

## The CARES Act provisions for Agriculture

### Relief for Farmers and Ranchers

- **\$9.5 billion dedicated disaster fund to help farmers** who are experiencing financial losses from the coronavirus crisis, including targeted support for fruit and vegetable growers, dairy and livestock farmers, and local food producers, who have been shorted from receiving emergency assistance in the past.
- **\$14 billion to fund the Farm Bill's farm safety net** through the Commodity Credit Corporation.
- **Eligibility for farmers and agricultural and rural businesses to receive up to \$10 million in small business interruption loans** from eligible lenders, including Farm Credit institutions, through the Small Business Administration. Repayment forgiveness will be provided for funds used for payroll, rent or mortgage, and utility bills.
- **\$3 million to increase capacity at the USDA Farm Service Agency** to meet increased demand from farmers affected by the coronavirus crisis.

### Assistance for Small Towns and Rural Communities

- **\$1 billion available in guaranteed loans to help rural businesses** weather the economic downturn.
- **\$100 billion to hospitals, health care providers, and facilities**, including those in rural areas.
- **\$25 million for telemedicine tools** to help rural patients access medical care no matter where they live.
- **\$100 million for high speed internet expansion** in small towns and rural communities.
- **Over \$70 million to help the U.S. Forest Service serve rural communities and reduce the spread of coronavirus** through personal protective equipment for first responders and cleaning of facilities.

### Protections for Consumers and the Food Supply

- **\$55 million for inspection and quarantine** at our borders to protect against invasive pests and animal disease.
- **\$33 million for overtime and temporary food safety inspectors** to protect America's food supply at meat processing plants.
- **\$45 million to ensure quality produce and meat reaches grocery stores** through increased support for the Agricultural Marketing Service.
- **\$1.5 million to expedite EPA approvals of disinfectants** needed to control the spread of coronavirus.

### **Food Access for Families**

- **\$15.8 billion to fund food assistance changes** made in the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#). Republicans and the Trump Administration blocked additional funding to expand benefits for children, families, and seniors.
- **\$9 billion to fund child nutrition improvements** made in the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#).
- **\$450 million to provide food banks** with additional resources for food and distribution.
- **\$100 million for food distribution in Tribal communities** to provide facility improvements, equipment upgrades, and food purchases.