

WASHINGTON WATCH 2023



WASHINGTON WATCH INFORMATION

HOTEL

Holiday Inn Capitol
550 C Street SW
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 479-4000

REGISTRATION

Name badges will be available at the Member Business Meeting Monday afternoon.

Sponsored by Syngenta

NAME BADGES

Name badges must be worn for entry to all programs, events, and functions.

Lanyards sponsored by Syngenta

MEETING ATTIRE

Washington Watch is “business” with the exception of the Tuesday reception, which is “business casual.” Please remember to wear comfortable shoes, as there will be plenty of walking.

MULT BOXES

Mult boxes will be stationed at programming sessions for broadcasters to connect their recorders into the sound system.

TRANSPORTATION

Members who requested WMATA passes for the metro service should have recieved them in the mail in advance of the meeting. In addition, registered attendees may pick up an Uber gift card at registration.

Transportation sponsored by the American Feed Industry Association and American Farm Bureau Federation

NAFB NEWS SERVICE



The NAFB News Service connects you to current agricultural news from around the country and from fellow NAFB members.

The News Service provides Broadcast Council members with current news, information, commodity prices, and more in a single location. The News Service is located on NAFB.com. Once logged in, broadcasters find ready-to-use audio reports for daily broadcasts.

Stories available online are provided by NAFB members, industry partners, and NAFB News Service staff. Farm broadcasters from across the country submit audio and scripts for use by other broadcasters. Industry partners work with the News Service to produce and distribute news and information on product updates, legislative issues, and association news, utilizing the News Service as an effective and efficient way to connect with more than 180 Broadcast Council members.

The NAFB News Service connects daily with more than 70 member stations and more than 40 networks. NAFB members may be heard daily on more than 1,500 radio, TV, and satellite stations throughout the United States.

For more information on how to access the NAFB News Service or how to utilize the News Service for your next product announcement, contact Micheal Clements at news@nafb.com or at phone (816) 226-4063.

FUTURE NAFB NATIONAL MEETING DATES

80th NAFB Convention
November 15-17, 2023
Westin Crown Center
Kansas City, Missouri

81st NAFB Convention
November 13-15, 2024
Westin Crown Center
Kansas City, Missouri



WASHINGTON WATCH SOCIAL MEDIA

Post and follow Washington Watch 2023 on social media with the official hashtag:

#NAFBWW23

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2023 Washington Watch Committee



Spencer Chase
Agri-Pulse Communications
Washington, DC



Jeff Nalley
Cromwell Ag Radio Network
Utika, Kentucky



Stephanie Hoff
Midwest Farm Report
Radio Network
Madison, Wisconsin



Michelle Stangler
University of Wisconsin -
River Falls
Watertown, Wisconsin



Dustin Hoffmann
Iowa Agribusiness
Radio Network
Des Moines, Iowa



Mary Kay Thatcher
Syngenta
Washington, DC



Susan Littlefield
KRVN Rural Radio Network
Surprise, Nebraska



Brian Winnekins
WRDN Radio
Durand, Wisconsin



Former Minnesota Congressman and Agriculture Committee Chair Collin Peterson was a frequent guest at Washington Watch. In 2013, Peterson and his band of other Congressmen, The Second Amendments, joined NAFB for an evening reception and entertainment.

Welcome to Washington Watch 2023!

Over the next couple of days, you will have the opportunity to gain more insight into the world of agriculture from a D.C. perspective, from our annual trip to the USDA to the Issues Forum and time on the Hill.

Our time in Washington, D.C., is the chance for us to meet with members of Congress and their staffs along with government movers, industry partners, and other farm broadcasters. You are the link to those at home who are impacted by the discussions taking place this week.

With the next Farm Bill in the works, we will hear many perspectives on what should and shouldn't be included in the bill. We will have the opportunity to join many discussions on agriculture during the annual Issues Forum, and we are excited to hear from our dinner speaker, FBI Special Agent Jonathan Lund, as he talks about security in agriculture.

Our annual trip to the USDA will bring a full slate of speakers from within the department on Tuesday, which will be followed by additional Farm Bill dialogues and climate smart commodities speakers. A trip to the FCC also is planned with an update on AM radio's importance in the automotive industry on the docket.

I encourage you to wrap up your Tuesday work early and join us for an evening monuments bus tour; seeing these historic markers at night is breathtaking!

Then Wednesday, we will wrap up our annual Washington Watch meeting with a trip to Capitol Hill to hear from 15 Congressmen and Senators on their agriculture perspectives.

We appreciate you joining us and hope your time in Washington, D.C., is busy but fruitful as you take home all that you heard from our nation's capital.

