

S 2712

FARMERS FIRST Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Apr 19, 2018

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Apr 19, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2712>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Apr 19, 2018
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Apr 19, 2018
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		Apr 19, 2018
Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]	D · ND		Apr 19, 2018
Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND]	R · ND		Apr 19, 2018
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Apr 19, 2018
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 19, 2018
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		May 23, 2018
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		May 23, 2018
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 14, 2018
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jun 14, 2018
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Aug 23, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 19, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Facilitating Accessible Resources for Mental health and Encouraging Rural Solutions For Immediate Response to Stressful Times Act or the FARMERS FIRST Act

This bill amends the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to require the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide grants to state departments of agriculture, state cooperative extension services, and nonprofit organizations for cooperative programs to establish farm and ranch stress assistance networks.

The networks must provide stress assistance programs to farmers and ranchers, including counseling and support through:

- telephone helplines and websites,
- training for advocates for affected individuals,
- support groups,
- outreach services and activities, and
- home delivery of assistance for farm residents who are homebound.

USDA must coordinate with the Department of Health and Services (HHS) to establish the grant program and a National Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network to coordinate the stress assistance programs on a national scale.

USDA and HHS must also establish an advisory committee to report on the state of behavioral and mental health in farmers and ranchers.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 19, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 19, 2018:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.