

## **Biofuels Programs:**

Biofuels represent a clear domestic market opportunity for agricultural products. Corn and soybeans are used in the production of ethanol and biodiesel.

The Trump Administration must finalize rulemaking under the Renewable Fuels Standard to support biofuels production. The sooner the better.

Other congressional committees have jurisdiction over year-round nationwide E15 legislation, though I think any E15 legislation should be common sense enough to bypass committees and go straight to the Senate floor.

The Senate Ag Committee, however, has jurisdiction over the biofuels programs at USDA. Many of these programs, like the nine thousand three Bio-preferred program, are waiting reauthorization from this committee to continue beyond September 30, largely halting utilization from industry.

## **QUESTION FOR MR. METZGER AND MR. BOWER:**

Mr. Metzger and Mr. Bower, could you speak to how the bio-preferred program has increased the demand for corn and soybeans and the importance of authorizing this program for five years?

## **Proposition 12:**

California represents around 15 percent of the US domestic market for pork products.

California's Proposition 12 prevents pig farmers across the United States from accessing that significant domestic market.

The House Agriculture Committee has included a solution to Prop 12 in the Farm Bill they passed last week. The Senate Ag Committee has the opportunity to do the same.

## **QUESTIONS FOR MR. DUVALL:**

1. How does complying with the big government regulations in Prop 12 cost family farmers in the US?
2. Did Prop 12 create a new market for pork in California or just make it harder for farmers to access existing demand?

## **Incentivizing Grazing:**

Mr. Duvall and Mr. Purdue, both of your organizations represent row crop and livestock farmers.

Raising livestock right now is a bright spot in US farm profitability, however, in 2025 the US cattle herd shrank for the seventh year in a row. Access to land is one barrier to increasing the herd.

Instead of making farmers fight the federal government for land access, Congress can reduce red tape in programs like the Conservation Reserve Program so that farmers can follow market signals faster.

One way to do that is by shifting the focus from General CRP – where it requires an emergency to graze cattle – to Grasslands CRP where grazing is a normal part of the program.

## **QUESTIONS FOR MR. DUVALL AND MR. PURDUE:**

1. How could increasing Grassland CRP acres help lower costs for cattle producers and increase the cattle herd?
2. How would a larger cattle herd help row crop farmers and consumer costs at the grocery store?