



Trust for America's Health Supports Push For Major Farm Bill Changes

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WASHINGTON, January 22, 2007 – Trust for America's Health today joined hundreds of other groups around the country to call for a more balanced farm bill – one that would make real progress toward tackling the serious hunger and diet-related health problems facing our nation's citizens. A better bill also should contain more comprehensive provisions supporting family farms, promoting entrepreneurship in rural America, enhancing conservation, and advancing diversity and support for socially disadvantaged farmers.

A report, "Seeking Balance in U.S. Farm and Food Policy," was released today with endorsements by more than 300 organizations, including Trust for America's Health. The report was developed under the auspices of the Farm and Food Policy Project, a collaboration of public health groups, rural, family farm, conservation, anti-hunger, nutrition, and faith-based groups.

The report outlines innovations aimed at reducing hunger and soaring rates of obesity; promoting entrepreneurship and economic development in farm and rural communities; encouraging local food production, providing incentives for more environmentally-friendly farming systems, and reducing barriers and creating opportunities for young and beginning farmers and ranchers getting started in agriculture.

"Diet related illnesses, such as obesity, heart disease and diabetes, are the most prevalent and deadly threats facing the nation," said Jeff Levi, PhD, Executive Director of Trust For America's Health. "The policy recommendations included here are paramount to ensuring that healthy and affordable food choices are made available to all Americans."

A complete copy of the Farm and Food Policy Project's policy statement and recommendations may be viewed and downloaded from its Web site at www.farmandfoodproject.org.

Trust for America's Health is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to saving lives by protecting the health of every community and working to make disease prevention a national priority. www.healthyamericans.org and www.pandemicfluandyou.org.

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