

U.S. Sen. Johnson: And bipartisan group of senators introduce bill to expand family farm reorganization options

Posted on Wednesday, Mar 27, 2019

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

Contact:

[Ben Voelkel](#)

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), with a bipartisan group of senators led by Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), introduced the *Family Farmer Relief Act of 2019* Wednesday, legislation that would help family farms reorganize after falling on hard times.

“For a host of reasons, farm bankruptcies have increased. Current policies don’t accurately reflect the increased cost of running a farm in today’s day and age. This legislation is designed to help keep more of Wisconsin’s family farms operating by allowing them access to a streamlined path to reorganization to get through tough times,” Johnson said.

Text of the legislation can be found [here](#).

Recognizing the unique challenges that family farmers and fishers face, Congress established Chapter 12 of the U.S. bankruptcy code, which removes certain costly reorganization requirements intended for large corporations. The *Family Farmer Relief Act of 2019* raises the Chapter 12 operating debt cap to \$10 million, allowing more family farmers to seek relief under the program.

Sens. Johnson and Grassley were joined in introducing the legislation by Sens. Amy

Klobuchar (D-Minn.), Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), Doug Jones (D-Ala.), Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) and Tina Smith (D-Minn.).