

CCGA Public Policy 2019

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The CCGA Public Policy Committee (Committee) views the following principles as broad policy statements that the organization can work with effectively. Specific policy will be the responsibility of the Committee, CCGA Directors, and membership to identify and act upon when necessary.

The Committee recognizes that our nation's food and energy security is dependent on agricultural production. Involvement in public policy provides an opportunity to advocate for agriculture to protect and preserve family farms and allied agribusiness partners.

Policy Principles

The CCGA Public Policy Committee supports the following concepts:

- **WATER:** Uphold the doctrine of Prior Appropriation and the concept of Maximum Beneficial Use in managing water resources.
- **PROPERTY RIGHTS:** Protect the fundamental right to manage land and production resources in ways both environmentally and economically sustainable, recognizing principles of responsible stewardship that guide our resource management decisions. Support legislation that helps ensure agricultural enterprise opportunities of farmland for future generations to meet the resource needs of the population.
- **TAXES:** A simple, efficient, fair and revenue sufficient taxation policy where compliance involves minimal interference in the marketplace and is shared by all tax payers who benefit.
- **REGULATIONS:** Governmental regulations are needed to protect the public interest. We support the priority to inform legislators and the general public on policy that

recognizes agriculture's economic, health, and security contributions to the State of Colorado and the nation.

- AG INDUSTRY:
 - Encourage rural infrastructure development and expansion of a value-added corn industry that will enhance rural economic development and diversify or strengthen Colorado's corn market.
 - Support livestock industry to establish or maintain programs and policies that lead to the strengthening of the Colorado livestock industry as Colorado's primary corn market.
 - Support the concept of right-to-farm in the state of Colorado where the policy is to preserve, protect, and encourage the development and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food, feed, fiber, fuel and other agricultural products.
 - Encourage renewable energy development to protect the environment, create jobs that fuel local economies, boost the U.S. trade deficit, and reduce our dependency on foreign oil.
 - Support transportation efforts that allow for productive use of roads and highways while promoting public safety and protecting roads and bridges.