

A Message from the Bishops of The Episcopal Church

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- Rt. Rev. Marc Andrus
Diocese of California
- Rt. Rev. Allen Bartlett
XIV Bishop of Pennsylvania
- Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith
Diocese of Newark
- Rt. Rev. Charles E. Bennison, Jr.
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- Rt. Rev. Edmond L. Browning
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- Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan, II
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- Rt. Rev. Thomas Clark Ely
Diocese of Vermont
- Rt. Rev. C. Christopher Epting
VIII Bishop of Iowa
- Rt. Rev. J. Michael Garrison
Diocese of Western New York
- Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr.
Diocese of Michigan
- Rt. Rev. Frank T. Griswold
XXV Presiding Bishop
- Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones
Diocese of Virginia
- Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald
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- Rt. Rev. A.C. "Chip" Marble Jr.
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- Rt. Rev. Catherine Roskam
Diocese of New York
- Rt. Rev. Mark S. Sisk
Diocese of New York
- Rt. Rev. Andrew D. Smith
Diocese of Connecticut
- Rt. Rev. William B. Spofford
IV Bishop of Eastern Oregon
- Rt. Rev. Orris G. Walker, Jr.
Diocese of Long Island

The Fruited Plain

"The Fruited Plain." A vision of hope and abundance. A vision of America. Congress inscribed this picture of opportunity in our nation's first Farm Bill, seeking to guarantee a future to hard-working farmers and hungry American families, even when times are tough.

It was not just a promise. It was a Covenant.

By passing several critical amendments, the Senate can restore this moral foundation to a bill that has become a source of corporate welfare to rich farms, an obstacle to struggling family farmers, and fuel for the deadly poverty that kills 30,000 of God's people in poor countries each day.

- ✓ **The Lugar-Lautenberg amendment** would create a modern safety net for family farmers that invests in rural America and reduces the harm to farmers in poor countries around the world.
- ✓ **The Dorgan-Grassley amendment** would establish meaningful payment limits that target support to family farmers while closing loopholes that allow rich farms to abuse the system.
- ✓ **Amendments to Ensure** that a reformed farm-support system benefits Americans who currently cannot eat a nutritious diet, and conserves the land for future generations.

These amendments will reclaim two centuries of American values, in which the fruited plain was not just a slogan, but a source of life and hope for all people. From rural communities, towns, and cities across America; and from the fields of poor countries around the world where families labor for daily bread; the call to the Senate goes out:

Pass a Farm Bill that reflects America's values. Pass a Farm Bill for the 21st Century.



The Episcopal Church
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