



**National
Barley
Growers
Association**

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Research

NBGA supports the FY 2017 USDA-ARS Congressional appropriations (including \$2.0 million for the USWBSI & \$1.0 million Small Grains Genomic Initiative) as reported out of committee & the FY 2018 federal research funding priorities established by the National Barley Improvement Committee.

Trade

NBGA supports:

1. Maintaining FY 2017 & FY 2018 funding for the Market Access Program (MAP) at the existing level of \$200 million annually and the Foreign Market Development (FMD) program at full authorized levels.
2. Aggressive USTR and FAS enforcement of existing trade agreements and WTO obligations.
3. The principles of TPP, including lower tariffs, increased market access, uniform rules-based trading, and a rapid dispute settlement option.
4. The NAFTA agreement, as Mexico has emerged as the largest export market for US malting barley and barley malt.

Tax Policy

NBGA supports:

1. The reintroduction and passage of the Craft Beverage Modernization & Tax Reform Act which would create a graduated and equitable tax structure for the entire brewing industry.
2. Comprehensive tax reform that reflects the unique nature of agriculture and provides appropriate framework for farmers and farm operations including continued use of cash accounting, elimination of estate tax, and full and immediate expensing of capital investments.

Transportation

NBGA supports:

1. Policy that ensures agricultural and rural infrastructure needs, including roadways, bridges, locks and dams, harbors and port facilities, broadband and energy infrastructure upgrades are addressed in any large-scale infrastructure funding initiatives.
2. An equitable reciprocal switching option for captive rail shippers.

Farm Labor

NBGA supports a functional guest worker program that secures the borders of the United States and provides a legal, affordable, and stable workforce for agriculture.



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NBGA 2018 Farm Bill Priorities

Crop Insurance

NBGA opposes:

1. Any reduction of premium support or imposing an AGI cap for eligibility.
2. Conservation compliance requirements for crop insurance eligibility.

NBGA supports:

1. Changes to quality loss coverage that results in reduction in value and not a reduction in APH yield.

Commodity Title

NBGA supports

1. Allowing producers a one-time choice between ARC-CO and PLC by crop.
2. Retaining ARC-IC as an option.
3. Tying support payments to historical crop bases.
4. Providing an option to reallocate or update crop acreage bases.
5. Allowing producers an option to update program yields.
6. Require using RMA rather than NASS yields under ARC-CO.
7. Using smaller than county size reporting districts for ARC-CO.

Conservation Title

NBGA Supports

1. Retention of the 24 million acre cap on CRP.
2. Continued focus of voluntary conservation efforts on working lands programs such as EQIP and CSP.
3. Limiting the NRCS and FSA look back period to no greater than the previous two years, and applies only to specific violation areas and not the entire farm.
4. Conservation compliance penalties will only apply after completion of the appeal process.

Nutrition Title

NBGA supports the continued inclusion of a Nutrition Title in the 2018 Farm Bill.

Trade

NBGA supports increased funding for MAP & FMD programs.