APLU BAA meeting with American Farm Bureau Federation

Association of Public & Land-grant Universities

America is Falling Dangerously Behind

American agricultural products account for \$140 billion in exports. Agriculture, food, and related industries contribute \$1.1 trillion to our GDP and support 22 million jobs. Behind these numbers are researchers doing cutting-edge work to fuel the next century of American innovation. Despite all this, U.S. public sector funding for agricultural R&D is falling, while China's spending has skyrocketed – handily surpassing the U.S. in 2009.







69%

Of public and land-grant Schools of Agriculture are over 25 years old, meaning they are rapidly approaching the end of their life cycles and require urgent renovations to core building components to stay safe and useful.

Gordian This is according to a Gordian report released in February 2021.

06 PROBLEM



U.S. researchers and educators are being asked to perform 21st Century science in facilities constructed in the 1950s and 1960s.

What does this mean for food security, innovation, the marketplace, and our supply chain?

07 PROBLEM

America Needs Federal Investment in Extramural Agricultural Research Facilities to Stimulate the Economy





What This Would Achieve

- Economic growth in communities nationwide
- A modern workforce and the creation of 200,000 jobs
- Long-term U.S. competitiveness in agricultural innovation
- Climate solutions and bio-based products

Ask

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities' Board on Agricultural Assembly/Experiment Station Section calls upon Congress and the administration to provide \$11.5 billion to update the invaluable network of extramural research facilities via a grant program administered through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

We seek funding for this request through an economic stimulus bill.

