

HPAI Act

Healthy Poultry Assistance and Indemnification Act

Senator Chris Coons (D-Del.) and Roger Wicker (R-Miss.)

Quotes of Support:

“I want to thank Senators Coons and Wicker for introducing this bipartisan bill that will help protect one of our most important assets – our farmers. This legislation recognizes the fact that highly pathogenic avian influenza can have a detrimental effect on any farm in an outbreak control zone, not just the farm that tests positive. NCC is proud to support this bill.” – **National Chicken Council President Mike Brown**

“Eradicating highly pathogenic avian influenza, or HPAI, requires swift industry and government adaptation and intervention. Some groups of farmers lost income when their farms were drawn into HPAI control zones, but because their flocks did not have HPAI, did not qualify for USDA indemnification assistance. This amendment to the 2023 Farm Bill will ensure that all farmers financially impacted by HPAI will receive reasonable compensation. Government protections for farmers can mean the difference between continuing a prosperous enterprise or enduring an emotional and financial calamity. We are very thankful to Senator Coons’ office for ensuring that all farmers impacted by control measures for HPAI are appropriately compensated for their lost income.” – **Delmarva Chicken Association Executive Director Holly Porter**

“The proposed legislation to amend the Animal Health Protection Act is significant in ensuring fair compensation to our commercial industry growers who may incur losses due to an animal health disaster. Having to experience this loss creates a hardship for the grower, both financially and mentally, but it also creates a negative financial impact on nearby farms that are not allowed to restock because they are in a control area. Although the commercial poultry and layer companies have been compensated in the past, growers within a control area have been left out. Passing this legislation to compensate affected farms is the right thing to do.” – **Delaware Secretary of Agriculture Michael T. Scuse.**

“Producers who lose their flocks due to control measures to combat devastating diseases potentially lose all their income for a significant period of time. The income is gone, but the farm mortgage is still due, plus other expenses. Senator Coons has recognized the inequity of the lack of a Federal safety net for these farmers in the year 2023. Delaware Farm Bureau applauds his bipartisan initiative and leadership, and we fully endorse this bill.” – **Delaware Farm Bureau President Bill Powers**

Endorsing Organizations: American Farm Bureau Federation, National Chicken Council, United Egg Producers, National Turkey Federation, Delmarva Chicken Association, Delaware Department of Agriculture, Delta Council, Delaware Farm Bureau, Mississippi Farm Bureau, Maryland Farm Bureau, South Carolina Farm Bureau, Iowa Farm Bureau, Louisiana Farm Bureau, Michigan Farm Bureau, Georgia Farm Bureau, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, Nebraska Farm Bureau, Oklahoma Farm Bureau, Virginia Farm Bureau, Minnesota Farm Bureau, North Carolina Farm Bureau, Missouri Farm Bureau, Tennessee Farm Bureau, Alabama Farm Bureau, Indiana Farm Bureau