



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Economics of the Farm Bill is topic for Farm Foundation Forum

OAK BROOK, IL Feb. 1, 2018: *The Economics of the Next Farm Bill* is the topic to be explored at the Farm Foundation® Forum on Tuesday, Feb.13, 2018.

“Mention economics and the farm bill and many people first think of how the federal budget will influence the final legislation. But economics shape how proponents write many elements of a farm bill long before consideration turns to the federal budget,” says Megan Provost, Farm Foundation’s Vice President of Policy and Programs, who will moderate the discussion.



“Multiple titles of a farm bill are heavily driven by economics—everything from commodity prices and farm income to trade numbers, labor costs and the economic health of rural America,” Provost adds. “This Forum will examine how those economic factors, as well as the rest of the Congressional agenda, may influence development of the next Farm Bill.”

The Forum begins at 9 a.m. EST in the Holeman Lounge at the National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C. A free live audiocast will also be available.

Forum panelists providing perspectives on these issues include:

- Joe Outlaw, Co-Director of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center, and Professor of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University,
- Patrick Westhoff, Director of the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri,
- Craig Jagger, formerly Chief Economist of the House Agriculture Committee and Principal Analyst, Congressional Budget Office, and
- Don Villwock, Indiana farmer and former President of the Indiana Farm Bureau.

Provost will moderate the discussion. After comments by the panelists, the floor will be opened for questions and discussion.

There is no charge to participate in the Feb. 13 Forum, but registration is requested.

- Register [HERE](#) if you plan to attend the Forum in person at the National Press Club.
- Register [HERE](#) to participate in the live audiocast. Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit.

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Who should participate in the Forum: People with an interest in agricultural, food and rural policy, including members of Congress, congressional staff, executive branch officials, industry representatives, NGO representatives, Embassy representatives, academics and members of the media.

The Forum: Farm Foundation organizes these public forums to engage all stakeholders in informed dialogue on food, agricultural and rural policies. Participants examine current policies, explore and analyze alternative policy options, and give voice to new proposals.

Audio from the session will be posted on the Farm Foundation [website](#). Presentations and audio files from past Forum sessions are also available at the website.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Farm Foundation is an agricultural policy institute cultivating dynamic non-partisan collaboration to meet society's needs for food, fiber, feed and energy. Since 1933, we have connected leaders in farming, business, academia, organizations and government through proactive, rigorous debate and objective issue analysis.