

Healthy Soils Healthy Climate Act: What They're Saying

Nicole Lederer, Chair and Co-founder of E2: “We want to thank Senator Wyden and Representatives Salinas, Bonamici, and Casten for championing the Healthy Soils, Healthy Climate bill. This bill promotes innovation, cutting-edge research on carbon and soil health and greater economic resilience for farmers. It is a win for rural America and for our economy and environment more broadly.”

Matthew Kaplan, Deputy Director, Federal Affairs Water and Agriculture: “The Healthy Soils Healthy Climate bill supports game-changing soil health practices that are turning working farms into in-field laboratories of the future. Healthy Soils Healthy Climate will help farmers innovate toward climate resilience. Representatives Salinas, Bonamici and Casten and Senator Wyden have shown important leadership as Congress writes the 2023 Farm Bill. “

Willamette Valley, Ore., farmer, and Managing Partner of Farmland LP, Craig Wichner: "Improving our soils through healthy, organic farming practices is a complex, multi-year effort that yields significant ongoing rewards to our annual food production. By providing access to research, technical experts, and financial support to explore new practices, the Healthy Soils Healthy Climate Act reduces risks and benefits farmers, consumers, and our state agriculture research institutions."

Gary Wertish, President, Minnesota Farmers Union: “The Healthy Soils Healthy Climate Act supports innovation, research and resilience where it matters most --- on the farm. It is a win for farmers in Minnesota and around the country. We thank Sen. Wyden and Reps. Salinas, Bonamici and Casten for championing this important legislation.”

Lt. Gen. John G. Castellaw, USMC (Ret), a farmer, CEO of Farmspace Systems LLC and veteran (Tenn.): “Members of my family have been farmers in America for over 300 years and are proud stewards of the soil. But it is clear our efforts have fallen short with declining soil health becoming a threat to our national security. A healthy soil is necessary to ensure food security, not only around the world, but in our own country. The Healthy Soils Healthy Climate Act will help rebuild our nation’s soil infrastructure, improve crop yields, build climate resiliency, and underpin a strong economy. It’s a win-win for farmers and for America’s security.”

Jon Kallen, Ag-tech entrepreneur and managing partner of Jennings Kallen Advisors, LLC. (Des Moines, Iowa): “When working with a lot of early-stage Ag Tech companies to deliver products that can lower carbon intensity and improve soil health, proof of performance is vital. This bill would provide the research support for monitoring and measurement needed to not only verify ag tech innovations but also help scale innovation solutions for wider use by farmers all across the U.S.”

David Kolsrud, South Dakota corn and soybean farmer and head of Carbon Coop 2.0: “Whether you’re growing corn or soybeans, better soil health means improved crop conditions and higher profits. The positive outcomes from these practices can take longer than one growing season, so the multi-year support this program provides is essential. It allows farmers to stay the course. This program also enhances access to technical support, monitoring and education about how best to deploy these practices in specific regions—meaning folks across the country will have the resources to make these new practices work for them.”

Paul Zorner, Governing Board Chair of the Alternative Fuels and Chemicals Coalition and Adjunct Professor, Dept of Horticulture at North Carolina State University: “America’s soil is increasingly degraded and, without bold action now, risks an economic threat to farmers as crop yields and costs become more and more unpredictable and less resilient to a changing climate. This Act provides strong support to reverse that trend, establishing local grower-to-grower on-farm demonstration sites and incentivizing much needed innovation that will create well-paying rural jobs, boost local farm economies, and improve profitability of struggling farms all while enriching our nation’s degraded soil.”

Endorsing Organizations: Farmland LP, E9 Hydrogen, Danone of North America – North America, Minnesota Farmers Union, Iowa Farmers Union, E2, AgLaunch Initiative, AlgEternal Technologies, BleuJaune Advisors, Carbon Co-op 2.0, Carbon180, Evangelical Environmental Network, Farmspace Systems LLC., Land Core, NRDC, Resilient Agriculture Coalition, Sunny Day Farms, Victory Farms, Zero Foodprint, Spruce Capital Partners, Continuum Ag: Agriculture Soil Health Data Intelligence, Funders of Regenerative Agriculture, Kolsrud Farms, Lakeview Organic Grain, Farm From a Box, Terviva: Alternative Protein & Sustainable Agriculture, American Security Project, Gross-Wen Technologies, Colorado Regenerative Recovery Coalition, Gevo: American Renewable Chemicals and Advanced Biofuels, Harborview Farms, Novozymes, Western Skies Strategies, Heliae.