



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

# LEGISLATIVE ALERT

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## **Bad Farm Bills Yield Costly Crops**

A farm bill is ready to hit the Senate floor as early as this Thursday, even though it can (and should) wait until next year for consideration. Indeed, the American People would be far better served if the Senate would instead devote its immediate attention to passing an economic stimulus package based on tax relief and a comprehensive national energy plan, both of which have long since been approved by the House of Representatives and are far more crucial to restoring our economic vitality than any farm bill could ever be.

Accordingly, the Senate should address the farm bill reported out of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee (or any subsequently introduced variation thereof) by rejecting it.

The last thing American consumers ever need is higher food prices, and the last thing American farmers ever need is counterproductive interference from Washington. The predominant farm bill now before the Senate provides plenty of both. If a farm bill is to be passed—and ATR still maintains that no farm bill is necessary this year—the Senate would be wise to give its assent to the taxpayer-friendly approach offered by Sens. Roberts and Cochran, or if possible, Sen. Lugar's market-driven alternative.

**Americans for Tax Reform would like to remind every senator that we will rate any vote in favor of an elaborate new dairy price fixing scheme and any vote against reforming the wasteful sugar program as votes against the taxpayer. Indeed, we will take the entire farm bill under consideration when we determine the congressional ratings for this year or the next.**

Don't make an expensive mistake this year! The taxpayers simply can't afford it.

