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FarmFirst Applauds Introduction of Dairy Farm Resiliency Act

Madison, Wis. [June 14, 2023] – FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative applauds the introduction of the Dairy Farm Resiliency Act today to make changes to the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program. This bipartisan supported bill would require USDA to update the production history calculation in the program every five years, and to be based on the producer’s highest production year out of the last three years. If included in the 2023 Farm Bill, this provision would update the production history to that of the highest production year of 2020, 2021, and 2022. The bill also increases the Tier 1 threshold from five million pounds to six million pounds.

“The provisions in the Dairy Farm Resiliency Act are necessary for the DMC program to work efficiently and effectively for dairy producers in the Upper Midwest,” said Jeff Lyon, Farm First Dairy Cooperative General Manager. “Ensuring that the production history calculation is updated on a consistent basis and increasing the Tier 1 Threshold to more accurately reflect how the average herd size has grown since the 2018 Farm Bill will improve the DMC program and how it benefits dairy farmers.”

FarmFirst thanks and commends Representative Marc Molinaro (R-NY) for introducing this bill, along with Representatives Derrick Van Orden (R-WI), Elissa Slotkin (D-MI), and Abigail Spanberger (D-VA) who are cosponsors of the bill and serve on the House Agriculture Committee.

FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative, established in 2013 and based in Madison, Wis., represents farmers in Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana by providing legislative and regulatory advocacy, dairy marketing services, disaster protection, laboratory testing opportunities and industry promotion. Learn more about FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative by visiting: www.FarmFirstDairyCooperative.com.

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