

HR 5973

Continuous Improvement and Accountability in Organic Standards Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Oct 17, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture. (Jan 18, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5973>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]

Party: Republican • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Nov 29, 2023
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Nov 29, 2023
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Nov 29, 2023
Rep. Lawler, Michael [R-NY-17]	R · NY		Nov 29, 2023
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Nov 29, 2023
Rep. Miller, Max L. [R-OH-7]	R · OH		May 14, 2024
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		May 21, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 18, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Continuous Improvement and Accountability in Organic Standards Act or the CIAO Act

This bill directs the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to review and revise the organic certification standards at least every five years.

Specifically, USDA must

- solicit public input on which organic standards regulations should be prioritized for revision,
- publish a list of proposed changes to the regulations that will be prioritized for revision,
- obtain recommendations for each of the proposed changes from the National Organic Standards Board (a federal advisory board that considers and makes recommendations concerning the production, handling, and processing of organic products), and
- revise the regulations accordingly.

In implementing the recommended changes, USDA and the National Organic Standards Board must consider the best available information, including environmental and ecological data, consumer and market data, organic production and handling practices, organic research, and scientific data.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 18, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Foreign Agriculture, and Horticulture.
- **Oct 25, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.
- **Oct 17, 2023:** Introduced in House