

Sweet Facts



May 21, 2013

Senators: Bipartisan Amendment Would REFORM, NOT REPEAL Federal Sugar Program

Some sugar lobbyists will claim the bipartisan sugar reform amendment to the farm bill would repeal the sugar program. This is completely untrue. Here are the facts:

The amendment would eliminate some unnecessary and market-distorting provisions that were added to U.S. sugar policy in 2008. But it does not repeal the underlying sugar program. In particular, the amendment:

- **Does not repeal** price supports for sugar;
- **Does not repeal** domestic marketing allotments for sugar; and
- **Does not repeal** sugar import quotas.

This means that, after enactment of the amendment as part of the 2013 farm bill:

- **The U.S. sugar industry will still have price supports** that provide a floor for market prices.
- **The U.S. sugar industry will still have the current marketing allotment system**, which supports prices by restricting available domestic supplies.
- **Sugar imports will still be restricted by import quotas**, which must be set so as to keep prices above support levels.

Led by Sens. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Pat Toomey (R-PA) and Mark Kirk (R-IL), the amendment is cosponsored by Sens. Dick Durbin (D-IL), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Kelly Ayotte (R-NH), Bob Corker (R-TN), Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), Rob Portman (R-OH), Dan Coats (R-IN), John McCain (R-AZ), Chris Coons (D-DE), Tom Coburn (R-OK), Mark Warner (D-VA), Ron Johnson (R-WI), Tim Kaine (D-VA) and Dean Heller (R-NV).

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](#)) and Support Sugar Reform in the Farm
Bill!**

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 Our objective is to reform the federal government's intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program – a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.