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Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports Applauds Introduction of the Agriculture Export Promotion Act, Doubling Investments in Agricultural Export Programs

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Coalition to Promote U.S. Agricultural Exports applauds U.S. Representatives Dan Newhouse (R-WA-04), Tracey Mann (R-KS-01), Jim Costa (D-CA-21), Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-19), Ashley Hinson (R-IA-02), Brad Finstad (R-MN-01), Chellie Pingree (D-ME-01), and Kim Schrier (D-WA-08) for reintroducing the Agriculture Export Promotion Act of 2025. This 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 American agricultural exports.

"We thank these members of Congress for stepping up once more to support additional, long-term funding for agricultural export market development," said Robbie Minnich, Coalition Chair and Vice President, Washington Operations, for the National Cotton Council. "Most producers are struggling with low commodity prices and high input costs while our agricultural trade deficit and uncertainty over global trade are growing. The need for additional promotional funding has never been more urgent."

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The MAP and FMD programs are funded under the Trade Title of the Farm Bill but the investment has declined even in the face of global challenges and the need to expand and diversify markets. Funding for FMD has not changed in 23 years and MAP hasn't had a raise in 19 years.Adjusted for inflation and for sequestration, the real dollar value of each program continues to diminish. Fully one-third of MAP funding has been lost to sequestration, inflation, and program administration.

A series of program evaluations have shown MAP and FMD generate direct benefits to the American economy that have room to grow. 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 from 2024 to 2029.

"These programs represent a good government investment supporting American farmers, livestock producers, dairy operators and small businesses as they work to maintain and expand their global presence," Minnich said.

The Agriculture Export Promotion Act of 2025 must now be considered by the House Agriculture Committees, and the Coalition urges their swift consideration .

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. For more information, visit www.AgExportsCount.com.

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