



USApple Advocacy Update

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#AppleOutlook2021

usapple.org

Advocacy During a Pandemic...

- March 11, 2020: USApple Capitol Hill Day
- March 12 – the country closed down
- Almost immediately ... consular problems and H-2A concerns
- Emphasis shifted to relief – ensuring agriculture & apples included

Advocacy During a Pandemic...

- Conference calls and zoom – replaced face-to-face
- Strong relationships led to success
 - CFAP payments to growers
 - Funds for to offset worker safety expenses
- And a return to agriculture labor reform....

Farm Workforce Modernization Act

- Passed the House Twice ---
- December 2019
- Special Rule Allowing 3/21 Vote
- Strong Bipartisan & Apple Support



FWMA: What Does it Do?

- Work Authorization & Legal Status
 - +10 years= 4 year future commitment
 - -10 years = 8 year future commitment
- H-2A Reform
 - Wage freeze & 3.25% cap going forward
 - Master applications and expands to year-round
- E-Verify

Now it's Up to the Senate...

- Senators Bennett & Crapo...Feinstein & Tillis
- USApple & AWC “meeting” with key offices
- Build on FWMA
 - Additional H-2A improvements
 - Delicate balance

Now it's Up to the Senate...

- Clock is Ticking
- Budget Reconciliation?
- Watch Your Inbox: We Need Your Help

Additional Priorities

- Farm Bill Reauthorization – Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance
 - Research, Block Grants, Crop Insurance, Market Access Program...
- Trade Policy
 - 232 Tariffs Must Go
 - USMCA Implementation
 - Future Negotiations – EU, India, China...

Additional Priorities

- Strengthen Buy American Provisions
- Advocate for USDA Purchases
- Child Nutrition Reauthorization
 - Maintain integrity of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
 - Maintain serving requirements for fruits & vegetables

Thank you!

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