



## Innovative FEED Act Will Modernize FDA Ingredient Review Process (S.1842/H.R.6687)

The American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) supports the Innovative Feed Enhancement and Economic Development (Innovative FEED) Act ([S.1842/H.R. 6687](#)). Sponsors of this effort in Congress include Rep. Greg Pence, R-Ind.-6, and Sen. Roger Marshall, R-Kan. This bill would modernize the Food and Drug Administration's review process for feed ingredients by amending the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act to establish a new category of animal food additives that do not contribute to animal nutrition, but rather, act in the animal's gut to provide health benefits, reduce emissions or address human food safety concerns.

### AFIA POSITION

In May, the FDA officially withdrew its outdated policy guide, which since 1998, classified new animal food ingredients with non-nutritive claims (e.g., reducing food safety pathogens, promoting gut health, reducing emissions) as drugs rather than feeds. The agency cited the need to promote safe, innovative products through its Animal and Veterinary Innovation Agenda. However, animal food innovators remain in limbo, as the FDA evaluates new ingredients as animal drugs on a case-by-case basis, while continuing to work on determining a long-term regulatory pathway. **The Innovative FEED Act will bring about the necessary changes to ensure these novel feed ingredients are more appropriately reviewed as food additives, not drugs, and can more quickly become available to U.S. farmers and ranchers.**

### KEY POINTS

The **AFIA urges members of Congress to cosponsor S. 1842 and H.R. 6687** and support legislative action to move this important legislation forward.

- **Without congressional approval, the FDA lacks the legal authority to regulate these products as feed ingredients.** The FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine will continue to regulate these products as animal drugs, providing limited enforcement discretion on certain provisions of the process on a case-by-case basis. This drug approach limits innovation that could provide solutions to meet U.S. food safety, public health and environmental challenges.
- **Requiring these ingredients to use the FDA's long-established Food Additive Petition process ensures they are reviewed appropriately,** promoting safety to the animal and the people who eat the resulting meat, poultry, milk products, eggs or fish.
- **Updating FDA's legislative authority brings animal food regulation into the 21st century so U.S. farmers and ranchers have access to the technologies they need to compete globally.** Dozens of countries are safely using these feed ingredients on farms, yielding measurable results in improved animal production and well-being, diminished pre-harvest food safety concerns and reduced environmental impact of livestock production. U.S. agriculture is falling behind.
- **Many in Congress and within the administration have voiced support for these ingredients** as a means of working toward the United States' food safety, methane reduction and climate goals.

See the AFIA's



Legislative Priorities

Contact Leah Wilkinson at [lwilkinson@afia.org](mailto:lwilkinson@afia.org) for any questions.

*Last updated Oct. 2024*