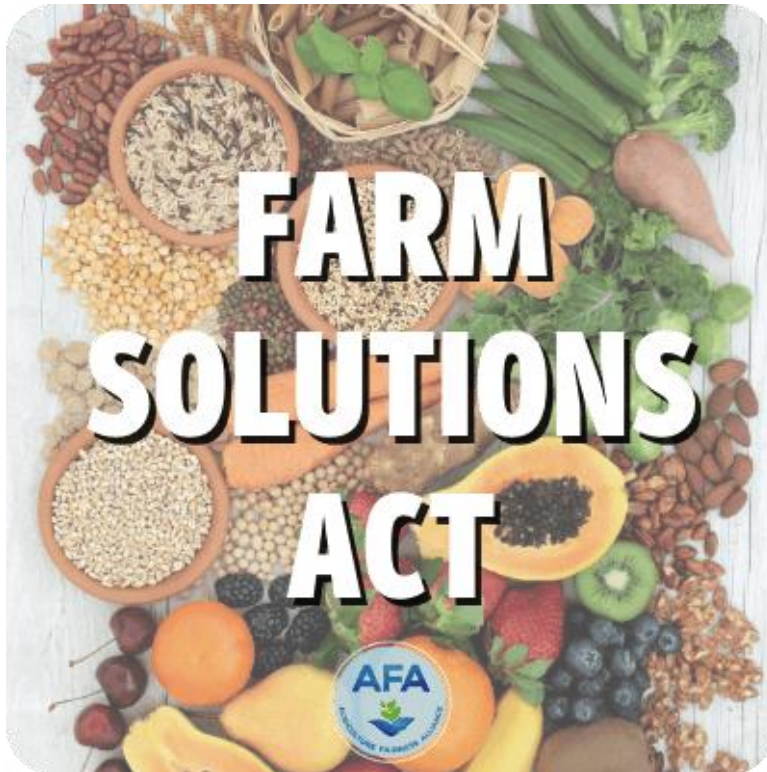


The Farm and Ranch Mobility ‘FARM’ Solutions Act

From [AFA Agriculture Fairness Alliance](#)

January 2022

AFA’s draft legislation, the “[Farm and Ranch Mobility Solutions Act](#)” is a pilot program modeled after the work of the [Rancher Advocacy Program](#), a nonprofit founded by a trail-blazing Texas cattle rancher who helps farmers transition to fiber-rich crop production.



M is for ‘Mobility’

Mobility is the ability for farmers to change *what* they produce in order to profit, restore the land, and nourish a nation.

The FARMS Act offers **options** to American farmers wanting to tap into the fast-growing fiber-rich foods market and in doing so

- save lives by improving public health¹
- empower innovative food manufacturers to compete with made-in-America supply chains²
- attain 50 by 30 sustainability goals³
- get out from under the thumb of consolidating multi-national agribusinesses⁴

America Needs More Fiber-rich Foods

America is in the midst of a dietary fiber crisis, and farm policy can solve it.



Thousands of American lives could be saved every year if everyone ate the recommended amounts of dietary fiber.⁵ Unfortunately ...

Americans Aren't Eating Enough Fiber-rich Foods

The US food system supplies half the dietary fiber Americans need,⁶ and Americans are only eating half the fiber they need.⁷ As a result, Americans are dying of chronic diet-related diseases like heart disease, diabetes, and cancer.⁸



Fast-growing plant-based food companies are “[scrambling to secure a supply chain](#),” according to Miyoko Schinner, CEO of Miyoko’s Creamery.

American Food Manufacturers Struggle to Buy American

“Plant-based food producers like us import raw materials from Vietnam and China because we can’t find ample sources here in the US. There’s far more demand by plant-based companies for fiber-rich crops than supply.” – Miyoko Schinner [[full remarks](#)]



This is America’s all-hands-on-deck moment. If America is going to cut GHG emissions in half by 2030, every industrial sector needs to pitch in.

A Fiber-rich Food Supply is Low-GHG

Prioritizing fiber-rich foods can conserve hundreds of millions of tons of CO₂-eq⁹ every year, making major head-way toward the nation’s goal to cut emissions in half by 2030.

American Farmers Need Options

The FARMS Act will offer a lifeline to small and mid-sized independent producers who are adapting to consolidating industries and rapidly evolving consumer demands. Take, for example, Dan and Paul – independent dairy farmers joining AFA in calling for Congress to introduce the FARMS Act and establish a diversification program.



“I would much rather get funding to transition to something better than get funding to keep producing milk for a market that already has a surplus.”

I support the creation of the FARMS Act, to assist farmers in transition to different lines of production, especially climate-healing crop production.”

– Dan, AFA Partner Farmer [[read Dan’s letter to his Federal Rep](#)]



“There are a number of farmers like me who can see what’s coming.

Whether it be climate or economic factors, keeping small or smaller farms in business, is going to require specific actions. We can’t all keep doing what we are doing. Dairy farming is mentally tough. Far too often we find out about a farmer who ran himself into the ground mentally, physically, or financially. It is a very real and common problem.”

– Paul, AFA Partner Farmer [[see Paul’s farm](#)]

→ [Read what other stakeholders say about FARMS](#)

The FARMS Act: Options for American Farmers to Deliver Fiber-rich Foods

With FARMS, farmers will have options to adapt and participate in the fast-growing plant-based food industry.¹⁰ As they diversify, they'll alleviate America's dietary fiber crisis.¹¹

FARMS is open to all small and mid-sized American agriculture producers and prioritizes Socially Disadvantaged farmers.

Fiber-rich Crops by State

→ [Read the Farm and Ranch Mobility Solutions Act](#)

It's not only AFA who recognizes that America faces a dietary-fiber crisis. On November 2, 2021, the Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing on the State of Nutrition in America 2021. Senators and panelists laid out a clear case for the FARMS Act. [Check it out.](#)

The nutrition crisis is a policy failure. While the government tells us our plates should consist largely of fruits & vegetables, currently less than 2% of federal agriculture subsidies go to these healthy foods.
Senator Cory Booker in the Nov 2 Hearing

1. <https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/should-i-be-eating-more-fiber-2019022115927>
2. <https://www.agriculturefairnessalliance.org/news/miyoko-schinner-on-why-america-needs-farm-transition-programs>
3. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/22/fact-sheet-president-biden-sets-2030-greenhouse-gas-pollution-reduction-target-aimed-at-creating-good-paying-union-jobs-and-securing-u-s-leadership-on-clean-energy-technologies/>
4. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/pub-details/?pubid=98900>
5. <https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/should-i-be-eating-more-fiber-2019022115927>
6. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cnpp/dietary-fiber-us-food-supply>
7. <https://sites.tufts.edu/nutrition/winter-2019/10-things-you-need-to-know-about-fiber/>
8. <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/infographic/chronic-diseases.htm>
9. <https://css.umich.edu/sites/default/files/publication/CSS20-01.pdf>
10. <https://www.agriculturefairnessalliance.org/news/miyoko-schinner-on-why-america-needs-farm-transition-programs/>
11. <https://afa.farm/fiber>