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Question1: Ethanol has been widely promoted as a great way to help boost the price of corn. What a joke. I recently delivered corn a local ethanol plant for \$1.90 a bushel. My local gas station charges \$3.14 a gallon for ethanol blend unlead gas. Something has got to be done to raise the price of corn received by the farmer. Corn does not cash flow in many areas of the country. Everything from tractors, to seed corn, to diesel continues to rise while the price the farmer receives for his crop continues to drop. Everyone tells us to "pass on the added expenses". How can this been done when the prices just flat will not go up. You can only cut so much from your farming budget for fertilizer, seed and other supplies and inputs before there is nothing else to cut. This farm bill needs to address getting higher prices for the crop that is grown and not giving so much to monopoly business owners that dominate the farm sector.

Question2: Farm policy should include all crops grown on the farm. There are different crops that are grown and not covered by the federal government. The department should stop showing other country's how to raise crops and export ours to them. Showing a country how to raise corn for instance, can lead them to be a competitor in the export market. Department needs to look at different regions in the country and address the situation of how only a handful of companies control the entire farming picture from seed corn companies to elevators.

Question3: Areas of the country should be viewed at differently. Just because there is a state line does not mean that the LDP payment is \$0.05 better when the truth is the entire region should be the same. In years past, farmers were able to make money when the program included set aside acres. This should be revisited. Many states in the county are in dispute over water and this may help curb that situation. The department is also going to have to take a stance on irrigation. One state should not be able to completely wipe out another states economic lively-hood to have another golf course put in a large city. Instead of having to put a "0" on crop production, why not put in either the county average or the lowest yield that field has made in the last 5 years. County yields should be changed to reflect irrigated or non-irrigated. If a field average is 200 bushel corn for the last 5 years and the county average is only 125, that does not seem fair for establishing a yield history.

Question4: Enviromentailism scares most farmers. They think of hippies from California coming to their farm and telling them they are doing it all wrong. 99% of the farmers do use conservation and protect the environment with various practices they use throughout the season. Maybe the goal should be changed to help change the mindset of the American public. 98% of the American public probably has no idea what farmers do already to protect the environment. Wasting of water is a great place to start. How many people see fast food restaurant employees using a water hose to clean the parking lot? Do the medians in EVERY large city need to be green? Why is it so easy to drive in any

town, large or small, and see water running down the street because of someone watering their lawn? How much nitrogen do city people put on their lawn along with all the chemicals to keep out the weeds? More commercials in large cities to promote how good our American farmers are might go a long way.

Question5: Most of the information that is available is hidden away in tall stacks of paper. None of the local banks have offered to let us go through the FSA office to receive lower interest rates. Lack of information to the public. Farming in rural areas is no longer profitable so large portions of the population are leaving rural areas. Rural areas suffer from a thought that "rural hillbillies" are stupid and a lack of population means a lack of voice on state levels. Better communication with bankers because so many farmers are on the verge of bankruptcy. If the bankers do know of programs out there to help the farmer, how are they going to find out? Stop and think about a town of 2000 people. If 85% of the population are farmers, how many can declare bankruptcy before the businesses in town do the same thing. By allowing the credit card companies to protect themselves in bankruptcy cases, it has left the small town businesses wide open to be left hanging with large, unpaid debt. Another example of not enough population to have a voice loud enough to be heard over special interest.

Question6: It should be the same in every state. The current farm bill encouraged no-till practices. We did our research and read the articles. A farmer in Kansas received federal money to help pay for his new no-till planter. We bought our planter and two years later Nebraska decides they have money to pay farmers to switch to no-till but we were not eligible because we were already using the practice.