



June 24, 2015

Sugar Reform Advocates Redouble Their Efforts

An article published today in the *Washington Post* highlights continuing efforts to reform U.S. sugar policy, including increased efforts by the Corn Refiners Association. **With U.S. sugar prices now double the world price, again, groups are calling on Congress to reform the protectionist program. Here's an excerpt:**

- *“While other crop subsidies have withered, Washington’s taste for sugar has been constant. The sugar program, which has existed in various forms since the 1930s, uses an elaborate system of import quotas, price floors and taxpayer-backed loans to prop up domestic growers, which number fewer than 4,500.*
- *“Sugar’s protected status is largely explained by the sophistication and clout of a small but wealthy interest group*
- *“... ‘While every other farm support program has received multiple rounds of reforms, big sugar has not been touched,’ said John Bode, CEO of the Corn Refiners group.*
- *“... ‘Powerful lobbying interests made sure that, in the last farm bill, the federal sugar program was the only commodity program that was not reformed,’ said Rep. Joe Pitts*
- *“... ‘Sugar subsidies impose exorbitant costs on taxpayers, consumers and workers in sugar-using jobs alike,’ Pitts said. ‘Despite the claims of the sugar program’s Washington lobbyists, taxpayers found out shortly after the farm bill passed that the program [cost] them nearly \$300 million that year.’”*

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 Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.