



Secretary Rollins Continues Effort to Strengthen National Security by Defending Farm Security

By USDA

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins today announced continued actions to protect American agriculture. This follows yesterday's announcement of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Farm Security Action Plan.

As part of this latest suite of actions, Secretary Rollins released a Foreign Farm Land Purchases map that is searchable by country, launched a new web portal to report violations of the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA), signed a Memorandum of Understanding related to the implementation of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), and reminded State agencies of requirements to share data, ensuring illegal aliens do not receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

"Gone are the days of foreign adversaries taking advantage of our farmland, farmers, and programs paid for by American taxpayers. The National Farm Security Action Plan was a first step by USDA to defend the homeland. Our work is far from done. We will continue to restore farm security and expose the extent to which our adversaries have targeted American agriculture," said Secretary Rollins.

The Foreign Farm Land Purchases webpage indicates which countries own land in the United States. It is tracked by which county the land is located in, not geographic boundaries of the land. USDA will work on continuous improvements to make the data more real time and more exact over the coming weeks and months.

The new reporting portal will receive and review claims of adversarial foreign influence on federal, state, and local policymakers with respect to purchases of U.S. farmland and business dealings in other facets of U.S. agricultural supply chains. This has taken place previously across various bodies of government. Submissions may be accepted anonymously or contact information may be provided for appropriate follow-up by USDA.

Secretary Rollins also signed a memorandum of understanding between USDA and the U.S. Department of the Treasury for partnership in the implementation of CFIUS. View the full memo (PDF, 164 KB). This puts the Secretary of Agriculture at the CFIUS table in cases concerning transactions involving agricultural land, agriculture biotechnology, or the agriculture industry including agricultural transportation, agricultural storage, and agricultural processing. This is a huge step forward to ensure agriculture gets the voice it deserves.

In response to the national security crisis caused by the Biden Administration's open border policies, Secretary Rollins directed the USDA Food and Nutrition Service to ensure illegal aliens do not receive SNAP benefits. The Department has worked diligently to not only inform States of the laws but also make certain that come July 23, 2025, all SNAP participant data is shared with USDA for point-in-time analyses and fraud and waste detection.



Congratulations Eagle Scout James O'Brien!

By State Rep. Joe Emrick

It was a privilege to attend the recent Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony for James O'Brien, son of Keith and Linda O'Brien of Bethlehem. I presented him with a Pennsylvania House of Representatives citation recognizing his great achievement.

James is a scout with Boy Scout Troop 302, Minsi Trails Council, Northampton District, Bethlehem. His Eagle Scout service project was the construction of an enclosed Preschool Garden and Gaga Ball Pit at Hanover Township Community Center with the assistance of his fellow Scouts from Troop 302. He devoted a combined total of over 260 service hours to our community in the planning and building of the project.

Congratulations James, and I wish you well in your future endeavors!



Team Physician Licensing Bill Becomes Law

By State Rep. Joe Emrick

Bipartisan legislation I co-prime sponsored with Rep. Frank Burns (D-Johnstown) to make a commonsense change to Pennsylvania's physician licensing law has been signed into law by the governor.

The change comes at a time when soccer clubs from around the world are traveling to the United States for the FIFA Club World Cup this summer and the FIFA World Cup in 2026. Philadelphia will host eight Club World Cup matches and six World Cup matches the next two summers.

House Bill 309, now Act 29 of 2025, allows team physicians traveling internationally with their club or national team to treat their own players on site during games without needing a Pennsylvania medical license.

As we welcome some of the world's highest-performing athletes, we want to ensure they receive the highest quality of care by their own team physicians.

Health Care Provider Licensure Compacts Fully Implemented by PA

By State Rep. Joe Emrick

Thanks to bipartisan legislation I worked on with Rep. Frank Burns, my co-chair on the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Professional Licensure Committee, our state is now a full participant in three multistate licensure compacts that make it easier for doctors, nurses and physical therapists who are qualified and licensed in other states to practice in the Commonwealth – helping to meet critical staffing needs and improve access to care.

These compacts also cut red tape and streamline licensing, opening new job opportunities for more than 380,000 health care professionals across Pennsylvania. By helping qualified providers get to work faster, we're expanding access to care and strengthening Pennsylvania's health care workforce.