## Continuous Improvement and Accountability in Organic Standards (CIAO) Act

**Talking points:**
- Creates transparency and empowers business planning
- Creates predictability and encourages innovation
- Maintains USDA authority to set its agenda

**H.R. 5973 original cosponsors:**
- Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA-4)
- Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA-24)
- Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME-1)

**House version:**
- Bipartisan, no cost bill, supported by a strong contingent of the industry (OTA, NOC, OFA, Specialty Crop, OPA, etc.)
- Provides multiple avenues for stakeholder input and feedback during the rulemaking process
- Forward facing to continue to update standards and move old recommendations
- Keeps existing authorities and infrastructure, has a predictable timeline

**Position:** Glad to see this included

Ask: Cosponsor H.R. 5973

## Organic Market Development Act

$75 million in annual funding
+ $25 million in appropriations

**Talking points:**
- Brings investment to your district
- Shores up domestic supply chain
- Protects farmers from international market fluctuations
- Includes grants for farm equipment and storage

**H.R. 5763 original cosponsors:**
- Rep. Ann Kuster (D-NH-2)
- Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME-1)
- Rep. Andrea Salinas (D-OR-6)

**Ask:** Cosponsor H.R. 5763

Include OMD in the House version of the Farm Bill to improve farm resilience

**Appropriations:** + $25 million in FY25 appropriations

## Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act of 2024:

- NOP - solicit public input on the prioritization of organic regulations to be promulgated or revised;
- Secretary - publish an annual report regarding recommendations from the OSB, all regulatory and administrative actions taken, and justifications on why actions were or were not taken;
- GAO - conduct a study on the efforts of the NOP to improve organic standards and provide recommendations on how the NOP can ensure that organic program standards evolve in a timely manner

**Position:** Glad to see this included

Ask: Be supportive of the legislative language of RFPSA

## Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act of 2024:

$50 million in annual Farm Bill funding.

**Position:** Glad to see this included

Ask: Cosponsor S.2936

**Appropriations:** + $25 million in FY25 appropriations
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Senate</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Organic Dairy Data Collection Act</strong></td>
<td><strong>H.R.6937 original cosponsors:</strong> Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME-01) Rep. Marcus Molinaro (R-NY-19)</td>
<td><strong>Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act of 2024:</strong> Directs USDA to improve collection of organic dairy market data. <strong>Position:</strong> Glad to see this included Ask: Sponsor Senate version of H.R. 6937</td>
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| **Talking points:**  
- Empowers USDA to design better organic dairy programs  
- Feedstuff cost data is crucial for market prediction and business planning – even beyond dairy  
- Organic dairies deserve the same access to information as conventional  
- Promotes farm resilience  
- Bipartisan, no cost | **Directs USDA to:** Collect and publish cost-of-production data for organic milk, including the costs of major organic feedstuffs, domestically produced or imported;  
- Gather and report monthly data on the price of organic milk; and  
- Aggregate and publish state and regional data on the cost and volume of organic milk production. Ask: Cosponsor H.R.6937 | |
| **SOAR and ORSI both:**  
1. Reauthorizes and increase OREI funding incrementally, from $60 million in 2024 to $100 million in 2028,  
2. Make competitive grants available for research specifically focused on transition to organic | **Unique to SOAR:** Increases funding for organic data collection efforts to $2 million per year through 2028. Ask: Cosponsor H.R.2720 | **Unique to OSRI:** Requires improved coordination between USDA research agencies and organic research and extension. Requires a feasibility study on transitioning more land to organic. Ask: Cosponsor S.2317 |
| **Talking points:**  
- Organic research benefits all producers – research on conventional methods do not benefit organic  
- Organic research leads to innovation and added value for the sector  
- Research is necessary to measure and optimize the outcomes of organic agriculture systems.  
- Organic makes up 6% of U.S. food sales but receives a much smaller fraction of federal research funding. | | **Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act of 2024:** Enhances coordination on organic research in USDA's Research, Education, and Economics mission area, including the creation of a coordinator role at USDA. **Position:** Glad to see this included |