Sincerely,



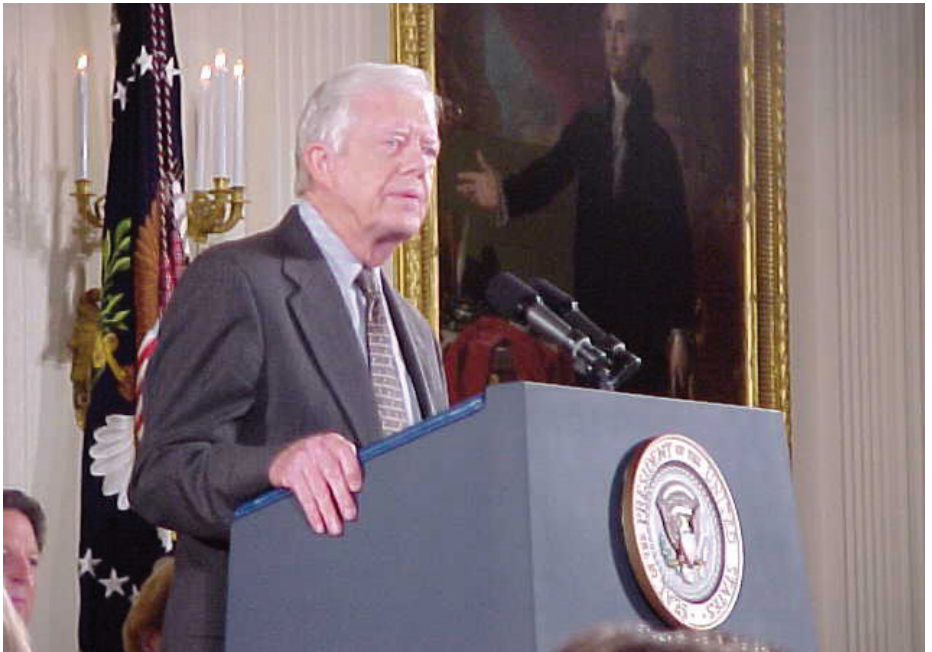
Susan Littlefield
2023 Washington Watch Chair



The logo for Washington Watch features the word "WASHINGTON" in a large, stylized, blue, handwritten-style font with a gold outline. Below it, the word "WATCH" is written in a smaller, blue, serif font.



In 2006, NAFB members met with Natural Resources Conservation Service Chief Bruce Knight during their visit to USDA headquarters.



In 2000, NAFB members were guests at the White House for a permanent normal trade relations meeting regarding China. Former President Jimmy Carter was one of two past presidents to address the group, along with then-current President Bill Clinton.



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RFA is proud to support the National Association of Farm Broadcasting. We salute the work you do keeping rural America informed and engaged.

www.EthanolRFA.org

Twitter: @EthanolRFA

We'll see you at the Issues Forum!

Monday, April 17

- 8:30 a.m. **NAFB Board of Directors Meeting**
Holiday Inn Capitol: House
- 2 p.m. **NAFB Member Business Meeting & Registration**
Holiday Inn Capitol: Congressional II
Registration Sponsor: Syngenta
- 3-6 p.m. **Issues Forum**
Holiday Inn Capitol: Capitol Ballroom
Please see listings in the back section of this program.
Issues Forum Sponsor: National Cattlemen's Beef Association
- 6-6:45 p.m. **Issues Forum Reception**
Holiday Inn Capitol: Congressional Foyer
Reception Sponsor: United Soybean Board
- 7 p.m. **Dinner & Speaker**
Holiday Inn Capitol: Congressional II
Dinner Sponsor: Farm Credit



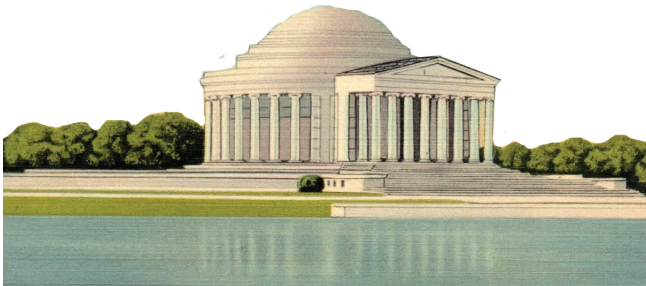
Jonathan Lund

Special Agent

Federal Bureau of Investigation

 **@FBI**

Jonathan Lund grew up on the panhandle of Florida, where his first job working in a large wholesale nursery instilled in him a love of growing. Prior to joining the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in 2009, Lund attended University of New Mexico, studying accounting. He obtained a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license while auditing at KPMG, focusing on government clients including the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Energy. With Pulte and KB Homes, Lund served as a controller and vice president of finance, guiding land development and home sales in the division. As an FBI agent, Lund worked for years combating white-collar crime in the Washington, D.C., area with a focus on real estate and bank fraud. Currently, Lund's investigative efforts target cybercrime taking place globally in such areas as ransomware, business email compromises, online-based virtual currency money laundering platforms, cyber extortions, and computer hacking investigative efforts. With a family of six well-rooted in northern Virginia, Lund enjoys coaching youth sports, working with the Boy Scouts of America, and finding opportunities to contribute in the local community on justserve.org.



Tuesday, April 18

7 a.m.

Optional — meet to walk to USDA as a group
Holiday Inn Capitol: Lobby

7:15 a.m.

Arrive on your own to USDA — Whitten Building
1400 Independence Avenue SW — Jefferson Drive Entrance
(Please allow time to get through security — BRING PHOTO ID.)

Continental Breakfast

Whitten Building — Williamsburg Room 107-a
Breakfast Sponsor: **Agricultural Retailers Association**

Speakers

Williamsburg Room 104-a

8 a.m.



