



National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NACCHO Applauds Passage of Farm Bill

— Final Bill Rejects Efforts to Weaken SNAP —

Washington, DC, December 12, 2018 – The [National Association of County and City Health Officials](#) (NACCHO), representing the nation’s nearly 3,000 local health departments, commends Congress for passing the bipartisan Farm bill and for rejecting proposals to weaken the food safety net. NACCHO [joined](#) with over 100 public health, nutrition, social service, and faith-based groups to urge the withdrawal of work requirements that would have harmed public health.

“Despite its name, the Farm Bill is about more than just what we grow,” said NACCHO’s Chief of Government and Public Affairs, Adriane Casalotti, MPH, MSW. “It’s is our nation’s key food safety-net legislation, as well. By coming together to pass a bipartisan Farm Bill, Congress reaffirmed its support for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the people who access it when they need help to put food on the table. NACCHO applauds Congress for rejecting proposals that would have undermined the program and looks forward to seeing this bill signed into law.”

The Farm Bill also includes other key public health programs like the Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) to increase the supply and demand for healthy foods in underserved communities or “food deserts.” In addition, it contains provisions to authorize additional grant dollars for combating substance use disorder and telehealth facilities to combat substance use disorders in rural America.

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About NACCHO

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) represents the nation’s nearly 3,000 local health departments. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to protect and promote health and well-being for all people in their communities. For more information about NACCHO, please visit www.naccho.org.