



NASCOE

Legislative Update

Continuing Resolution and Farm Bill Updates

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The House and Senate are facing multiple deadlines for both FY 2024 Federal appropriations and farm programs authorized by the 2018 Farm Bill. The NASCOE Legislative Committee continues to monitor the activities surrounding both crucial pieces of legislation as well as other NASCOE priorities mentioned in this Legislative update.

The following are House and Senate updates regarding NASCOE's legislative priorities:

- **FY 2024 Federal Appropriations** -The Committees on Appropriations remain focused on passing individual bills while also negotiating the next continuing resolution (CR). The Agriculture Appropriations bill previously passed the Senate by a roll call vote of 82-15; however, the bill remains stalled in the House of Representatives. As reported earlier, the Senate bill would provide FSA's salaries and expense accounts with an **increase of \$15.8 million** when compared to fiscal year 2023. In addition, on October 26, the Senate adopted Senator Tina Smith (D-MN) amendment requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to submit a report regarding county office staffing for both FSA and NRCS. The House continues to debate the Committee's Agriculture Appropriations bill; however, following a disagreement, the bill was removed from the House floor. House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) suggested the bill may return to the floor later this month. The House Committee bill funds FSA salaries & expenses at FY 2023 level.
- **Continuing Resolution (CR)**- The House of Representative recently proposed another CR, which would fund the government past the current November 17 deadline. The House proposal would set two deadlines based on certain programs, January 19, and February 2. Currently, the Senate has not released a draft CR to keep the government open past November 17.
- **Farm Bill Reauthorization**- Both House and Senate farm bill negotiators have been discussing the need for extending current law. The House CR would extend the current law through September 30, 2024, and commodity programs through the 2024 crop year. We expect an introduced Senate CR will also include similar, if not matching farm bill extension language.

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