Hubert Hamer

*Administrator
National Agricultural Statistics Service*

 @usda_nass

Hubert Hamer has served as the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) administrator since 2016. He brings extensive experience in all aspects of the agency's work. Before becoming administrator, he served as director of the statistics division, which produces and releases more than 400 national statistical reports each year covering the agency's crops, livestock, economic, demographic, environmental, and census programs. He also served as executive director of the NASS Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) and executive director of the advisory committee on agriculture statistics. From 2010 until he became head of the statistics division, Hamer was chair of the ASB, leading the preparation and dissemination of market-sensitive reports compiled and issued under special security conditions known as Lockup. Since joining NASS, Hamer has served in a number of capacities in Washington, D.C., as well as the Louisiana, Illinois, and Missouri field offices. Hamer was born on a small livestock and row-crop farm in Benton County, Mississippi, and later continued his development in Grand Junction, Tennessee. He is a graduate of Tennessee State University.

8:20 a.m.



Robert Bonnie

*Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation
Risk Management Agency*

 @FarmersGov

Robert Bonnie is the under secretary for farm production and conservation at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Prior to joining USDA, Bonnie was at Duke University first as a Rubenstein fellow and later as an executive in residence at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, working on conservation and environmental issues in rural America. In 2020, Bonnie also worked with the Bipartisan Policy Center on its Farm and Forest Carbon Solutions Initiative. Bonnie was under secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA from 2013 to 2017 and a senior advisor to Secretary Tom Vilsack from 2009 to 2013. Prior to joining USDA, Bonnie was vice president for land conservation at Environmental Defense Fund, where he focused on developing incentives to reward stewardship on private lands. Robert has master's degrees from Duke in forestry and environmental management. He lives with his wife, Julie, and daughter, Lilly, in Loudoun County, Virginia.

Tuesday, April 18

8:40 a.m.



Delores Dean

*Deputy Administrator
Risk Management Agency*

 [@usdaRMA](#)

Delores Dean currently serves as the deputy administrator for insurance services at the Risk Management Agency (RMA), where her primary task is to administer program policies and procedures related to the delivery of the federal crop insurance program. Dean plans, develops, and manages significant aspects of the program including regional underwriting; program evaluation and maintenance; Approved Insurance Provider oversight; monitoring and approval; and education, outreach and stakeholder engagement. She also provides guidance and direction to the ten regional offices she manages across the country. Prior to this role, Dean was the associate deputy administrator from 2015 to 2020 and managed a wide variety of administrative activities on behalf the insurance services division and RMA. She began her federal career in 1991 and served in various financial management roles, including RMA's budget officer from 2007 to 2015, where she managed about \$14 billion annually. In addition to her RMA experience, Dean participated in the President's Management Council Interagency Rotation program in 2013, where she spent time at the Office of Personnel Management, supporting development of the senior executive performance management system. She also spent seven years, between 2001 and 2008, either at the USDA Farm Service Agency supporting farm programs or at the Department of State managing the departmentwide budget development system. Dean is a native of Alexandria, Virginia, and still resides there today with her family.

9 a.m.



Marcus Graham

*Deputy Administrator for Field Operations
Farm Service Agency*

 [@usdafsa](#)

Marcus Graham is the deputy administrator for field operations (DAFO) for the Farm Service Agency (FSA). As DAFO, Graham oversees the supervision and oversight of FSA's state and county offices. DAFO serves as the primary liaison between field and headquarters offices on agency-wide issues; it also plays a critical role in the efficient, effective, and consistent delivery of agency programs, administrative operations, and the use of agency resources in FSA state and county offices. Graham was previously employed with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for more than a decade. He has worked on the county, state, and national levels with FSA in various positions, including legislative director, office of external affairs; senior policy advisor to the FSA administrator; and senior loan specialist in the farm loan division. In addition to his FSA employment, Graham served on the U.S. Senate committee on agriculture, nutrition, and forestry under Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow from 2011-2012. Graham graduated from Tennessee State University with a master of science in agribusiness and a bachelor of science in agribusiness and economics.



Steven Peterson
Associate Administrator
Farm Service Agency

@usdafsa

Steven Peterson currently serves as the associate administrator for the Farm Service Agency (FSA). In this position, he provides leadership for FSA and its mission to support agricultural production across America through a network of more than 2,100 county and 50 state offices. Peterson began his federal government career in Pennsylvania and served as the county executive director. He later was employed by FSA in Maryland as a program specialist. For the past 22 years, he has worked in the FSA national office in Washington, D.C., serving as a program specialist, branch chief, director of the FSA production, emergencies, and compliance division; and most recently, associate administrator for FSA. Peterson is a 2006 graduate of the Federal Executive Institute Leadership for a Democratic Society Program, and he holds a bachelor of science degree in biology with a concentration in botany from Towson University. A native of Maryland, Peterson farmed with his father his entire life but has taken a hiatus since 2016. Peterson has three adult daughters; he and his wife live in Maryland.

9:50 a.m.



Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation

@SecretaryPete

Pete Buttigieg currently serves as the 19th United States secretary of transportation, having been sworn in February 3, 2021. Prior to joining the Biden-Harris administration, Secretary Buttigieg served two terms as mayor of his hometown of South Bend, Indiana. A graduate of Harvard University and a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, Buttigieg served for seven years as an officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve, taking a leave of absence from the mayor's office for a deployment to Afghanistan in 2014. He returned to the Midwest after school, worked in the private sector, and was elected mayor of South Bend in 2011, with a focus on delivering a new future for the city through a fresh approach to politics and bold ideas. His leadership helped spark citywide job growth and facilitated innovative public-private partnerships like Commuters Trust, a benefits program designed to improve the city's transportation experience for workers. In 2019, he launched his historic campaign for president. Throughout 2020, he campaigned for the election of the Biden-Harris ticket and served on the advisory board for the presidential transition. In December, he was nominated by President-Elect Biden to be secretary of transportation. He was confirmed by the Senate on February 2, 2021, becoming the first openly gay person confirmed to serve in a president's cabinet. Buttigieg lives with his husband Chasten, their two children Joseph and Penelope, and their two dogs.

