

# THE COALITION TO PROMOTE U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports Applauds Support for Increased Export Promotion Funding in Senate Farm Bill Framework

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports applauds Ranking Member John Boozman (R-Ark.) and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry for their support of doubling funding for agriculture export promotion programs in the next Farm Bill reauthorization. Yesterday, the committee released the Senate Republican Farm Bill Framework that would increase funding for USDA’s premier trade promotion programs, the Market Access Program (MAP) and the Foreign Market Development Program (FMD), for the first time since the 2002 Farm Bill.

“This framework echoes the [support for trade promotion programs in the “Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024,”](#) introduced last month,” said Robbie Minnich, Director of Washington Operations for the National Cotton Council and Chair of the Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports. “Doubling MAP and FMD was the most requested, bipartisan Farm Bill priority from Members of the House, and we are grateful that the Senate Agriculture Committee also recognizes the vital importance of this investment in agricultural trade. The Coalition urges the Committee and the full U.S. Senate to support expeditiously passing this overdue reauthorization.”

Doubling investment in the MAP and FMD programs has taken on added importance because U.S. agricultural exports are facing a third straight year of trade deficit. Combined, at least 60 bipartisan members of the U.S. House and Senate from across the nation are seeking to reverse this worrisome trend by cosponsoring S. 176, the Expanding Agricultural Exports Act and H.R. 648, the Agriculture Export Promotion Act.

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“We appreciate our Senate and House champions who are hearing the call for greater ag trade investment and are committed to leading the way to reverse three decades of declining funding in market access programs for U.S. agriculture,” Minnich said.

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

“There is no question that these programs work, but increased funding is vital for American farmers and small businesses to keep up with our competitors. We urge Congress to pass this Farm Bill as soon as possible.”

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 consumers and compete in a dynamic global marketplace.

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