

COUNTY OF EL DORADO
Board of Supervisors

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GEORGE TURNBOO
SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT II

October 13, 2025

The Honorable Tom Schultz
U.S. Forest Service Chief

RE: Farm Bill Reinstatement (American Relief Act of 2025)

Dear Chief Schultz,

The El Dorado County District 2 Office of Supervisor George Turnboo requests that the Farm Bill be brought back and reintroduced as an important piece of the United States economy. The Farm Bill has been a backstop for industries suffering from unforeseen circumstances and also provided for disaster prevention and remediation. The Farm Bill has been an important piece of the economic puzzle for locals engaged in agricultural industries. El Dorado County relies on our agriculture and forest-based tourism industries that have been heavily impacted by the Farm Bill and underscore the importance of reinstatement.

The Farm Bill is important for Americans to secure loans, safety-net support programs, conservation programs, disaster assistance and forest management projects. The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 was the last time the Farm Bill was address, and the American Relief Act of 2025 only extended the benefits through September 30th, 2025. We now find ourselves needing to revive the Farm Bill and establish the benefits that have protected industry from collapse. Without the Farm Bill, there is a likely outcome that will negatively impact people of all backgrounds as the necessary protections are no longer in-place.

The Farm Bill impacts El Dorado County and residents active in agricultural programs, such as the Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) or Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP). The Eldorado National Forest makes up nearly half of El Dorado County, with other lands consisting of ranchers, beekeepers, timber harvesters, wineries, nature related tourism, and more. The Farm Bill has impacts across private and public lands in El Dorado County and touches nearly every industry in some way. El Dorado County relies on federal partners who are impacted and unable to do their part managing lands and tourists to our region in a safe and consistent manner. The Farm Bill is necessary to continue providing opportunities and safeguards for El Dorado County residents engaged in agricultural activities as a primary source of income.

Bringing back and reinstating the Farm Bill is essential for agricultural and forest-based tourism in our region. The El Dorado County District 2 Office of Supervisor George Turnboo recognizes

that the Farm Bill has been an important piece of the United States and local economy. The Farm Bill has been a backstop for industries suffering from unforeseen circumstances and provided for disaster prevention and remediation. Please consider bringing back and reinstating the Farm Bill so ranchers and residents can get back to work knowing that the federal government has opportunities and protections in place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Turnboo', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

George Turnboo
District 2 Supervisor
County of El Dorado