



This update provides an overview of the current composition of key agricultural committees and recent legislative actions impacting the agricultural sector.

Know your legislator! Advocacy is Key to Progress !

Ohio's House and Senate Agricultural Committees

Ohio Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee:

- **Chair:** Senator Tim Schaffer (District 20, Republican)
- **Vice Chair:** Senator Kyle Koehler (District 10, Republican)
- **Ranking Member:** Senator Paula Hicks-Hudson (District 11, Democrat)
- **Members:**
 - Senator Al Landis (District 31, Republican)
 - Senator Beth Liston (District 16, Democrat)
 - Senator Susan Manchester (District 12, Republican)
 - Senator Michele Reynolds (District 3, Republican)
 - Senator Shane Wilkin (District 17, Republican)

Ohio House Agriculture Committee:

- **Chair:** Representative Roy Klopfenstein (Republican)
- **Ranking Member:** Representative Juanita Brent (Democrat)

Federal Senate and House Agricultural Committees

U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

- **Chair:** Senator John Boozman (Republican - Arkansas)
- **Ranking Member:** Senator Amy Klobuchar (Democrat - Minnesota)

U.S. House Committee on Agriculture:

- **Chair:** Representative Glenn "GT" Thompson (Republican - Pennsylvania)
- **Ranking Member:** Representative Angie Craig (Democrat - Minnesota)

President Donald Trump named Brooke Rollins to be secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Rollins, a Texas native, is president and CEO of the America First Policy Institute, a conservative think tank launched in 2021 to promote Trump's economic policies. A conservative lawyer, Rollins also served as acting director of the White House's Domestic Policy Council at the end of Trump's first term

Farm Bill Extension

The 2018 Farm Bill expired on September 30, 2023, and has since been extended without modifications. Discussions are underway to draft a new Farm Bill, with priorities including nutrition assistance programs and agricultural subsidies. Notably, the 2021 update to the Thrifty Food Plan, which resulted in a 21% increase in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, remains a point of debate. Some Republican leaders have expressed concerns over the increased spending and may seek to revisit these changes in the upcoming Farm Bill negotiations. The most concerning issue with farm extension is the major cut USDA land grant scholarship programs for HBCU's. This decision will have a heavy impact on minority students pursuing careers in agriculture.

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