

Sweet Facts



July 10, 2013

MD Business Leaders: "Farm Bill Must Include Reform to Sugar Subsidies"

Letter to the Editor in The Baltimore Sun – July 9, 2013

By Bill Buppert, Owner, Mary Sue Candies; Mitchell Goetze, Owner, Goetze's Candy; J.R. Paterakis, Owner, H&S Bakery, Inc.; and Paul Wockenfuss, Owner, Wockenfuss Homemade Candies

- "This year's farm bill would have made substantive changes to nearly every commodity program operated by the federal government except the sugar program ...
- "While an amendment offering modest reforms was defeated in favor of the status quo, we applaud Maryland Reps. Andy Harris, Dutch Ruppersberger, John Delaney and Chris Van Hollen who voted for the amendment, a vote to support the 190 Maryland manufacturing establishments and more than 8,500 Maryland jobs that rely on competitive sugar for their operations.
- "... [The sugar program] puts at risk the more than 600,000 American manufacturing jobs supported by sugar using manufacturers of the sweet products we all love, like Goetze's Caramel Creams, Mary Sue Candies, Wockenfuss Candies, and yes, H&S Bakery bread!
- "... Sugar program reform must be part of any new farm bill, and we encourage Maryland Reps. John Sarbanes, Donna Edwards, Steny Hoyer and Elijah Cummings to remember that while there is no sugar grown in Maryland, there are food manufacturing jobs in their districts. We ask them to reconsider their position on sugar reform ..."

Click here to read the full letter.

Only Congress can fix a program that hurts U.S. consumers, taxpayers, food manufacturers and their workers with simple reforms to the Farm Bill.

Sugar Program Reform Must Be a Part of Any New Farm Bill!

Learn more about the need to reform U.S. sugar policy at www.sugarreform.org.

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The Coalition for Sugar Reform is an alliance of consumers, food and beverage manufacturers, trade advocates, environmental groups, taxpayer watchdog organizations, responsible government advocates, think tanks and other interests. Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program – a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.