10:40 a.m.



Melissa Bailey
Associate Administrator
Agricultural Marketing Service

@USDA_AMS

Dr. Melissa R. Bailey is an associate administrator of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). In this position, Bailey supports the agency's daily operations and program delivery including the implementation of key pandemic-related activities, and it provides overall management and policy direction for USDA's supply chain assessment work. She has served in leadership positions in four different AMS programs since joining government service more than 13 years ago. Prior to joining USDA, Bailey worked in food/agriculture business consulting and academia. She holds a B.S. in biology from Northeastern University, an M.S. in animals & public policy from Tufts University's School of Veterinary Medicine, and a Ph.D. in nutrition (focus on agricultural policy) from Tufts University's School of Nutrition Science and Policy.

Tuesday, April 18

11 a.m.



Farah Ahmad

*Deputy Undersecretary
Rural Development*

 [@usdaRD](https://twitter.com/usdaRD)

Farah Ahmad serves as the Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development. She has spent her career advancing policies and programs that promote economic inclusion and opportunity. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Ahmad served as Chief of Staff in the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development. Ms. Ahmad started with USDA in 2015 as a Program Manager with the Rural Business-Cooperative Service's Community and Economic Development program. In 2017, Ms. Ahmad moved to the Office of Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, where she managed financial resiliency programs and strategic and operational initiatives as the Senior Program Coordinator. She also served as a Senior Policy Analyst for the Center for American Progress where she helped advance evidence-based economic policies that centered on racial equity before rejoining the USDA. Farah Ahmad holds a Master of Public Affairs from the Princeton University School of Public and International Affairs and a Bachelor of Science from the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

Tuesday, April 18

Notes

Tuesday, April 18

11:15 a.m.

Boxed Lunch

Holiday Inn Capitol: Capitol I

Sponsor: Corn Refiners Association

Policy Insights

Holiday Inn Capitol - Capitol I

1 p.m. **Farm Bill Update: What's the Latest and What is Realistic?**

Randy Russell

 @RussellGroupDC

President, The Russell Group



Randy Russell was born and raised in Virginia. Prior to joining The Russell Group in 1986, Russell served in a number of agricultural policy positions, both inside and outside of government, including chief of staff for Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block, deputy assistant secretary for economics at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), vice president for agriculture and trade policy at the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, director of government relations for The Pillsbury Company, and 1981 Farm Bill coordinator for the USDA. Russell also served on the Senate agriculture committee staff for former Senator Rudy Boschwitz (R-MN). Russell attended George Mason University (GMU), where he conducted both his undergraduate studies in public administration and graduate studies in economics. He is a proud alumni member of GMU's baseball team, where he played catcher. Russell currently serves on the board of directors for World Food Program USA and previously served as chairman. The World Food Program raises awareness and funding to fight hunger around the globe. He also has been actively involved in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program in northern Virginia; he was a Big Brother for ten years and was named president, vice president, and treasurer of the Northern Virginia Council of Big Brothers/Big Sisters and served on the board of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the National Capital Area. Russell also serves on the board of governors of the Bryce Harlow Foundation, encouraging the highest standards for professional lobbying and government affairs, and he has and continues to serve as a mentor for fellowship recipients interested in going into advocacy. Russell and his wife, Beth, live in McLean, Virginia, and have six children. The Russells are co-founders of The Golden Phoenix Foundation, working to address the issue of childhood abandonment around the world. He and Beth also are active members of the National Council for Adoption, which helps promote domestic and foreign adoptions as well as foster care. Additionally, the couple has a small farm in Round Hill, Virginia, where they raise alpacas as well as an assortment of other animals.



Tuesday, April 18

2:30 p.m. Partnership for Climate Smart Commodities: What is USDA Looking For? Bruce Knight

Principal and Founder, Strategic Conservation Solutions



Bruce Knight is a nationally recognized expert on conservation, agriculture, and the environment. With a long track record of bringing strategic workable solutions to complex and controversial issues, he understands the workings of farm and conservation policy from the grassroots to the national level. Drawing on his experience as a former association executive, lobbyist, regulator, and Capitol Hill staffer, Knight has a broad understanding of how Washington works, but he also brings

firsthand knowledge of farming to his national policymaking credentials. Knight was the under secretary for marketing and regulatory programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) from 2006-2009. In this post, he provided leadership and oversight for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Agricultural Marketing Service, and the Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration. From 2002 to 2006, Knight served as chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the lead USDA agency for conservation on private working agricultural lands. Knight provided the strategic vision for the development, implementation, and management of the largest expansion of working lands conservation programs in the agency's history. Knight also has many years of experience in developing U.S. agricultural policies and programs as a congressional staff member and on behalf of major agricultural producer groups. He served on the staff of Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, Kansas, focusing on development of the conservation title of the 1996 Farm Bill and was a legislative assistant to Rep. Fred Grandy, Iowa, and Sen. James Abdnor, South Dakota. In addition, Knight served as vice president for public policy for the National Corn Growers Association and also worked for the National Association of Wheat Growers. A third-generation rancher and farmer and lifelong conservationist, Knight operates a diversified grain and cattle operation using no-till and rest rotation grazing systems. His farming and ranching background gives him the opportunity to practice stewardship and husbandry, providing firsthand knowledge of the interdependency of animal, plant, and human health with the environment. Knight attended South Dakota University. He is married and has two children. He is a member of the Vienna Presbyterian Church in Virginia and is an avid sportsman.

