



# Farm Bill Perspectives

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# *Farm Bill Perspectives*

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- Impacts of 9-11
- Politics
- How did we get here?
- Where are we going?

# Impacts of 9-11

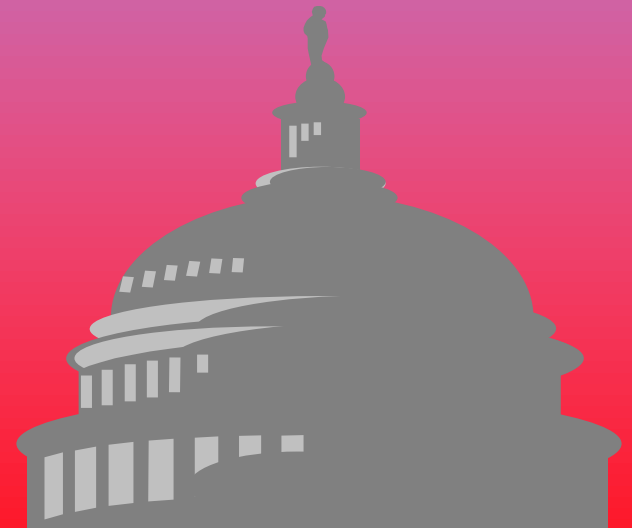
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- Pre 9-11: Focus on Congressional activity; domestic issues and economy
- Post 9-11: Move from Congress' agenda to the President's agenda
- Capitol Hill isolated by anthrax scare

# Election year politics

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- Senate 50 Democrats; 49 Republicans; 1 Independent
- House only 6 vote Republican majority



# *How did we get here?*

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- March 1996 Federal Agriculture Improvement & Reform Act
  - Reduce & eliminate dairy price supports
  - Replace with recourse loans in Jan.2000
  - Consolidate & reform FMMO's
  - Allow CA to keep higher nonfat solids standards
  - Add Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact
  - Continue DEIP & other trade related provisions

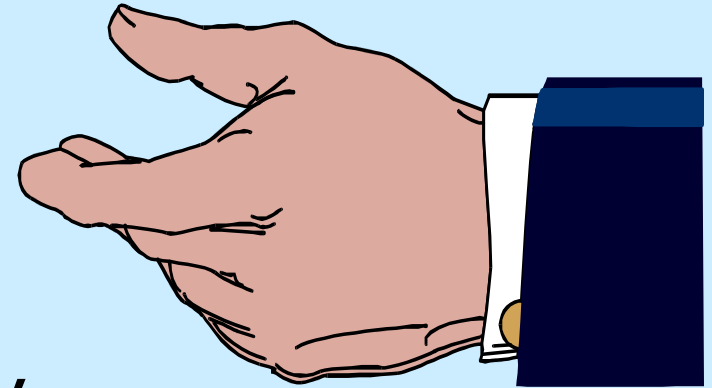
# Where are we now?

## ■ Farm Security Act of 2001

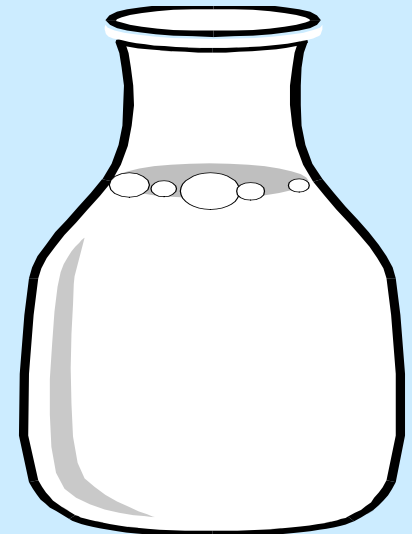
### ■ House and Senate bills:

- | Continue dairy price supports at \$9.90/cwt
- | Continue DEIP to WTO allowable limits
- | Add assessments on imports for dairy promotion
- | Make changes in authority for MilkPEP program
- | No tinkering with FMMO's

# But the Senate wants more...



- Another \$2 billion for dairy
  - Favors the NE, perpetuating and worsening regional disparities

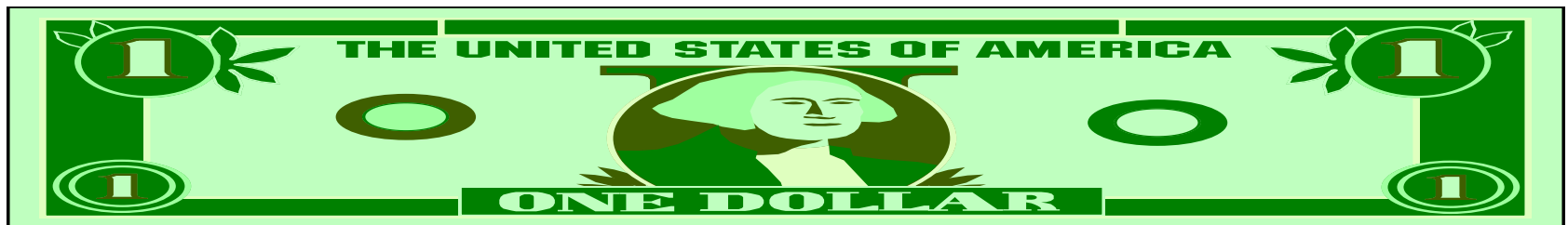


# *Connie's Crystal Ball*

- Debate will be changed by budget constraints and other priorities

# Farm “subsidies” to the wealthy

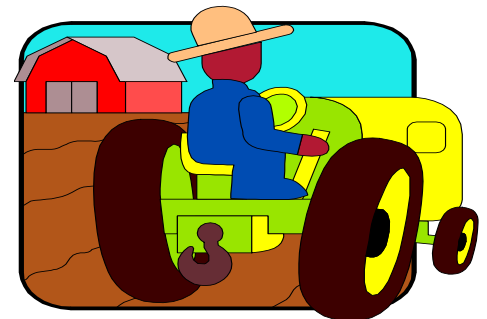
■ Rep. Marion Berry (D-AR)	\$750,449
■ David Rockefeller	\$352,187
■ Ted Turner	\$176,077
■ Scottie Pippen	\$131,575
■ Sam Donaldson	\$ 29,106



# *Possible outcomes*

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- Farm bill completed by March or April
- Farm bill rolls over to next year



# Win - Win - Win Solution

- Balance costs and added value to lure more customers from the competition
  - Farmers and processors sell more milk
  - Consumers get products they want and can afford

“Obstacles are those  
frightful things you see  
when you take your eyes  
off your goals.”

-Henry Ford



Farm bill process needs  
*your* involvement -- be  
an active participant in  
our democracy