



**Enteric Methane Innovation Tools for Lower Emissions and Sustainable Stock
(EMIT LESS) Act**

Senator Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), Senator Mike Crapo (R-Idaho)

Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Senator Jerry Moran (R-Kan.)

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American dairy farmers and cattle ranchers are making important strides in environmental stewardship. As the United States works toward achieving climate-neutrality, dairy and beef producers have a powerful opportunity to contribute by voluntarily reducing enteric methane emissions from their operations.

Enteric methane is naturally emitted during the digestive process of most livestock species. Methane is a greenhouse gas many times more potent than carbon dioxide. The agricultural sector accounts for 10% of all greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, and enteric methane is the single largest source of agricultural methane emissions. Enteric methane is also the second largest source of all methane emissions in the nation, second only to the oil and gas industry.

The EMIT LESS Act aims to address enteric methane by expanding research at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for products (e.g. feed additives) and practices that reduce these emissions and creating voluntary incentives through conservation programs to help get those products into the hands of farmers and ranchers.

Specifically, the bill would:

- Enable enteric methane research by:
 - Creating enteric methane product and practice testing capacity through USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and
 - Establishing and expanding training programs that familiarize farmers and ranchers with practices that reduce enteric methane emissions.
- Reduce on-farm enteric methane emissions by:
 - Adding practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including enteric methane, under USDA's Conservation Innovation Grant's On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials;
 - Directing USDA to review conservation practice standards that can assist in reducing enteric methane, revise those as needed, and establish any appropriate new standards; and
 - Amending USDA's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) to provide financial incentives for farmers and ranchers to voluntarily use products and implement practices that reduce enteric methane.

Supporting Organizations: American Feed Industry Association (AFIA), Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) Action, Breakthrough Institute, Clean Air Task Force (CATF), Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado State University and Colorado State University's AgNext Program, Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), Danone North America, Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), Environmental Working Group (EWG), Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA), Idaho Dairywomen's Association, International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA), McDonald's, National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (NCFC), National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF), and Rocky Mountain Farmers Union (RMFU).