



POLICY DEVELOPMENT
PROCESS



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FLORIDA FARM BUREAU Policy Development

FFBF POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Florida Farm Bureau's policy development process is a proven method for creating, modifying and adopting reliable policies. These policies provide guidance for the organization and they are not made in haste. The process takes a full year to complete.

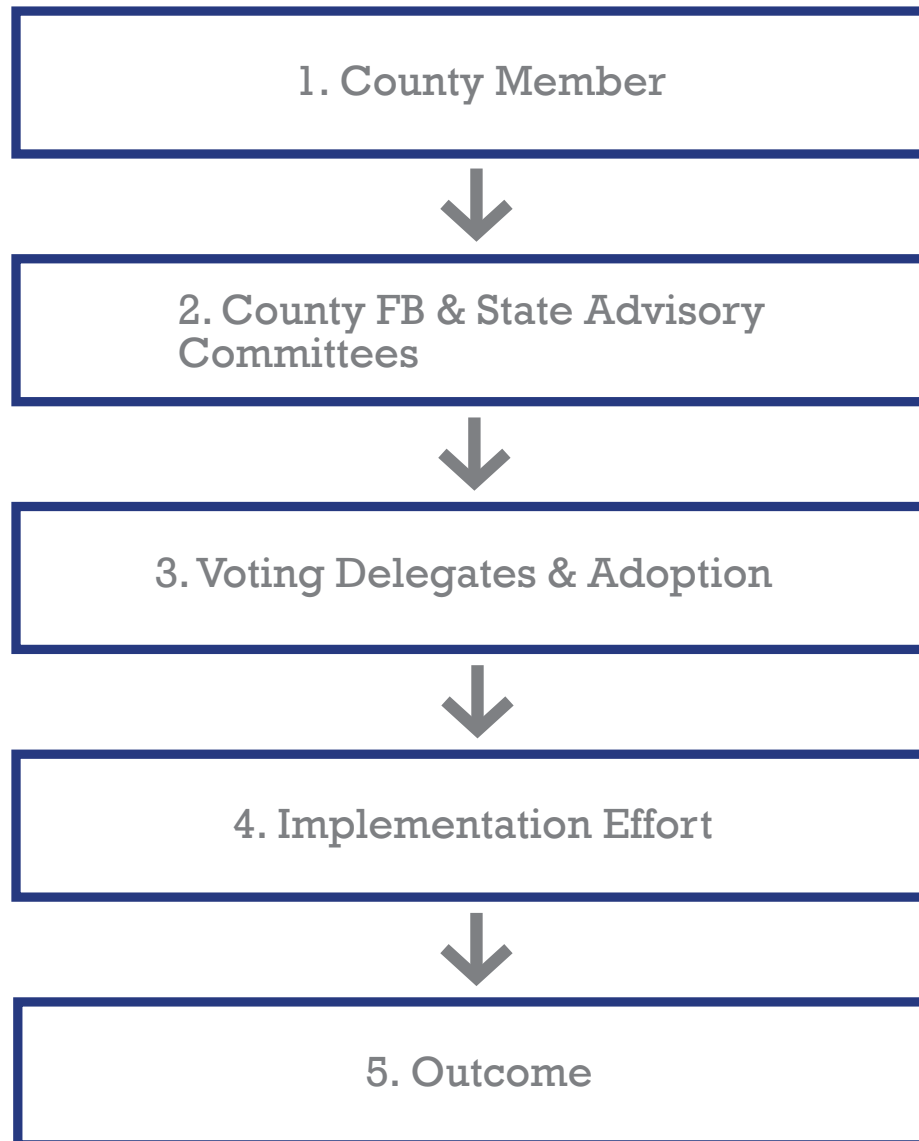
A policy resolution must be clear, concise and coherent. The resolution must be checked for redundancy and should not duplicate or conflict with an existing policy. Policy resolutions must come from active members, and may be submitted to FFBF in three ways: (1) by a county Farm Bureau, (2) by an Advisory Committee, or (3) by the FFBF Board of Directors. While staff cannot create policy, they are a valuable resource for members and can help you put your thoughts on paper.

A county Farm Bureau that submits a policy resolution proposal may want to seek other county Farm Bureaus' support. County Farm Bureaus may submit new resolutions up to the start of the general session at FFBF's Annual Meeting. These late resolutions should be used for emergency situations only.

The purpose of Florida Farm Bureau's state advisory committees is to advise our members, our county and state staff and voting delegates on issues that affect agriculture. The Oversight Committee is appointed by the FFBF President based on geographic location and commodity diversity. The Oversight Committee reviews and takes action on all new resolutions, as well as any policies that do not fit with specific committees. The Oversight Committee also reviews any policy that may conflict with another. The actions from the Oversight Committee are included in the resolutions report that is provided to every county Farm Bureau President prior to the Annual Meeting.

History has proven that the earlier a policy resolution is drafted and distributed, the better chance it has of being successful. Vetting the resolution through the appropriate Advisory Committee and then the Oversight Committee, is preferred. Voting delegates have great confidence in the work of the Advisory Committee system.

