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Congressmen Send Bipartisan Letter On Regulating Agricultural Biotechnology To USDA, FDA, EPA

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On October 17, 2017, [Congressman Jimmy Panetta \(D-CA\), Congressman Neal Dunn, M.D. \(R-FL\), and 77 additional House members sent a bipartisan letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\), U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\), and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) to urge the agencies to work together to promote innovative new technologies aimed at increasing crop yields and reducing the cost of production.](#)

According to Congressman Panetta, the letter was prepared in response to duplicative or inconsistent regulatory proposals regarding biotechnology. In the letter to Secretary Sonny Perdue, Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, and Administrator Scott Pruitt, the members highlighted several recent biotechnology regulatory efforts that warrant the Administration's attention, as well as the importance of a consistent, science-based, risk-proportionate regulatory system. Members concluded by urging the agencies to cooperate in creating consistent regulatory proposals that foster innovation; to increase engagement with trading partners to promote a harmonized, science-based international regulatory system for agricultural products; and to consider ways to engage with the public to discuss the continued advancement of biotechnology in agriculture.

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