



National Onion Association, 218 Oak Ave., Eaton, CO. 80615



Press Release

National Onion Association Applauds Farm Bill Investments in Market Access and Specialty Crop Research

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Onion Association voices its strong support for the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 advanced by the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, highlighting expanded export funding and a major new investment in specialty crop research.

If passed, it would become the Farm Bill, which Congress must renew every five years. The legislation supports USDA programs ranging from agricultural policy, conservation, rural development, and nutrition programs, with a strong focus on enhancing food supply resilience and national security.

The legislation would directly increase funding for the Market Access Program (MAP), which would help U.S. specialty crop growers expand exports and compete in global markets. For onion producers, export promotion is essential to maintaining demand, supporting farm income, and strengthening rural economies.

The bill also would provide \$30 million annually to establish a new Specialty Crop Mechanization and Automation Research and Extension Program and strengthens the Specialty Crop Research Initiative by allowing the U.S. Department of Agriculture to waive matching fund requirements when appropriate. These provisions will accelerate the development of technologies that improve efficiency, address labor challenges, and enhance the competitiveness of American specialty crop growers.

“This \$30 million investment in specialty crop mechanization and automation research is a significant and forward-looking commitment to the future of our industry,” said Greg Yielding, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive of the National Onion Association. “This funding will help deliver practical solutions for growers, strengthen our domestic food supply, and ensure U.S. specialty crop producers remain competitive for years to come.”

In addition, the legislation continues to support voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs that provide farmers with financial and technical assistance to improve soil health, protect water quality, and enhance natural resources while maintaining productivity.

The National Onion Association commends members of House Agriculture Committee for advancing legislation that expands market opportunities, prioritizes research, and supports the long-term success of specialty crop growers.

About the National Onion Association

Founded in 1913, the National Onion Association represents onion growers, shippers, and industry partners across the United States and advocates for policies that support a strong, competitive, and sustainable onion industry.