



Make the Sugar Program Work for America

June 9, 2017

The Washington Post: “Why Americans Pay More for Sugar”

An [article](#) in today’s *Washington Post* puts a spotlight on what’s wrong with U.S. sugar policy and the U.S.-Mexico sugar deal announced this week. It also underscores why Congress should fix the broken sugar program in the 2018 farm bill if not before.

“From the food industry’s perspective, this agreement - and the controversial U.S. sugar-support policy that it represents - artificially inflates U.S. sugar prices to points far above the world market. ...

“... [H]igher sugar prices also come with costs - not to farmers, but to companies that use sugar in their products. ... ‘From a jobs perspective, there are 600,000 people working in the sugar-using industry,’ said Rick Pasco, the president of the Sweetener Users Association, which represents manufacturers. ‘The sugar-processing sector only employs 18,000 people.’ Consumers also appear to purchase fewer sugar-sweetened goods when sugar prices are up.

“... It’s why U.S. sugar policy is used in textbooks to illustrate the political economy of protectionism. A very small group of people have managed to get public policy to favor them - basically by taxing the rest of the population,’ [said Robert Kudrle, a professor of international trade policy at the University of Minnesota].”

Congress, It’s Time for U.S. Sugar Policy to Work for America.

Learn more at www.sugarreform.org.

Connect with us.



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 Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program - a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.