WASHINGTON
WATCH

Tuesday, April 18

Reception

4:30-6:30 p.m.

National Cattlemen's Beef Association Headquarters

1275 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20004

Please use the 13th Street entrance, then take the elevator to the 14th floor.

Sponsor: The Fertilizer Institute

Washington Monuments Tour

7 p.m.

Meet in the hotel lobby to board the guided tour bus.

Stops include the U.S. Capitol, White House, World War II Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial,

Korean War Memorial, and Iwo Jima Memorial.

Sponsor: National Corn Growers Association



The history of farm broadcasters meeting in Washington, D.C., dates back to the first years of the association, as NARFD members met with President Harry Truman in 1946 at the White House.

Wednesday, April 19

6:30 a.m. Optional — Meet to walk to Rayburn House Office Building as a group.
Holiday Inn Capitol: Lobby

7:15 a.m. Arrive on your own to Rayburn House Office Building
Room 2362-A (Ag Appropriations Subcommittee Room)
(Please allow time to get through security — BRING PHOTO ID.)


Continental Breakfast
Sponsor: Associated Milk Producers Inc.

Capitol Hill Speakers 7:40 a.m.-12:20 p.m.

7:40 a.m.



Senator John Boozman

 @JohnBoozman

Arkansas (R)

Senate Agriculture Committee Ranking Member

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs; Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works; Senate Committee on Appropriations

8 a.m.



Congressman Tracey Mann

 @RepMann

Kansas (R) - District 1

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Small Business; House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

8:20 a.m.



Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger

 @RepSpanberger

Virginia (D) - District 7

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Foreign Affairs; House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

8:40 a.m.



Senator Debbie Stabenow

 @SenStabenow

Michigan (D)

Senate Agriculture Committee Chair

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Joint Committee on Taxation; Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works; Senate Committee on Budget; Senate Committee on Finance

Wednesday, April 19

9 a.m.



Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson  [@CongressmanGT](#)
Pennsylvania (R) - District 15
House Agriculture Committee Chair

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Education and the Workforce

9:20 a.m.



Congressman Mark Alford
Missouri (R) - District 4

 [@RepMarkAlford](#)

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Small Business; House Committee on Armed Services

9:40 a.m.



Congressman Brad Finstad
Minnesota (R) - District 1

 [@RepFinstad](#)

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Armed Services

10 a.m.



Congresswoman Kathryn Cammack  [@RepKatCammack](#)
Florida (R) - District 3

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Energy and Commerce

10:20 a.m.



Congressman Dustin Johnson
South Dakota (R) - At Large

 [@RepDustyJohnson](#)

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; House Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party

10:40 a.m.



Congressman Rick Crawford
Arkansas (R) - District 1

 [@RepRickCrawford](#)

House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Wednesday, April 19

10:40 a.m.



Congressman Max Miller

Ohio (R) - District 7

@RepMaxMiller

House Committee on Agriculture; House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

11 a.m.



Senator Roger Marshall

Kansas (R)

@RogerMarshallMD

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs; Senate Committee on Budget

11:20 a.m.



Senator John Thune

South Dakota (R)

Senate Minority Whip

@SenJohnThune

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Senate Committee on Finance

11:40 a.m.



Congressman Austin Scott

Georgia (R) - District 8

House Agriculture Committee Vice Chair

@RepAustinScottGA08

House Committee on Agriculture; House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; House Committee on Armed Services

12 p.m.



Senator John Hoeven

North Dakota (R)

@SenJohnHoeven

Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; Senate Committee on Appropriations; Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

**WASHINGTON
WATCH**

Wednesday, April 19

Federal Communications Commission Visit

12 p.m.

45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

(Please allow time to get through security — BRING PHOTO ID.)



Geoffrey Starks

Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission

 [@GeoffreyStarks](https://twitter.com/GeoffreyStarks)

Commissioner **Geoffrey Starks** believes communications technology has the potential to be one of the most powerful forces on earth for promoting equality and opportunity. Because high-quality broadband is essential to participating in our economy and society, he has been a champion for the millions of

Americans who lack access to or cannot afford a home internet connection. As a native Kansan, he understands the communications needs of rural America. Starks has consistently advocated for broadband deployment that helps rural communities tap into economic and educational opportunities that may not be close to home, which both encourages young people to stay and attracts new residents and employers. Previously, Starks helped lead the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, handling a wide variety of complex investigations. Starks also is a leader on national security policy, working to eliminate untrustworthy equipment from America's communications networks. His Find It, Fix It, Fund It initiative brought national attention to the urgent need to support small and rural companies as they work to make their networks more secure. With regard to personal data security, Starks fully supports the promise of advanced wireless service and other cutting-edge technologies, and he works to ensure all communities share in the benefits of these advancements. Before he entered federal public service, Starks practiced law at Williams & Connolly, clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit, served as a legislative staffer in the Illinois State Senate, and worked as a financial analyst. He graduated from Harvard College with high honors and Yale Law School. He lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Lauren, and their two children.

