

# THE COALITION TO PROMOTE **U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports Applauds Introduction of the Expanding Agricultural Exports Act, Doubling Investments in Agricultural Export Programs**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports applauds Senators Angus King (I-ME), Joni Ernst (R-IA), Tina Smith (D-MN), Charles Grassley (R-IA), and Susan Collins (R-ME), and Representatives Dan Newhouse (R-WA-04), Jim Costa (D-CA-21), Tracey Mann (R-KS-01), Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-19), Ashley Hinson (R-IA-02), Kim Schrier (D-WA-08), Brad Finstad (R-MN-01), and Chellie Pingree (D-ME-01) for re-introducing the Expanding Agricultural Exports Act (EAEA) of 2023.

Previously named the CREAATE and SMART Act, respectively, this bicameral, bipartisan legislation would double funding for USDA's Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) Program. Both programs are critical to expanding global market access for U.S. produced agricultural exports.

A May 2022 econometric study conducted by IHS Markit and agricultural economists at Texas A&M University predicted that doubling funding for these programs would generate an additional \$44.4 billion in U.S. agricultural exports over the 2024-2029 time period. This would directly benefit farmers, livestock producers, dairy operators and small businesses as they work to maintain and expand their global presence. Additionally, these programs generate a net return of \$24.50 for every dollar spent and have contributed to the creation of 225,800 full- and part-time jobs across the U.S. economy.

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“We know these programs work, but we also know that our investments need to increase significantly to keep up with our competitors,” said Robbie Minnich, Director of Washington Operations for the National Cotton Council, and Chair of the Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports.

Recent studies show a surge in public agri-food export promotion investment by the European Union and other competitors. But MAP funding hasn’t been increased since 2006, and FMD funding hasn’t been increased in two decades.

“These investments are crucial to American farmers and small businesses,” Minnich said. “And that’s why we are so thankful to our Senate and House champions for their continued leadership and commitment to doubling funding for MAP and FMD.”

The legislation must now be considered by the Agriculture Committees, and the Coalition urges the Committees to swiftly consider and pass this important bill.

The Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports is a group of 150 organizations focused on protecting and enhancing U.S. agricultural export promotion programs to help America’s agricultural industry reach more consumer and compete in a dynamic global marketplace.

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