

Role Profile for the Farmers Bureau

Part 1...Individual/Organization Profile

- *Name of Organization*
 - Farm Bureau
- *Lobbying Expenses Over the Past Three Years*
 - 2024
 - Lobbying Expenditures: \$596,760.50
 - Farm PAC Spending: \$63,951
 - Donations for Democratic Candidates: \$10,000
 - Donations for Republican Candidates: \$38,390
 - 2022
 - Lobbying Expenditures: \$541,703.11
 - Farm PAC Spending: \$274,331
 - Donations for Democratic Candidates: \$40,900
 - Donations for Republican Candidates: \$46,400
 - 2020
 - Lobbying Expenditures: \$403,121.27
 - Farm PAC Spending: \$169,776
 - Donations for Democratic Candidates: \$53,500
 - Donations for Republican Candidates: \$84,800
- *General Position on Economic, Social, and Environmental Issues (as applicable)*
 - Economic
 - Support policies that protect the profitability of farms and ranches

- Protection of agricultural land
- Support for agricultural trade and stable markets to sell products domestically and internationally
- Advocate for assistance with financial losses due to natural disasters
- Support for reliable and affordable water supplies and infrastructure
- Lower taxes for agricultural businesses
- Lower operating costs for agricultural businesses
- Opposition to regulations which increase farmers and ranchers costs significantly
- Social
 - Support for farmworker housing
 - Protection of labor and employment policies
 - Support for rural community development
 - Advocate for policies that support small and family farms
 - Representation of farmers and ranchers in state policy decisions
 - Focused on agriculture and rural communities
- Environmental
 - Advocate for water conservation and sustainable groundwater management
 - Support for soil health and programs that improve soil quality
 - Reducing agricultural greenhouse gas emissions
 - Reduce wildlife and agriculture conflict with wildlife management policies
 - Advocate for access to pesticides and crop protection products
 - Oppose policies that restrict agricultural production unnecessarily
- *Identify Constituents*
 - Constituency Groups
 - California FFA Association
 - California Bountiful Foundation

- A non-profit science, research and education organization
- Farm Employers Labor Service (FELS)
 - Assists agricultural employers with management, safety, and labor laws
- Constituents
 - Members of county farm bureaus
 - Farmers, ranchers, and timber producers
 - Beginner and young farmers
- *Which region has the highest concentration of your constituents?*
 - The highest concentration of Farm Bureau members live in the Central Valley, specifically the San Joaquin Valley.

Part 2...Constituent Profile

- *Economics*
 - Prominent Commodities and Their Revenue
 - Farms and Ranches
 - Milk and dairy - \$8.13 billion
 - Grapes - \$6.52 billion
 - Cattle and calves - \$4.76 billion
 - Lettuce - \$3.93 billion
 - Almonds - \$3.88 billion
 - Pistachios, strawberries, tomatoes, carrots, broilers
 - The unemployment rate, income levels, poverty rate, etc.
 - Income Average by Industry (Incomes in this industry vary largely based on the size of the farm, the region it is in, and the person's position- owner, manager, employee. Many farms will experience net losses.)
 - Milk and dairy:
 - Managers: \$58,510 - \$116,236

- Employees: \$37,300 - \$43,127
- Grapes
 - Managers: \$65,753 - \$96,000
 - Employees: \$40,050 - \$41,635
- Cattle and calves
 - Managers: \$53,565 - \$70,350
 - Employees: \$35,831 - \$41,860
- Lettuce
 - Managers: \$58,510 - \$84,820
 - Employees: \$32,669 - \$35,151
- Almonds
 - Managers: \$53,565 - \$83,008
 - Employees: \$36,529 - \$36,670
- Poverty Level in California
 - 22.3% in 2024
 - Agriculture is an industry with one of the highest poverty rates in California.
- Unemployment rate
 - Unemployment status for farm owners are not explicitly tracked because they are self-employed. However, the agriculture industry as a whole is tracked.
 - In heavily concentrated farming areas unemployment rates reach from 9% to 15%. This number increases in the winter during times where crops are out of season.
 - There are an average of 400,000 active agriculture jobs in California.
- *Demographics*

- Population and population breakdown by race, ethnicity, age, income
 - Population
 - The CA Farm Bureau represents over 30,000 farmers, ranchers, and agricultural producers from 53 local county Farm Bureaus.
 - Has a total of about 78,000 members
 - 119,923 producers in California.
 - Urban/Rural Breakdown
 - There is no specific breakdown of the amount of farmers and ranchers that live in urban and rural areas, however, 64% of the counties in California are classified as urban, which means that many likely reside in urban areas, even if the farm itself is located in a more rural area of the county.
 - Age
 - Under 25: 1,187
 - 25-34: 6,457
 - 35-44: 13,918
 - 45-54: 17,436
 - 55-64: 29,994
 - 65-74: 31,773
 - 75+: 19,158
 - Gender
 - Male: 74,679
 - Female: 45,244
 - Race/Ethnicity
 - The CA Farm Bureau does not release a breakdown of their members race/ethnicities, but the overall demographic of farmers in California is:

- White: > 90%
- Hispanic/Latino: 12.3%
- Asian: 5%
- American Indian: ~1.1%
- Black: ~0.3-0.4%
- Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander: ~0.4%

- *Politics*

- Partisan voter registration
 - There is no specific data on CA Farm Bureau members or California farmers and ranchers voter registration. However, most of the Farm Bureaus money went towards supporting republican candidates.
- % voted Democrat/Republican in 2020, 2016, 2012
 - There is no specific data on how members of the CA Farm Bureau or California farmers and ranchers voted in the 2020, 2016, or 2012 elections.
- 3 specific issues that are important to your constituents
 - Livestock losses due to wildlife attacks. Many attacks come from protected animals, which can make for a difficult situation when farmers need to protect their herds.
 - Securing reliable and sustainable water sources, which is difficult with droughts, regulations, and competing demands.
 - Getting reliable and affordable energy as energy costs get higher and regulations change.

- *Constituents' general position on economic, social, and environmental issues*

- Economic
 - Reducing regulations that significantly increase taxes and costs
 - Advocates to keep farms profitable

- Supports federal immigration and agricultural worker reforms in order to provide a reliable workforce
- Supports policies that maintain access to trade markets
- Wants government funding (for things like disaster relief)
- Social
 - Protecting the safety of workers
 - Supports rural communities
 - Want to keep farmers and ranchers in business
 - Support for farmworker housing
- Environmental
 - Advocates for water conservation
 - Advocates for protecting healthy soil
 - Supports reducing greenhouse gas emissions
 - Wants cleaner, efficient equipment
 - Believes environmental regulations should not make production more costly for farmers