2020 Legislative Priorities

- Support critical funding for current agricultural animal health, promotion, research and environmental programs in the final FY 20/21 state budget.

- Obtain financial offsets and amendments to the recently enacted farm labor statute in the final 2020-2021 State Budget which include:
  - Expanding the definition of family to include extended family
  - Doubling the Agricultural Workforce Retention Tax Credit
  - Establishing a refundable investment tax credit for farmers
  - Updating farm employee housing allowances
  - Increasing the DHCR Farm Housing Revolving Loan Fund and increasing the per project cost-share cap to $200,000

- Ensure fair and equitable farm labor wage board hearings that are located in farming regions across the state. We support providing the wage board with adequate time and resources to ensure that sufficient farm data is available to know the full effects of the law prior to a wage board decision.
Ensure staff funding for critical positions at the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Oppose legislative pesticide prohibition or ban bills that circumvent the registration process at the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Oppose efforts to establish a prevailing wage for publicly funded projects, including agricultural cost-share programs though the Environmental Protection Fund.

Support farmers in their efforts to adapt to and mitigate climate change through funding of critical programs in the Environmental Protection Fund and legislative programs that support on farm renewable energy.

Oppose efforts to further restrict the use of medically necessary preventative and therapeutic use of antibiotics.

Oppose the NY Health Act

Support funding for Cornell University College of Life Sciences and College of Veterinarian Medicine Growing Demand for Dairy Proposal.

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