



June 11, 2015

CAGW: U.S. Sugar Program ‘Keeps Prices Much Higher Than Necessary for Consumers and Taxpayers’

Yesterday, in testimony before the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs’ Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management, **Citizens Against Government Waste President Thomas Schatz** highlighted the need for sugar reform. With U.S. sugar prices now double the world price, Schatz’s remarks are timely.

He said:

- *“The sugar program not only distorts the free market, it also **keeps prices much higher than necessary for consumers and taxpayers**. ... [It] could accurately be described as an **outdated, Soviet-style command-and-control program** that uses price supports, prohibitive tariffs, import quotas, guaranteed loans, and domestic marketing allotments to artificially inflate the price of sugar.*
- *“The program is often justified as providing assistance to small farmers; however, the sugar program is **designed to benefit about a dozen highly profitable sugar processors and about 4,700 sugar farms that are not surprisingly some of the nation’s wealthiest farms**.*
- *“While the federal government has been supporting sugar beet and sugar cane growers and processors for more than 75 years, the **sugar program has been particularly pernicious to taxpayers since the 2008 Farm Bill**.”*

The full testimony can be found [here](#).

Only Congress can fix the U.S. sugar program.

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

Connect with us on

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Flickr](#)

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 Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.