

House Committee on Agriculture

Farm Bill Portal GusNIP Recommendations

In the upcoming Farm Bill we recommend robust support for the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP). For state-level program administrators to continue to build upon the proven health and nutrition benefits the program provides, and to broaden the economic impacts for farmers and local economies, we request:

- **Increased funding** to expand the scale of the program across the country.
- **Complete removal or reduction of the match requirement**, especially for pilot-sized grants.
- Creation of a new USDA **grant tier/cooperative agreement** to scale incentives statewide and prioritize grants for fruit and vegetable incentive projects that work in a variety of retail settings, including independent retailers and farmers markets.
- Maintaining **Produce Prescriptions (PRx) at 10% of the program** and the implementation of a separate evaluation panel for produce prescriptions, as well as a new two-tiered structure for PRX programs to allow for expansion opportunities.

Registering your support through the House portal is an important step in advancing this bi-partisan program, and greatly appreciated by the broad stakeholders working to advance common priorities for GusNIP in the Farm Bill. Please contact Mark Nicholson, mnicholson@fairfoodnetwork.org, or Katie Naessens, knaessens@torreydc.com, with any questions or should you like additional information.