The State of the States: The State Departments of Agriculture Continued Commitment to and Role in Agriculture

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Overview of Presentation

• “Elevating Agriculture, Accelerating Food”

• About NASDA

• NASDA 2019 policy priorities
  ▫ State and Federal Partnerships

• We are all in this together – Future strategies and opportunities
About NASDA: Who We Are
NASDA
Midterm Elections Summary

2018 MIDTERM ELECTIONS & NASDA MEMBERSHIP

After the 2018 midterm elections, NASDA could experience an up to 42 percent change in membership. Three states selected new commissioners and secretaries of agriculture and 20 states and territories selected new governors, including 10 who switched parties. In most cases, Governors appoint their chief ag official.

NEWLY ELECTED COMMISSIONERS

ALABAMA: Rick Pate
FLORIDA: Nikki Fried
IOWA: Mike Naig

NEWLY ELECTED GOVERNORS

ALASKA: Mike Dunleavy
GUAM: Lou Leon Guerrero
ILLINOIS: J.B. Pritzker
KANSAS: Laura Kelly
MAINE: Janet Mills
MICHIGAN: Gretchen Whitmer
NEW MEXICO: Michelle Lujan Grisham
NEVADA: Steve Sisolak
VIRGIN ISLANDS: Albert Bryan
WISCONSIN: Tony Evers
CALIFORNIA: Gavin Newsom
COLORADO: Jared Polis
CONNECTICUT: Ned Lamont
IDAHO: Brad Little
MINNESOTA: Tim Walz
OHIO: Mike DeWine
OKLAHOMA: Kevin Stitt
SOUTH DAKOTA: Kristi Noem
TENNESSEE: Bill Lee
WASHINGTON: Jay Inslee
WYOMING: Mark Gordon

GET TO KNOW NASDA MEMBERSHIP

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association which represents the elected and appointed commissioners, secretaries, and directors of the departments of agriculture in all fifty states and four U.S. territories. NASDA grows and enhances agriculture by forging partnerships and creating consensus to achieve sound policy outcomes between state departments of agriculture, the federal government, and stakeholders.

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About NASDA: Our Mission

To grow and enhance agriculture by forging **partnerships** and creating **consensus** to achieve sound policy outcomes between state departments of agriculture, the federal government, and stakeholders.
• Health/welfare
• Ag tech/precision
• Gene editing
• Trade/new markets
• Animal protein
• Plant health
• Ag tech/precision
• Gene editing
• Trade/new markets
• Climate
• Food/health
• Food retail
• Consumer choice
• Food safety
• Blockchain
• AI
• Data analytics
• Transparency
• Shared values
• Social media
• Facts not fear
- Rural development
- Financial security
- Rural stress
- HR talent
- Who will farm?
About NASDA: Our Affiliates

- **23** Active Affiliate Organizations -
  - Animal & plant health
  - Seed, fertilizer & feed control
  - Grain inspection
  - Food safety
  - Dairy, meat inspection
  - Weights & measures
  - Communications
  - Pesticide regulation
  - Technology
About NASDA: Our Communications

- WWWW.NASDA.ORG
  Check out our new mobile friendly website and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

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About NASDA: Our Meetings
Our 2019 Policy Priorities

• Growing International Trade
• Food Safety – Implementing the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)
• Workforce Development
• Animal Biotechnology
State - Federal Partnerships

• Advancing the role of states – as co-regulators and not simply stakeholders
• Powerful united voice of the states
• Focus on NASDA policy priorities
• Work closely
  ▫ The Administration
  ▫ Food & Ag allies and stakeholders

NASDA
International Trade

• **Successful implementation of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement** to ensure U.S. Agriculture and Food sectors continue to have access to the vital North American Market

• **New free trade agreements** are needed to increase U.S. ag exports.

• Trade policy stability to avoid current and potential new retaliatory tariffs through negotiations.
Food Safety - Implementation of FSMA

- **NASDA advocates for science-based regulations that advance public health objectives and help secure consumer confidence in America’s food system.**
  - Four rules we most heavily engage on: Produce Safety Rule, Preventive Controls for Animal Food, Preventive Controls for Human food and Foreign Supplier Verification Program.

