



## **Oppose The Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act!**

**H.R. 4417/S. 2019: Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act** - Introduced by Sen. Roger Marshall [R-KS] on June 15th, 2023 and Rep. Ashley Hinson [R-IA-2] on June 30th, 2023

### **Background**

The Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act<sup>1</sup> would walk back dozens of individual states' rulings on animal rights, pesticides, and food health and safety regulations. It comes as a direct response to California's Proposition 12<sup>2</sup>, a 2018 law that improved conditions for farm animals with broad applications to states that also ship livestock, poultry, and agriculture products into California. Presently, this Act is publicly opposed and shamed by over 200 Congressional members<sup>3</sup> for its potential negative ramifications for animal welfare, farmer and farmworker safety, and pollution. Furthermore, a study<sup>4</sup> published by Harvard University in September 2023 suggests that the EATS Act could put over 1,000 laws regarding public health and animal rights at risk by removing regulations preventing infectious disease among livestock, sanitation provisions, and giving rise to confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs).

### **Summary**

The Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act would prevent state and local governments from interfering or otherwise altering the production and distribution of agricultural products in interstate commerce. It also provides a means for private right of action to challenge state and local regulations and laws regarding agricultural products sold in interstate commerce through the pertinent US District Court or any other court with jurisdiction in which the action occurred.

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<sup>1</sup> Marshall, Roger. "S.2019 - 118th Congress (2023-2024): Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression Act." *Congress.gov*, 15 June 2023, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2019>.

<sup>2</sup> "Proposition 12 - Farm Animal Confinement - Food Distribution (CA Dept of Education)." *California Department of Education*, <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/fd/mb-fdp-03-2022-a.asp>.

<sup>3</sup> "EATS Act Opposition Letter." *Congressman Earl Blumenauer*, 21 August 2023, <https://blumenauer.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/blumenauer.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/eats-act-opposition-letter.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> McGill, Kelley. "Harvard ALPP EATS Act Report." *Harvard Animal Law & Policy Program*, 5 July 2023, <https://animal.law.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/Harvard-ALPP-EATS-Act-Report.pdf>.