

American Dairy Coalition: Supports the inclusion of the Agriculture Guestworker Act (AG Act) in the Securing America's Future Act

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The 30,000 producers represented by the American Dairy Coalition support the inclusion of the Agriculture Guestworker Act (AG Act) in the Securing America's Future Act.

The recently modified language of the AG Act, contained in the Securing America's Future Act, represents an opportunity for dairy, livestock and agriculture producers from across our nation to secure the reliable labor force necessary to ensure access to safe and affordable nutrition for families across the globe.

Farmers of the dairy, livestock and agriculture industries contribute billions of dollars to the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Year after year, the domestic workforce passes up the labor-intensive jobs that are required to produce food, despite increased wages and employee benefit packages. With the global population projected to reach 10 billion by the year 2050, the dairy, livestock and agriculture industries are tasked with providing affordable, safe and abundant nutrition to more individuals than ever before in human history.

Without a viable workforce, American consumers will be importing food from other countries that do not have the high standards our farmers and consumers relish in

the United States.

According to a Texas A&M study on “The Economic Impacts of Immigrant Labor on Dairy Farms,” 51% of the labor on dairy farms, which produce approximately 80% of our nation’s milk supply, is composed of immigrant labor. If all immigrant labor on dairy farms were to suddenly disappear, the following catastrophic results would occur:

U.S. dairy herd would be reduced by 2.1 million cows

Retail milk prices would increase by 90.4 percent

U.S. economic output reduction would be by \$32.1 billion

An estimated hundreds of thousands of dairy-related jobs would be eliminated

The dairy industry has waited more than 20 years for positive immigration reform. The American Dairy Coalition, and the thousands of producers we represent across the nation, commend the hard work of the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Bob Goodlatte, for his recent modifications to the AG Act language. ADC will continue to work with the Chairman to ensure the dire need of our industry for a reliable labor force does not become any worse.

We ask that all legislators support producers across the nation by supporting the inclusion of the AG Act within the Securing America’s Future Act. Our future and the future generations of farmers depend on efficient access to workers in order to provide timely, affordable and safe agricultural products to our growing national and global population.

ADC Represents more than 30,000 Dairy Producers from Across the Country

The American Dairy Coalition will continue to represent dairy producers from across the nation in the coming year and is taking on high priority issues that face the dairy industry such as, ensuring a reliable labor force, increasing the sale of dairy products both domestically and overseas, actively engaging and advocating for members throughout the 2018 Farm Bill process and reducing over burdensome environmental regulations that do nothing more than cost our members additional dollars with no benefit to the environment. To learn more about the American Dairy Coalition and our membership opportunities, please contact us using the information below.

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