



## ***Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act<sup>1</sup>*** ***Agriculture-Related Provisions***

The *CARES Act* provides a number of food- and agriculture-related benefits, including increased funding for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administered nutrition programs and increased flexibilities for State administration of such programs.

Further, the *CARES Act* appropriates \$24 billion in direct funding to compensate producers who have suffered losses due to market conditions caused by COVID-19. This funding is in addition to the second and third tranche of Market Facilitation Payments related to trade aid.

### **Agriculture Disaster Support**

- Appropriates \$9.5 billion to USDA in emergency response funding. This will be used to issue payments to affected agriculture industries, notably: specialty crops, livestock, and producers that supply local food systems.
- Appropriates \$3 million to USDA to increase staffing capacity at Farm Service Agency offices.

### **Additional Funding for Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC)**

- Provides \$14 billion in new funding for CCC.
- The CCC is the funding behind commodity insurance programs such as Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC).
- The \$14-billion replenishment covers fiscal year 2020.

### **Food and Nutrition Service**

- Provides \$8.8 billion in additional funding for food purchases and demonstration projects to increase flexibility for schools.
- Provides \$15.51 billion in additional funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to cover waiver authorities and anticipated increases in participation.
- Provides \$450 million to the Emergency Food Assistance Program for assistance to community partners including food banks.

*This document was prepared as an informational resource and should not be considered legal or business counsel. Please reach out to [CoronavirusHelp@braun.senate.gov](mailto:CoronavirusHelp@braun.senate.gov) for general help, or to Payne Griffin at [Payne\\_Griffin@Braun.Senate.gov](mailto:Payne_Griffin@Braun.Senate.gov) for Agriculture-related questions, concerns, or additional assistance. Last updated March 31, 2020.*

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<sup>1</sup> [H.R.748](#), the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* (Public Law No. 116-136) was approved unanimously by the Senate on March 25, 2020, then by the House of Representatives on March 27, 2020, and signed into law by President Trump on March 27, 2020.