



PREPARING FLORIDA'S WORKFORCE THROUGH AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Florida Legislative Budget Request: \$1 million

Growth happens on a scale that's larger than we can imagine. It happens in fields. It happens in people. Agricultural Education is more important than ever.

A BIG DEAL

Florida's agriculture, natural resources, and related food industries contribute nearly \$150 billion annually to the state's economy and remain one of the most economically impactful industry sectors in Florida. With the world population expected to exceed 9 billion by 2050, meeting the food and fiber needs of an ever-growing population around the globe is a serious and imminent challenge.

Current programs are only able to provide half of the employment needed to meet agriculture's growing workforce demands. Additionally, the shortage of agricultural scientists worldwide has reached a critical level.

LET'S FIX IT

Agricultural education programs in Florida's middle and high schools are a key link in stimulating student interest in agriculture and a proven mechanism for connecting talented high school students to academic and career opportunities in the agricultural sciences. However, the capacity of these programs must be enhanced.

STUDENTS

\$1 MILLION

\$700,000 will be allocated to extend State & National FFA affiliation opportunities to the 70,000 students enrolled in agricultural education in Florida's public schools, at no cost to the student.

\$300,000 will support the enhancement of STEM-focused FFA programs that promote leadership, personal growth, and career success through various conferences and initiatives. Additionally, this funding will help support the FFA Workload.

LEGISLATIVE INFO

Florida House of Representatives

Preparing Florida's Workforce through Agricultural Education- \$1.25M (HSE #2512- Sponsored by Representative Danny Alvarez)

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