competition - 32 offices resonated with this messaging
 - Animal Welfare - 21 offices resonated with this messaging
 - National Security - 17 offices resonated with this messaging
 - Equity, Black, and Beginning Farmers - Eight offices resonated with this messaging (this number is likely deflated, as our survey did not adequately capture this message’s resonance)

House offices our coalition strongly believes would benefit from continued engagement, and suggested narrative framing

Representative Cori Bush (D-MO) Equity framing	Representative Katie Porter (D-CA) Competition framing	Representative Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA) Competition Framing	Representative Chuy Garcia (D-IL) Competition Framing
Representative David Cicilline (D-RI) Competition framing	Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) Local food framing	Representative Joe Neguse (D-CO) Competition framing	Representative Don Beyer (D-VA) Competition and nutrition framing
Representative Jim McGovern (D-MA) Competition and nutrition framing	Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA) Competition and environment framing	Representative Kim Schrier (D-WA) Competition and local foods framing	Representative Hank Johnson (D-GA) Competition and equity framing framing
Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) Competition, nutrition, and environment framing	Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) Nutrition and environment framing	Representative Mary Peltola (D-AK) Nutrition, animal welfare, and environment framing	Representative Adam Schiff (D-CA) Environment and animal welfare framing
Representative Chellie Pingree (D-ME) Environment framing	<i>Representative Ken Buck (R-CO) Competition framing</i>	<i>Representative Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) National security framing</i>	<i>Representative Derrick Van Orden (R- WI) - National security framing</i>

**Senate Offices our coalition strongly believes would benefit from continued engagement,
and suggested approach**

Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) Competition Framing	Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM) - Local foods framing	Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) Competition framing	Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) - Competition and nutrition framing
Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) Local foods framing	Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) Beginning farmers framing	Senator Raphael Warnock (D-GA) Equity Framing	Senator Annie Kuster (D-NH) - Local foods framing
Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) Local foods framing	<i>Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) Local foods framing</i>	<i>Senator Josh Hawley (R-MO) Competition Framing</i>	<i>Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) - Competition and local foods framing</i>