



July 24, 2012

FACT CHECK:

Sugar Reform Will NOT Make America Reliant on Foreign Imports or Jeopardize the Domestic Sugar Industry

The sugar-growing and processing lobby claims that even modest reform of the U.S. sugar program would make America dependent on sugar imports and jeopardize the domestic sugar industry. These claims are **FALSE**. They are also disingenuous, as the sugar lobby continually asserts that it is highly efficient and competitive by world standards.

Here are the facts:

- The modest reforms that have been proposed by sugar reform champions in Congress during the 2012 Farm Bill debate **leave import quotas in place exactly as they were prior to 2008**.
- The reform amendments proposed thus far also **leave marketing allotments exactly as they were in 2008, and they only roll back price supports by roughly three-quarters of one cent**.

There is no reason to think the U.S. sugar industry cannot survive if the sugar program is reformed, and sugar-using industries value and need a healthy domestic sugar industry.

The FACT is, the sugar lobby is committed to protecting a one-way deal that uses government policies to guarantee them limited foreign competition and inflated profits. The sugar program may be a sweet deal for well-off farmers and sugar companies, but it has cost consumers and businesses \$14 billion over the past four years.

Congress – Reform Outdated Sugar Policies in the 2012 Farm Bill!

Learn more about the need to reform U.S. sugar policy in the 2012 Farm Bill 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 Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program – a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.