1 p.m.



Jessica Rosenworcel

Chairwoman

Federal Communications Commission

 [@JRosenworcelFCC](https://twitter.com/JRosenworcelFCC)

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairwoman **Jessica Rosenworcel** believes the future belongs to the connected. She works to promote greater opportunity, accessibility, and affordability in our communications services in order to ensure all Americans get a fair shot at 21st-century success. From

fighting to protect net neutrality to ensuring access to the internet for students caught in the Homework Gap, Rosenworcel has been a consistent champion for connecting all. She is a leader in spectrum policy, developing new ways to support wireless services from Wi-Fi to video and the internet of things. She also is responsible for developing policies to help expand the reach of broadband to schools, libraries, hospitals, and households across the country. Named as one of POLITICO's 50 Politicos to Watch and profiled by InStyle Magazine in a series celebrating "women who show up, speak up, and get things done," Rosenworcel brings more than two decades of communications policy experience and public service to the FCC. Prior to joining the agency, she served as senior communications counsel for the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, under the leadership of Senator John D. Rockefeller IV and Senator Daniel Inouye. Before entering public service, Rosenworcel practiced communications law in Washington, D.C. Rosenworcel is a native of Hartford, Connecticut. She is a graduate of Wesleyan University and New York University School of Law. She lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband and two children.

ISSUES FORUM

sponsored by



National Cattlemen's
Beef Association

Agricultural Retailers Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- Courtney Baird, manager, communications & partnerships, courtney@aradc.org
- Hunter Carpenter, senior director, public policy, hunter@aradc.org

TOPICS:

- transportation/supply chain solutions (truck, rail, etc)
- Farm Bill reauthorization
- ag labor reform
- economic growth & trade
- energy, an all-of-the-above approach
- modern ag technologies (pesticides, fertilizers, biostimulants, seed, precision ag)

Media Contact:

Andrea Mowers

Director, Communications & Member Experience

(202) 595-1729

andrea@aradc.org

<https://www.aradc.org>

American Farm Bureau Federation

SPOKESPERSON:

- Joby Young, executive vice president, jfy@fb.org
- Roger Cryan, chief economist, rogerc@fb.org

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill
- regulations
- trade
- farm economy
- dairy
- labor

Media Contact:

Mike Tomko

Director of Communications

(202) 406-3617

miket@fb.org

fb.org

American Feed Industry Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- Constance Cullman, president & CEO, ccullman@afia.org
- Mallory Gaines, director of market access & trade policy, mgaines@afia.org
- Lacie Dotterweich, manager of communications & social media, ldotterweich@afia.org

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill
- FDA Feed Ingredient Review program
- trade
- sustainability

Media Contact:

Victoria Broehm
Senior Director of Communications
(703) 558-3579
vbroehm@afia.org
afia.org

American Seed Trade Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- Andy LaVigne, president & CEO, alavigne@betterseed.org
- Janae Brady, VP, government affairs, jbrady@betterseed.org

TOPICS:

- Seed industry priorities for the 2023 Farm Bill
- conservation
- agriculture research
- trade
- innovation
- risk management

Media Contact:

Bethany Shively
VP, Strategic Communications
(202) 997-9438
bshively@betterseed.org

American Sugar Alliance

SPOKESPERSON:

- Luther Markwart, board member, ASA; executive vice president, American Sugarbeet Growers Association, lmarkwart@americansugarbeet.org
- Ryan Weston, chair, ASA; chief executive officer, Florida Sugar Cane League; Washington representative, Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers, rweston@sugarcaneleague.org
- Dr. Rob Johansson, director of economics & policy analysis, rob@sugaralliance.org

TOPICS:

- American sugarbeet and sugarcane producers provide an essential food ingredient which plays an important functional role in many food products; therefore, our reliable, safe, and affordable domestic sugar supply chain is critical for food security, which is national security.
- No-cost U.S. sugar policy is a win for consumers, producers, and food manufacturers. Without it, our sugar supply chain would be subject to volatile markets distorted by foreign governments' subsidies.
- It is critical we maintain a strong safety net for farmers – including sugar producers in America through the Farm Bill.

Media Contact:

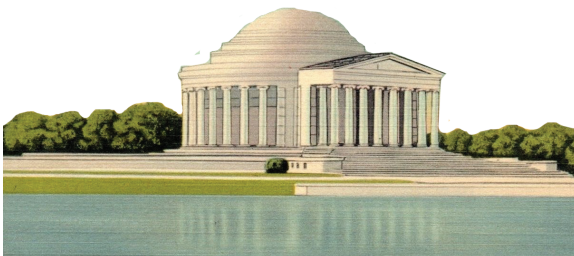
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National Cattlemen's
Beef Association

NCBA Vision

To be the trusted leader and definitive voice of the
U.S. cattle and beef industry.

NCBA Mission

To serve the cattle and beef industry by improving the business
climate, growing beef demand, and increasing the
world's access to U.S. beef.



