



AFIA Supports Reducing On-Farm Emissions With the EMIT LESS Act (S. 4056)

On March 27, Senators Michael Bennet, R-Colo., Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, Tammy Baldwin, D-Wis., and Jerry Moran, R-Kan., [introduced](#) the [Enteric Methane Innovation Tools for Lower Emissions and Sustainable Stock \(EMIT LESS\) Act \(S. 4056\)](#). The bill, which the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) supports, would establish research priorities to reduce emissions from dairy and beef cattle across America's family farms and ranches and enabling conservation programs to utilize feed management and ingredients in these efforts.

AFIA POSITION

The AFIA believes this bill will bring the United States closer to meeting its climate policy goals, including the Global Methane Pledge, which intends to reduce U.S. methane emissions by 30% below 2020 levels by 2030. Feed and feed ingredients, such as methane inhibitors and modifiers, offer a promising avenue for achieving this goal, but the country will only realize their full benefits should farmers elect to use them once they have made it to market approval. The U.S. agricultural value chain needs legislation like this and the [Innovative FEED Act \(S. 1842 and H.R. 6687\)](#) in order to effectively leverage these novel feed ingredients to meet its methane reduction targets and pave the way for sustainable livestock production practices worldwide.

KEY POINTS

The AFIA urges members of Congress to **cosponsor S. 4056 and introduce a companion bill** in the House.

- **The EMIT LESS Act will help get innovative feed ingredients into the hands of farmers and ranchers so they can start reducing U.S. enteric methane emissions sooner.**
In particular, the bill will expand the U.S. Department of Agriculture's research capabilities for products (e.g., feed additives) and practices that reduce environmental emissions and create voluntary incentives through conservation programs to speed use of those products by farmers and ranchers.
- **U.S. agriculture is falling behind international competitors by not using innovative emissions-reducing tools on farms now.**
This legislation will level the playing field by enhancing the competitiveness of our nation's livestock in the global economy. It grants the USDA the authority to allocate resources toward voluntary livestock practices with significant potential to lower greenhouse gas emissions and enhance profitability for our nation's livestock producers.
- **Novel feed ingredients are part of the USDA's and the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) plans to modernize our food system while producing healthier, safer, more sustainable food.**
The USDA mentions this will expand research and incentivize the adoption of emission-reducing practices on farms, aiming to mitigate the significant environmental impact of enteric methane emissions from American dairy and beef cattle operations. In February, the FDA stated [it intends to withdraw](#) its outdated regulatory policy which forces these products to be regulated as animal drugs, signaling that the time to fix the broken process is now.