

# WORKING FOR YOU 2017

Thank you for your membership in Farm Bureau.  
During 2017, your membership allowed Farm Bureau to be ...



## Your advocate:

Sponsoring legislation, representing your interests

- Secured a 5 percent purchase preference for California-grown food in purchases by state agencies through sponsorship of successful state legislation
- Won \$300 million in funding to help farmers and food processors comply with state air-quality and climate-change mandates
- Ensured local control in implementing groundwater law
- Helped win approval for a law that makes it easier for small water diverters to certify water-measuring devices
- Surveyed members about employee shortages in support of federal immigration reform
- Proposed amendments to bring regulatory certainty to the Clean Water Act
- Fought for estate-tax repeal and other tax reforms
- Supported repeal, replacement of WOTUS, while fighting proposed state version
- Advanced California priorities in federal farm legislation
- Worked to open and maintain market access for California agricultural products



## **Your goalie:**

### **Blocking efforts to undermine agriculture**

- Successfully opposed state Senate Bill 49 and other unreasonable environmental legislation
- Stopped or moderated bills that would have complicated agricultural employment
- Blocked legislation that would have raised energy costs
- Stopped legislation that would have expanded restrictions governing wild and scenic rivers
- Opposed state river flow plans that would reduce water supplies
- Blocked a rule that would have allowed utilities unlimited property access related to utility lines
- Assured continuation of depredation rules for mountain lions that kill livestock
- Demanded sound science in pesticide regulation
- Defended water and property rights



## Your voice:

### Amplifying your opinions in a variety of forums

- Coordinated listening sessions with the U.S. agriculture secretary and House Agriculture Committee
- Familiarized White House staff with California agriculture during a comprehensive tour
- Generated more than 17,600 messages to elected officials and agencies via 13 campaigns
- Met with all 55 California congressional offices and all 120 state legislative offices
- Responded to more than 400 media inquiries
- Assured investment in surface water storage through the Proposition 1 water bond
- Co-founded a coalition that advocates for rational funding of wildfire suppression
- Challenged state endangered-species status for the gray wolf
- Intervened on behalf of ranchers in a lawsuit affecting continued grazing on federal lands
- Joined in a lawsuit on the economic impact of critical-habitat designations
- Represented farmers and ranchers before state and regional water boards considering irrigated-lands programs
- Led a coalition supporting changes in the National Flood Insurance Program
- Co-founded a network to showcase innovative agricultural practices
- Improved the public perception of agriculture, reaching non-farm audiences via social media, TV, magazine

# Your source of savings:

Reducing the costs to farm and ranch



- Culminated years of advocacy by successfully supporting elimination of the SRA fire tax
- Provided new discounts on Ford vehicles, workers' compensation insurance, auto parts, Deere equipment
- Provided additional discounts on insurance, supplies, services
- Won renewal of an emergency regulation to ease impacts of tricolored-blackbird nesting in farm fields
- Sponsored successful legislation to assure flexibility in rodent control
- Protected the Williamson Act and advocated for other supportive local land-use policies
- Defended farmers' access to adequate, affordable energy resources

# Your resource:

Providing services you need to remain sustainable



- Published a guide on surface water measurement and reporting
- Provided guidance on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act implementation
- Offered training sessions on compliance with federal food-safety rules
- Provided advice on compliance with labor laws
- Published comprehensive news coverage online and in print
- Recruited, trained and supported both new and established agricultural leaders
- Assisted members in protecting their legacy through prudent intergenerational planning
- Provided the information you depend on to prepare for what's next