



**Indiana Farm Bureau<sup>®</sup>**  
*Advocating for Agriculture*

**LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES  
2024**

[www.infb.org](http://www.infb.org)



# RURAL VIABILITY FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

The **divide between rural and urban** communities is arguably the greatest it has ever been. Without access to reliable infrastructure, high-speed broadband, a qualified and dependable workforce, and the means to produce food, the viability of rural communities across the state is in **serious danger**.



## RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

INFB will advocate for policy proposals that are future-facing, with an emphasis on increasing infrastructure funding in rural communities.



## BROADBAND

INFB will continue to advocate for policies that expand broadband access, with an emphasis on policy proposals that prioritize access to affordable, reliable broadband in rural communities.



## WORKFORCE

INFB will continue to advocate for policies that support increased, high-wage off-farm jobs, as well as the availability of high-quality childcare.



## FOOD SECURITY

INFB will continue to advocate for policies that support agriculture production, with an emphasis on policy proposals that keep producers farming.



## TAXATION AND STATE FISCAL POLICY

Tax assessment accuracy and the consistent increase of tax burdens **directly impact producers' bottom lines**. Agriculture is a capital-intensive business that relies entirely on land and equipment – both of which are subject to property taxes in the state of Indiana.

For perspective, in 2023, the Indiana General Assembly adopted the current biennial budget, which is valued at more than **\$44 billion**. The agriculture industry in the state contributes an estimated **\$35.1 billion** to the state's economy annually.



### FARMLAND FORMULA

INFB will continue to advocate for policy proposals that decrease the reliance on farmland for sustaining property tax revenues.



### STATE AND LOCAL TAX REFORM

INFB will continue to advocate for policies that ensure essential services are adequately funded, with an emphasis on policy proposals that are fiscally responsible, and are based on the ability to pay.



## LAND USE AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

Indiana annually ranks as one of the **top five** states in the nation for agriculture production, but it ranks 38th by landmass. With **more than 80%** of land devoted to farms, forests and woodlands, land use and property rights continue to be threatened by development.



### WATER

INFB will prioritize policy proposals that improve water quality, with an emphasis on policies that assess the volume of available water across the state.



### FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF FARMLAND

To date, more than 400,000 acres across the state are under foreign ownership, with Portugal, France and Israel having the largest share of landowners. INFB will continue to advocate for policy proposals that safeguard farmland.



### FARMLAND PRESERVATION

INFB will continue to advocate for policy proposals to preserve farmland, with an emphasis on policies that provide economic incentives, which afford multi-generational succession on the land.

For more information about our 2024 priorities, scan the QR code with your phone or visit [infb.org/statepriorities](https://infb.org/statepriorities).