**YOUR SOURCE FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION
ABOUT THE CATTLE AND BEEF INDUSTRY**

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Clean Fuels Alliance

SPOKESPERSON:

- Kurt Kovarik, vice president, federal affairs, kkovarik@cleanfuels.org
- David Cobb, director, federal affairs, dcobb@cleanfuels.org
- Paul Winters, director, public affairs, pwinters@cleanfuels.org

TOPICS:

- Renewable Fuel Standard -- EPA missed the mark on biomass-based diesel and advanced volumes, sustainable aviation fuel
- investments in soy crush capacity across Midwest; other new feedstocks
- Farm Bill priorities

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Corn Refiners Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- John Bode, president & CEO, jbode@corn.org

TOPICS:

- bioeconomy
- supply chain
- trade, tariffs, free trade agreements
- Farm Bill

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CropLife America

SPOKESPERSON:

- Chris Novak, president & CEO, novak@croplifeamerica.org
- Genevieve O'Sullivan, VP, communications & marketing, gosullivan@croplifeamerica.org

TOPICS:

- supporting innovation through agency funding
- 2023 Farm Bill priorities
- defense of the pesticide regulatory process

Media Contact:

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Farm Credit

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- Skylar Sowder, vice president, government affairs, Farm Credit Council, skylar.sowder@fccouncil.com
- Matt Erickson, economic & policy advisor, Farm Credit Services of America, matt.erickson@fcsamerica.com

TOPICS:

- the farm economy
- interest rate outlook
- prospects and opportunities in the Farm Bill debate

Media Contact:

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Growth Energy

SPOKESPERSON:

- Emily Skor, CEO
- Chris Bliley, senior VP of regulatory affairs
- Joe Kakesh, general counsel

TOPICS:

- E15
- myths and facts about E15
- the need for EPA to issue an emergency waiver to sell E15 this summer
- biofuels in general

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- Kelsea Forward, associate director, government affairs, kforward@beef.org

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill
- animal health
- trade
- taxes
- sustainability
- environmental regulations
- litigation
- markets
- Endangered Species Act/wildlife
- public lands grazing

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National Corn Growers Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- Angus R. Kelly, director of public policy, trade & biotechnology, Kelly@ncga.com
- Wayne Stoskopf, director, public policy for risk management & tax, Stoskopf@ncga.com
- Kathy Reding Bergren, director, public policy & renewable fuels, Bergren@ncga.com

TOPICS:

- trade, Farm Bill, ethanol

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National Council of Farmer Cooperatives

SPOKESPERSON:

- Chuck Conner, president & CEO, cconner@ncfc.org
- Lisa Van Doren, vice president & chief of staff, government affairs, lvandoren@ncfc.org
- Mary Nowak, director, government affairs, mnowak@ncfc.org
- Zach Gihorski, director, government affairs, zgihorski@ncfc.org

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill, ag labor/immigration, climate-smart agriculture, sustainability

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National Farmers Union

SPOKESPERSON:

- Rob Larew, president, rlarew@nfudc.org
- Anne Steckel, senior advisor, asteckel@nfudc.org

TOPICS:

- Visit with NFU to discuss Fairness for Farmers in the 2023 Farm Bill and our efforts for more competition, as well as our work on biofuels.

Media Contact:

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National Milk Producers Federation

SPOKESPERSON:

- Alan Bjerga, senior vice president, communications, abjerga@nmpf.org
- Rachel Ravencraft, manager, communications, National Dairy FARM Program, rravencraft@nmpf.org

TOPICS:

- Farm Bill
- dairy sustainability efforts
- NMPF leadership in milk-price modernization

Media Contact:

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National Pork Producers Council

SPOKESPERSON:

- Scott Hays, NPPC president-elect and pork producer from Missouri, oharaa@nppc.org
- Michael Formica, NPPC chief legal strategist, formicam@nppc.org
- Trachelle Carr, international technical services specialist, carrt@nppc.org
- Kelly Cushman, NPPC vice president of domestic policy, cushmank@nppc.org
- Andrew Bailey, NPPC science & technology, legal counsel, baileya@nppc.org
- Christina Banoub, NPPC manager of competition, labor, & tax issues, banoubc@nppc.org
- Holly Cook, NPPC staff economist, cookh@nppc.org
- Josh Scramlin, NPPC Regional director of producer services (IN, MI, OH), scramlinj@nppc.org

TOPICS:

- year ahead as NPPC president
- NPPC policy priorities from a producer perspective
- California Proposition 12
- Waters of the United States (WOTUS)
- rodenticide
- mandatory odor reporting
- on-farm emission reporting
- international trade
- market access
- new Congress and committees
- 2023 Farm Bill
- labor
- competition, labor, and tax issues
- Q2 economic update
- industry challenges
- how and why producers should get involved in NPPC

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National Sorghum Producers

SPOKESPERSON:

- Craig Meeker, chairman, NSP board of directors, c_meeker@hotmail.com
- Clint White, United Sorghum Checkoff, clint@sorghumgrowers.com

TOPICS:

- NSP priorities for the next farm bill
- protecting crop protection tools like Atrazine
- need for voluntary, incentive-based conservation efforts on private lands that compensate farmers for the public goods and services they provide to society, ecosystems, and the climate
- NSP supports in-kind U.S. commodity contributions under U.S. Food Aid programs and ensures MAP and FMD programs are fully funded to promote U.S. ag exports.