Policy Process



FLORIDA FARM BUREAU

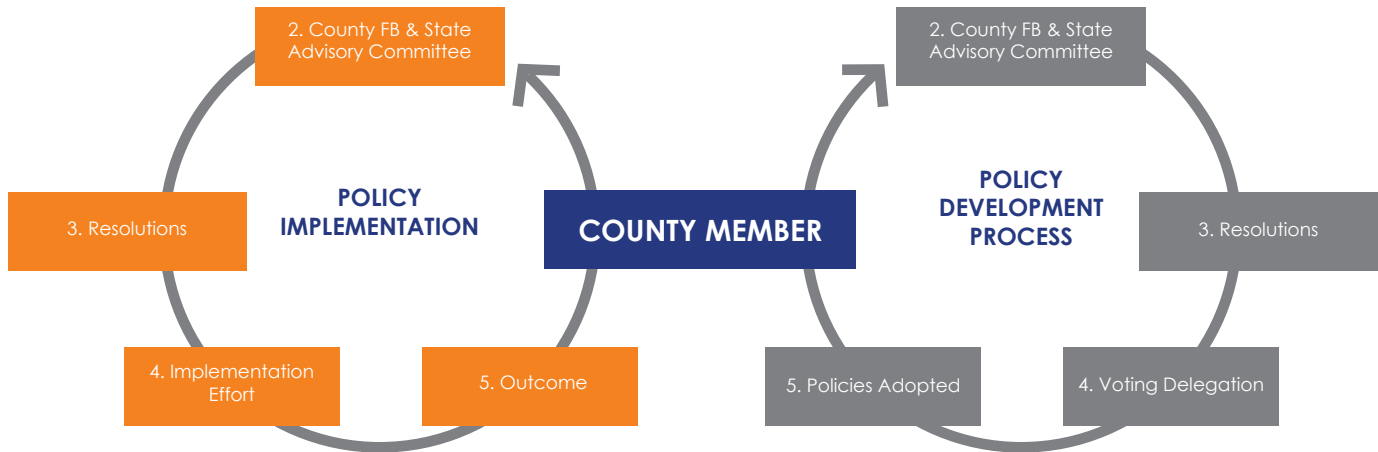
Policy Development

The Agricultural Policy Division at Florida Farm Bureau focuses on local, state and national matters. Within this team, staff addresses various aspects of achieving the organization mission “to increase the net income of farmers and ranchers, and to improve the quality of rural life.” In summary, the team works to implement the desired policy that Farm Bureau members want and that all starts with you.

Policy is truly the basis on which the organization was founded. As a member, your position is instrumental in making sure that Florida Farm Bureau continues its reputation for forward-thinking, sound and logical policy.

GETTING STARTED

1. You have an idea, need or concern.
2. Your county Farm Bureau researches and considers your idea.
3. You vet the resolution and provide it to the Agricultural Policy Division in writing for distribution to the appropriate committee or for oversight review.
4. The FFBF Oversight Committee serves as the resolutions committee. It reviews all new resolutions and any in conflict.
5. FFBF delegates address every policy and new resolution and make final decisions on adoption.
6. If your FFBF policy has a national implication, it will be forwarded to American Farm Bureau.
7. You benefit from your own policy. After all, it started with you!



DRAFTING POLICY

Criteria for a good policy:

- Does it directly affect agriculture?
- Does it ask for or will it result in action?
- Is it forward-thinking?
- Is it of high interest to our members?
- Should it be accomplished by Farm Bureau?
- Is the concern/issue covered in a current policy?

Suggestions on what to write:

- State the problem and the expected result
- Be specific enough to establish a clear goal
- Be general enough to give latitude to accomplish goal

FLORIDA FARM BUREAU Policy Development

EXAMPLE OF SOUND POLICY

Sale of Raw Milk

In the interest of public safety, we oppose the sale of raw milk and raw milk products that do not meet food safety standards for human consumption.

Additionally, we highly discourage the human consumption of raw milk and raw milk products labeled as pet food. (DAIRY)

Answers all questions:

- Does it directly affect agriculture? ✓
- Does it ask for or will it result in action? ✓
- Is it forward-looking? ✓
- Is it of high interest to our members? ✓
- Should it be done by Farm Bureau? ✓
- Is the concern/issue covered in a current policy? ✓

POLICY RESOURCES

Farm Bureau Resources

1. Individual Farm Bureau members
2. County Farm Bureau Committees
3. Farm Bureau Advisory Committees
4. Farm Bureau staff
5. Farm Bureau Resources
 - *County President's Weekly*
 - *FloridAgriculture E-newsletter*
 - *Florida Farm & Family magazine*
 - *FFBF Issue Briefs*
 - www.floridafarmbureau.org/
 - www.fb.org/

Non-Farm Bureau Resources

1. University of Florida/IFAS
 - Faculty/staff
 - Research and Education Centers
2. Agricultural organizations
3. Federal, state and county officials
4. Federal, state and county agencies



POLICY DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| January: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisory Committee member's term begins Jan. 1• AFBF Annual Meeting• FFBF Legislative Days in Tallahassee (Early Session) |
| February: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AFBF Issue Advisory Committee meetings |
| March, April & May: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FFBF Legislative Days in Tallahassee (Late Session)• FFBF Field to the Hill• FFBF Ag Policy & Commodity Forum |
| July & August: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FFBF Fall Advisory Committee meetings• FFBF Advisory Committee nominations due |
| September: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FFBF Oversight Committee Meeting |
| October: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FFBF Annual Meeting
(Late resolutions due by 4 p.m. on the first day) |
| November: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FFBF new policy book available |
| December: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisory Committee member retirement letters mailed and welcome letters immediately follow |

Meet The Staff

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