

7/27/2007 Moran Talks about the Outcome of the 2007 Farm Bill

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AUDIO TEXT:

"We only pass a Farm Bill once every five or six years and when we do, it needs to be done right. While no farm bill is perfect, the version of the 2007 bill approved by the Committee on Agriculture was okay - not great - but satisfactory. Unfortunately, after the bill left the Committee to be considered by the full House of Representatives, it only got worse - money to support farmers and ranchers in difficult times was diverted to support other programs, taxes increased, labor wage provisions added for construction of ethanol plants and an urban agenda advanced.

"Urban members of Congress are hijacking the farm bill. More and more of the Farm Bill is being written to satisfy the desires of urban constituencies - not by those of us who represent the nation's farmers and ranchers. In the current Farm Bill, 27 percent of the Farm Bill spending goes to providing a safety net for America's farmers. In the bill passed by the House today, the percentage is cut in half.

"We have our work cut out for us, but there remains a lot of opportunity to get this bill back on track. We must make certain Congress never forgets who provides our food, clothing and now our energy. We can still do it right."