- **NASDA facilitating co-regulation with the FDA via Cooperative Agreements**
- **Produce Safety**
  - 46 states + 1 territory have cooperative agreements with FDA based on NASDA’s Model Implementation Framework
  - Resolve complications in implementation of the Produce Safety Rule (PSR) on the state level
Implementation of FSMA (contd.)

- Produce tools that assist states in implementing the PSR
- Practical On Farm Readiness Review (OFRR)
  - Voluntary assessments
  - Educate before and while we regulate
  - Written with our extension partners from University of Florida, North Carolina State University, Michigan State University, and Rutgers University
  - State or FDA staff trained to serve in all states & territories
  - One state conducted over 30 OFRRs in less than 6 months

- Animal Food Safety
  - Over 100 years of co-regulation
  - Model Framework complete, moving to resource development
Workforce Development

• Labor shortages and a lack of skilled labor are persistent.

• **How can we proactively address workforce challenges?**

• NASDA is committed to filling the gaps in agriculture employment:
  - Farmer mental health
  - Farm technologies/Safety
  - New farmers
  - Redefining what it means to work in agriculture
  - Expanding agriculture career pathways
Animal Biotechnology

- Biotechnology plays a critical role in meeting a number of producer, consumer, and societal needs;

- **Current regulation:** Each specific genomic alteration is considered to be a separate new animal drug subject to new animal drug approval and requirements;

- NASDA urges a concerted effort to ensure that animal biotechnology products are approved in a timely manner, while supporting and encouraging education to consumers to increase understanding and acceptance of the technology.
NASDA’s 2018 Farm Bill Priorities
We Need a Farm Bill

WE NEED A FARM BILL.
GOOD FOOD. MORE JOBS. CONSERVATION. THRIVING COMMUNITIES.
THESE ARE ALL THINGS WE CAN GET BEHIND.

As the chief agriculture officials in their states, members of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) see first-hand the changing dynamics, increasing challenges, and new opportunities in agricultural production across the country and have a deep appreciation for the important contribution agriculture makes to our nation’s security and economy.

THE FARM BILL IMPACTS EVERYONE.

Agricultural producers, the rural economy, and communities of every size rely upon a forward looking, and fully funded Farm Bill. NASDA calls for enhanced investment in American agriculture that provides producers the tools they need to succeed. The Farm Bill is also vital to providing consumers access to the safest, highest quality and affordable food supply, which is essential for our nation’s economy and security.

Our next Farm Bill must remain unified – securing a commitment to American agriculture and the critical food and nutritional assistance programs for those who need them the most.

OUR PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT FARM BILL:

- Animal Disease
- Trade Promotion
- Specialty Crops
- Invasive Species
- Conservation
- Research
- Food Safety
NASDA Policy on Ag Research

- NASDA’s supports agriculture research funding at the state and federal level
  - NIFA, (AFRI), ARS, NASS, ERS
  - Support NC-FAR and FFAR
- Focus: **Producer-centered**, applicable research to advance agriculture into the next century
  - Economic viability, environmental health, technology, production tools
  - A modern approach for the research and delivery system
Enhancing Research through Partnerships

- State and stakeholder driven involvement
- Partnerships among NASDA, LGUs and USDA
- Incentives for public-private partnerships
- Programs and incentives aimed at regional cooperation should be employed to best use limited funding
NASDA Support for Extension Partnerships

• NASDA supports a close relationship with Extension
• The partnership critical to link urban and rural communities.
• Funding is needed at the local, state and federal levels to support Extension.
Women in Agriculture Project

Women in Agriculture Survey

Women’s Farm to Food Accelerator Program

Women’s Farm to Food Business Competition
Farm to School Initiative

Farm to School Survey

National Conference for State Dept. of Agriculture Staff

National Farm to School Training for Farmers
ELEVATING AG,
ACCELERATING FOOD
2019 NASDA WINTER POLICY CONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 25-27 | ARLINGTON, VA
Science-based Ag Policy
Working together
Hot Topics:

1. Memphis Meats
2. Colorado Crisis Services
3. Healthy Soils, Thriving Farms

NASDA
Questions?

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