



Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau

Achievements

Founded in 1964 and headquartered on Capitol Hill, CIRB offers unparalleled advocacy, support and membership services to the crop insurance and reinsurance community. CIRB members provide a vital component of the farm safety net, writing policies in every state and providing valuable risk management tools to the nation's farmers and ranchers. CIRB is governed by a board of directors and executive committee. Members include AIPs, reinsurance companies and brokerage groups.

Strategic Plan

The CIRB Executive Committee developed a strategic plan, built on four "pillars" that guide the organization's work: The Capital Voice, D.C. Information Source, Membership Services, and Collaboration. Continue reading to see CIRB's achievements in these areas.



Members of the CIRB Executive Committee.

THE CAPITAL VOICE

Advocated for the 2018 Farm Bill, which protects and preserves crop insurance and passed with overwhelming majorities. CIRB would like to thank our members, the Crop Insurance Coalition, and our champions for engaging to bring the bill across the finish line.

Organized joint outreach to Capitol Hill, including Coalition meetings with 100+ House and Senate offices, many of whom hadn't previously engaged on crop insurance.

Utilized CIRB PAC funds to cultivate crop insurance champions on both sides of the aisle.



DC INFORMATION SOURCE

Delivered 32 #ProtectCropInsurance Social Media Toolkits to members and Coalition partners. The 2018 campaign incorporated new elements such as shareable graphics, policy videos, and farmer testimonials.

Hosted fly-in policy conference, featuring educational programming, advocacy training, a Congressional reception and meetings with Capitol Hill offices.



Provided timely intelligence sharing and communications resources through weekly newsletters, quarterly reports, and video updates.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Announced the 2018-2019 Emerging Leaders Program (ELP). The 10 participants represent eight member companies.



Organized a Midterm Elections Recap webinar and a CIRB 101 webinar for the ELP.

Coordinated the 2018 Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ which brought together more than 135 crop insurance leaders. During the program, expert speakers gave a glimpse ahead at the farm bill debate and issues on the horizon that could impact crop insurance.

COLLABORATION



Presented at 10+ CIRB member, coalition partner, and stakeholder events across the country.

Led the broad and diverse Crop Insurance Coalition of farm, lending, ag input, conservation, and crop insurance and reinsurance organizations that work together to protect the program from legislative threats. The coalition grew to 140 diverse organizations.

Coordinated ongoing communication to USDA's Risk Management Agency, including hosting a meet and greet to welcome incoming RMA Administrator Martin Barbre.

ADVOCACY

The #ProtectCropInsurance Campaign received the Golden ARC Award from the Agricultural Relations Council and the Thoth Award of Excellence in Social Media Advocacy by the Public Relations Society of America.





Farm Bill

Engagement Timeline

The farm bill is reauthorized every five years. This omnibus legislation includes a wide array of programs impacting agriculture and food policy. While crop insurance is permanently authorized, the farm bill process provides an opportunity to make changes to the program. Below is a timeline of CIRB's engagement throughout the 2018 Farm Bill.



CIRB members presented House Agriculture Committee Chairman Conaway with the Chairman's Award during the Spring Fly-In and Policy Conference.

Stakeholders Engage **Spring 2018**

CIRB coordinates joint outreach to Capitol Hill with Crop Insurance Coalition partners and provides intelligence and resources in preparation for farm bill action.

Ag stakeholders reiterate crop insurance as a top priority during hearings and listening sessions leading up to farm bill consideration.

April 2018

Industry Response

House Ag releases draft farm bill text and marks up the bill. CIRB coordinates a letter to Congress signed by 65 national organizations opposing harmful crop insurance amendments. CIRB later leads a broad petition signed by 418 organizations and individual companies urging the House to protect crop insurance.



May 2018

House Bill Heats Up

The House votes on the farm bill. CIRB and the Crop Insurance Coalition oppose a harmful amendment on the House floor, which ultimately fails by a vote of 34-380. The farm bill is then defeated by a vote of 198-213 when it becomes entwined in a separate debate over immigration policy.

Bill Passes Both Chambers

June 2018

Senate Ag releases draft farm bill text and marks up the bill. CIRB leads a broad petition, signed by 639 groups urging Congress to protect crop insurance. The Senate approves its farm bill by a vote of 86-11. CIRB sends a member Action Alert to oppose harmful amendments that were filed but ultimately not voted on. The House approves its farm bill (with no additional changes) by a vote of 213-211.

Aug. 2018



Sept. 2018

Conference Committee

Nine Senators and 47 House members are named to the farm bill conference committee to resolve differences between the two bills. CIRB closely monitors these negotiations.

2014 Bill Expires

Dec. 2018

The 2014 Farm Bill expires on September 30. Crop insurance is not impacted because it is permanently authorized.

Final Passage

After months of deliberation, the final farm bill conference report is released. The 2018 Farm Bill maintains a strong crop insurance program. CIRB signs on to a joint industry statement urging Congress to pass the bill quickly. The Senate approves the conference report by a vote of 87-13.

The House approves the conference report by a vote of 369-47. On December 20, the President signs the 2018 Farm Bill into law.

Implementation Begins

CIRB continues to monitor farm bill implementation, despite a 35-day government shutdown that affected the Risk Management Agency at USDA.

ADVOCACY

CIRB coordinated a petition in support of crop insurance that was signed by 639 national, state, and local organizations and individual companies that spanned every state and represented farm, lending, ag input, conservation, and crop insurance and reinsurance organizations. The letter was sent to the full Senate in advance of a vote on the 2018 Farm Bill.

630+ Local, State, and National Groups Urge You to Protect Crop Insurance

June 22, 2018

Dear Senators:

Over the past three years the Senate Agriculture Committee has conducted numerous hearings to talk about priorities for the 2018 Farm Bill. One consistent theme from these hearings was "do no harm to crop insurance." Yet as we approach floor action on the Farm Bill, we may see amendments that would do significant harm to crop insurance and to rural America.

As you consider the 2018 Farm Bill on the Senate floor, we urge you to oppose harmful amendments to crop insurance, including those that would 1) reduce or limit participation in crop insurance; 2) make insurance more expensive for farmers during a time of economic downturn in agriculture; or 3) harm private-sector delivery.

Crop insurance is a unique risk management tool available to farmers and ranchers. First, crop insurance policies are available for more than 120 individual crops across the country, and the recent development of Whole Farm Revenue (WFR) insurance makes coverage available to all crops, in all regions and for all types of farms.

Crop insurance is also purchased by farmers, and farmers must prove that they have met a deductible (minimum loss threshold) to be eligible for a payment for a portion of their loss. On average, farmers collectively spend \$3.5 to \$4 billion per year out of their own pockets for crop insurance coverage, and the average deductible is approximately 25% of the expected value of the crop.

Finally, instead of placing the entire risk for crop insurance on the American

FINAL VOTE RESULTS FOR ROLL CALL 194
(Republicans in roman; Democrats in *italic*; Independents underlined)

HR 2 RECORDED VOTE 17-May-2018 5:58 PM
AUTHOR(S): McClintock of California Amendment No. 3
QUESTION: On Agreeing to the Amendment

	AYES	NOES	PRES	NV
REPUBLICAN	34	194		6
DEMOCRATIC		186		7
INDEPENDENT				
TOTALS	34	380		13