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One Week, Two Farm Bills

The ag community turned its focus to Washington, D.C., this week as farm bill measures went through mark up, passing in both the Senate and House Agriculture Committees. On schedule, the Senate went first Tuesday, passing its version by a vote of 15 to 5. The House followed on Wednesday with a passing vote of 36 to 10.

NSP commends both committees for passing farm bills this week, and we look forward to continuing to work with lawmakers as the legislation moves to floor of both chambers. We are pleased to see that both versions prioritize crop insurance, include a price protection component, and offer farmers a choice of policies. NSP prefers the elevated protection offered by the House through Price Loss Coverage (PLC), as well as the exclusion of conservation compliance being tied to crop insurance.

Regardless of preferences, now is the time for all commodities, regions and interest groups to circle the wagons and promote both good bills on the House and Senate floors where opponents will be offering bad amendments aimed at dividing us.