Media Contact:

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Renewable Fuels Association

SPOKESPERSON:

- Troy Bredenkamp, senior VP, government & public affairs, tbredenkamp@ethanolrfa.org
- Jared Mullendore, policy counsel & director, government affairs, jmullendore@ethanolrfa.org

TOPICS:

- year-round E15
- Renewable Fuel Standard
- IRA implementation
- SAF opportunities for ethanol
- ethanol & clean-fuel legislation
- ethanol trade opportunities, challenges

Media Contact:

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The Fertilizer Institute

SPOKESPERSON:

- Corey Rosenbusch, president & CEO, crosenbusch@tfi.org
- Kathy Mathers, vice president, public affairs, kmathers@tfi.org
- Chris Glen, director, political affairs & communications, cglen@tfi.org

TOPICS:

- TFI is the leading voice of the fertilizer industry, acting as an advocate for fair regulation and legislation, a consistent source for trusted information and data, a networking agent, and an outlet to publicize industry initiatives in safety and environmental stewardship.
- fertilizer markets
- spring supply
- rail issues
- Farm Bill
- critical minerals
- PG Reuse
- 4R research funding
- biostimulants (certification program & definition)
- sustainability report
- public policy priorities document
- infrastructure
- low carbon ammonia
- NEPA/permitting
- WOTUS
- CFATS
- environmental stewardship efforts
- Plant Biostimulants Act
- Fertilizer SUSTAIN Act

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U.S. Grains Council

SPOKESPERSON:

- Cary Sifferath, vice president, csifferath@grains.org

TOPICS:

- U.S. Grains Council Vice President Cary Sifferath will be on-site during Washington Watch to discuss topics including:
 - the current status of trade for U.S. corn, sorghum, barley, ethanol, and distiller's dried grains with solubles;
 - the top five trading partners for those commodities: Mexico, China, Canada, Japan, and South Korea;
 - the newly released Corn Sustainability Assurance Protocol that offers international corn buyers and export markets insights into the sustainability of U.S. corn production practices and regulations;
 - current trade-related events including the possibility of ethanol's expansion in Japan, biotech issues in Mexico, China's corn, sorghum, and barley purchases, and the Council's new office in India;
 - emerging markets for U.S. grains; and
 - how the U.S. Grains Council develops markets, enables trade, and improves lives around the globe.

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U.S. Wheat Industry, National Association of Wheat Growers, and U.S. Wheat Associates

SPOKESPERSON:

- Jake Westlin, VP, policy & communications, NAWG, jwestlin@wheatworld.org
- Mariah Wollweber, director, communications & partnerships, NAWG, mwollweber@wheatworld.org
- Vince Peterson, president, U.S. Wheat Associates, vpeterson@uswheat.org
- Peter Laudeman, director of trade policy, U.S. Wheat Associates, plaudeman@uswheat.org

TOPICS:

- Title I programs & crop insurance
- Title II programs and wheat's climate/sustainability story
- NAWG's Farm Bill advocacy efforts
- export market development funding
- wheat breeding innovations & global demand
- U.S. wheat competitiveness in an uncertain global market

Media Contact:

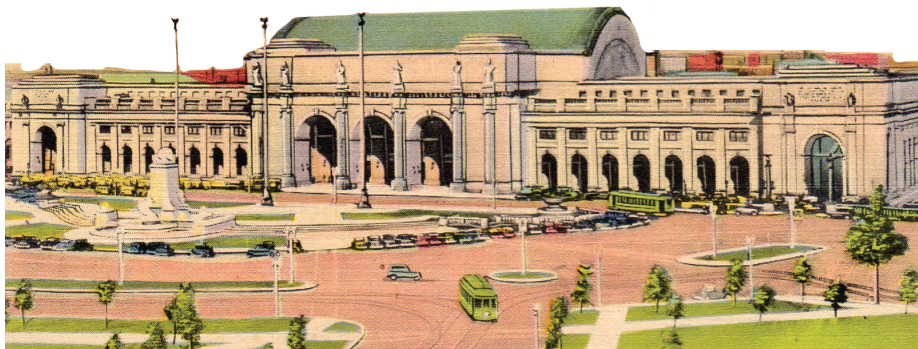
Steve Mercer

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United Soybean Board

SPOKESPERSON:

- Laurie Isley, USB executive committee, communication & education committee chair; soybean farmer from Palmyra, Michigan
- Shannon Tignor Ellis, USB communication & education committee vice chair; Supply Action Team member in the health & nutrition priority area; soybean farmer from Champlain, Virginia

TOPICS:

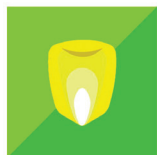
- investments from the communication & education committee that span promotion, education, and reputation management
- U.S. Soy helps solve some of our biggest global challenges by providing a sustainable solution for biofuels and nonfood uses including tires, shoes, asphalt, and artificial grass, displacing petroleum and possible carcinogens.
- the United Soybean Board's partnership with the U.S. Soybean Export Council in building preference, improving value, and enabling market access for the use of U.S. soy for human consumption, aquaculture, and livestock feed in 80+ countries around the world
- the soy checkoff and partner organizations' critical role in funding infrastructure investments spanning research, planning, analysis, and design to improve and modernize our inland waterway system and rail system
- how the Farmers for Soil Health initiative is advancing cover crops and conservation tillage in 20 states and bringing money back to farmers, where sustainability is happening at the farm level
- U.S. soybean farmers grow a sustainably sourced and nutrient-dense feed ingredient for their No. 1 customer: animal agriculture.
- April is Soy Foods Month, and soy delivers a high-quality, complete plant protein with a variety of vitamins and minerals that benefit all ages.

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Notes

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