OUR STORY

In 1917, a group of Nebraska farmers and ranchers voted to form a state organization. They wanted an organization to bring farmers and ranchers together to make life better for their families and communities. They knew working together, they could accomplish more than working alone.

Two years later, the organization had its first advocacy win, helping pass a bill that would distribute game birds across the state to address grasshopper infestations that were destroying crops and property.

For more than 100 years, Nebraska Farm Bureau has worked to serve farmers and ranchers. Whether at the State Capitol or in Washington D.C., farm and ranch families have an ally in the Nebraska Farm Bureau. And our work continues today...

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Stopped new taxes on irrigated agriculture – helped stop legislation (LB 1022) to place a new tax on the use of irrigation water in agriculture (an estimated savings of $30,000 on a center pivot irrigating 130 acres).

Reduced federal taxes on farms and ranches – helped pass federal tax reform to lower overall tax rates, increase opportunities for capital investment, and maintain farmers’ and ranchers’ ability to fully deduct property taxes, among other key tax provisions.

Prevented expanded government control over private land – helped stop EPA’s “Waters of the United States” rule which would have given EPA more control over what farmers and ranchers could do with their land.

Protected rights of property taxpayers – helped pass legislation (LB 1000) requiring bonds issued under the Public Facilities Construction and Finance Act be approved by a vote of the people.

Addressed personal property tax increases – helped pass legislation (LB 1089) to update state law to address changes in Federal tax law that would have resulted in personal property tax increases.
Secured federal crop insurance – helped stop cuts to crop insurance and other programs important to farmers and ranchers as part of Farm Bill negotiations, including commodity, conservation, trade promotion, and research programs.

Worked to keep farm and ranch families connected – helped pass legislation (LB 449) to expand hi-speed internet service (broadband) in rural areas.

Safeguarded agriculture’s access to water resources – helped stop legislation (LB 1123) allowing water rights to be severed from overlying land.

Defended private property rights – helped stop legislation (LB 994) to eliminate programs to aid in control of black-tailed prairie dogs that destroy grazing lands.

Advocated for agriculture market expansion – supported efforts to remove trade barriers preventing sales of agriculture commodities and products across the world.

“Farm Bureau helps our farm have a stronger future. With all of our voices together we make a difference. Together as a part of Farm Bureau our representatives listen.”

Hilary Maricle
Boone County Farm Bureau member since 1998

“I don’t push Farm Bureau just because. Farmers and ranchers are a small percentage of the population. We have to be vocal about what we need for our operations. Farm Bureau helps deliver our story.”

Dustin Ladenburger
Hitchcock County Farm Bureau member since 1999