



Help Protect Your Constituents Through Crop Insurance

2016

What Agents Do

The Federal Crop Insurance Program (FCIP) is a highly technical program that relies on the expertise of independent insurance agents. The FCIP provides our nation's farmers the ability to manage their risk and continue to produce a safe, strong and dependable food supply.

Since Congress called on independent insurance agents to deliver the program in the 1980s, crop insurance has become the cornerstone of the United States' farm risk management, with over 282 million acres insured and 100 types of crops protected. As the face of the FCIP, crop insurance agents work every day to deliver unprecedented financial protections, service and value to farmers. By navigating through the technicalities inherent within the program, they help agricultural producers make sound risk assessments.

The Issue: Cuts to Crop Insurance

In March of 2014, the Farm Bill was enacted into law. The law provides subsidies for farmers who purchase crop insurance. Despite this, the Obama administration continues to propose cuts to the program, asking for over \$18 billion in cuts over ten years in the Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) budget request.

Attacking farmers' most important risk management tool only weakens the farm safety net and threatens our nation's economic and agricultural stability.

continued on other side

How You Can Help

✓ **OPPOSE Cuts to the Federal Crop Insurance Program**

- Congress included \$3 billion in cuts in the October 2015 budget agreement.
- While these cuts were removed due to intense advocacy by PIA members and our allies, we are concerned by these ongoing attempts to cut the program.
- The 2014 Farm Bill should not be reopened or renegotiated through the budget or appropriations process. The proper venue for changes to any title of the Farm Bill is the next reauthorization in 2018.



**National Association of Professional Insurance Agents
400 North Washington Street, 2nd Floor
Alexandria, VA 22314**

**For more information on this issue contact
Jon Gentile, Vice President, Government Relations
jonge@pianet.org 703-518-1365**