

## **Topline Summary of Agriculture and Nutrition Provisions**

### **Bipartisan-Bicameral COVID Relief Deal**

#### **Agriculture**

Provides \$13 billion in support to farmers, ranchers, and the agriculture sector:

- The Secretary of Agriculture is directed to provide assistance to specifically support specialty crop, non-specialty crop, livestock, dairy and poultry producers largely by enhancing assistance received under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP).
- Directs \$1.5 billion for the purchase of food and agricultural products for distribution via non-profit organizations or for the procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for food processors.
- Gives discretionary authority to the Secretary to support producers of biofuels, producers of organics or value-added products, and timber harvesting and hauling businesses.
- Additional funding is directed to programs that support local producers and new and beginning farmers, dairy producers, dairy processors via reimbursement for donated dairy products, fisheries, textile mills, agricultural research, small and medium size meat processors, and to state departments of agriculture for farm stress programs.

#### **Nutrition**

- State sampling and quality control waivers terminate June 30 rather than the end of the fiscal year, thus directing States to reinstate their work to address payment error rates and error analysis.
- Defeated efforts to increase the tolerance level for errors from \$37 to \$50; this same policy when legislated under ARRA took four years to correct.
- Upon the conclusion of the benefit increase, the Secretary is required to release a report of SNAP account balances and the rate of SNAP redemptions for each of the preceding six months.
- Provides funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, a program that serves over 700,000 older Americans monthly, and the only program untouched in previous rounds of COVID relief.