COALITION FOR SUGAR REFORM

Sweet Facts

April 16, 2013

Sugar Program Creates Market Instability, Drives Up Costs for U.S. Consumers and Taxpayers

The outdated U.S. sugar program creates instability in the market by artificially propping up sugar prices and restricting imports.

Calendar Year	U.S. Price	World Price	U.S. % Higher
2009	38.1¢/lb	22.1¢/lb	72%
2010	53.2¢/lb	27.8¢/lb	92%
2011	56.2¢/lb	31.7¢/lb	78%
2012	43.4¢/lb	26.5¢/lb	64%

In the past four calendar years, U.S. *refined* sugar prices have ranged from **64 to 92 percent higher** than on the world market. These record-high refined sugar prices have contributed to extra **consumer costs of up to $3.5 billion a year**.

Now, in the fifth year of the 2008 Farm Bill's sugar program, U.S. *raw* sugar prices have been driven down by the production expansion in response to the high prices, potentially leading to loan forfeitures this summer and **taxpayer costs of $80 million or more**.

Additionally, the latest CBO baseline figures show **additional taxpayer costs of $228 million** over the next several years.

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

We Urge Members of Congress to Cosponsor the Bipartisan *Sugar Reform Act* (H.R. 693/S. 345) Now!

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 Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program – a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.