

# National Policy Recommendations

## USDA: PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

**We Support the United States Congress to reinstate, by any means necessary, public access of the Common Land Unit (CLU) data to the NRCS Data Gateway.**

- Whereas United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, CLU data has been readily available and easily accessible to the public since 2004 on NRCS Data Gateway;
- Whereas Section 1619 of the 2008 Farm Bill included restrictions upon the release of USDA CLU data;
- Whereas Section 1619 of the 2008 Farm Bill was not part of the bills passed by either the U.S. House or the U.S. Senate and was inserted during the Conference Committee process without public hearings or debate;
- Whereas CLU data only contains field boundary information and does not contain compliance information, wetland, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), or ownership information;
- Whereas CLU data is used by producers and their wide range of support businesses including: appraisers, crop insurers, financial service providers, farm managers, irrigation and tilling installers, and aerial, chemical, fertilizer and manure applicators for accurate and timely records and procedures.
- Whereas Section 1619 creates unnecessary inefficiencies and negatively impacts agricultural professionals, producers, landowners, and others who utilize that data in their professions on a regular basis;