

WisDems: WFU President responds to Trump's visit, reports that he'll announce farm aid

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(WISCONSIN) — In response to Trump's visit and report's he'll announce additional aid for farmers, Wisconsin Farmers Union President Darin Von Ruden released the following statement:

"Donald Trump continues to think he can buy farmers off, but after devastating our industry — including the loss of over 2255 dairy farms since Trump took office and a record 818 shutting down forever last year — we know this is nothing more than an 11th hour campaign stunt; this is too little too late. Trump failed us when he engaged in meaningless trade wars; he abandoned us when he used "bailouts" to give handouts to big Ag who further gobbled up small and medium-sized family farms, he's shown he's in the pocket of Big Oil as he continues to undermine the Renewable Fuel Standard, and now he's doubling down on what we've always known: we're nothing more than a pawn to Trump.

"Wisconsin farmers are vital to our state and national economy, and are also husbands and fathers, daughters and mothers. But Trump has treated us and thrown us away like we're nothing, and we deserve more from our president. Farmers don't want handouts, we want sound, reliable markets that can provide for our families and won't be devastated the way Trump eviscerated the markets that had been supporting Wisconsin families for decades."

Additional Background

- Wisconsin farmers are facing a once-in-a-generation crisis: 2019 was one of the worst years in recent memory, with [818 dairy farms](#) closing their doors as

the state [led](#) the nation in farm bankruptcies.

- Donald Trump's Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, blew off these closures when in Wisconsin last year, [saying](#): "In America, the big get bigger and the small go out. I don't think in America we, for any small business, we have a guaranteed income or guaranteed profitability."
- The Trump Administration has not provided any assistance to biofuels producers during COVID-19 and is now considering a \$300 million [bailout](#) of Big Oil through the Department of Agriculture. Once [again](#), Donald Trump is siding with oil companies over farmers.