



## Ohio Soybean Association Policy Update May 2025

### **National Policy Updates**

**TAKE ACTION** – The Environmental Protection Agency is currently developing proposed Renewable Fuel Standard volume obligations for 2026 and 2027.

The biomass-based diesel industry is struggling, in part due to low RIN prices resulting from previous renewable volume obligations being set significantly lower than production capacity. Ensuring robust RVOs for 2026 and beyond will be critical to getting the industry back on track.

ASA and our partners at Clean Fuels Alliance America, National Oilseed Processors Association and others have requested EPA finalize 2026 RVOs at 5.25 billion gallons for biomass-based diesel. While this is a significant 1.9 billion gallon increase over 2025 volumes, which were set in 2023, the increase request reflects current feedstock availability and biomass-based diesel production capacity in the U.S.

Please [\*\*contact the EPA and your Congressional representatives\*\*](#) today to highlight your support for setting 2026 renewable volume obligations at 5.25 billion gallons for biomass-based diesel.

**Advocacy In Action** - OSA President and Williams County farmer Rusty Goebel joined fellow agricultural leaders for a productive meeting with U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins in Ohio. The visit included a stop at a local family farm to showcase innovative ag technologies that are enhancing conservation practices and improving water quality. OSA thanks Secretary Rollins for taking the time to engage with Ohio's ag community and support our state's leading industry.



**Biofuels** – U.S. Reps. Marcy Kaptur, D-Ohio, and Tracey Mann, R-Kan., along with Sens. Roger Marshall, R-Kan., and Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., reintroduced legislation that aims to extend the 45Z clean fuel production credit and limit eligibility for the credit to renewable fuels made from domestically sourced feedstocks. The Farmer First Fuel Incentives Act aims to extend the credit for an additional seven years, through the end of 2034. While OSA supports the legislation, negotiations on the bill could also



present an opportunity to achieve additional OSA biofuel policy priorities such as eliminating the Indirect Land Use Calculation (ILUC) penalty on soybean oil currently included in the Renewable Fuel Standard.

**Trade** - The International Trade Commission voted to uphold new tariffs on imports of 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) from China and India, after commissioners determined imports have undercut domestic products. The decision means duties on 2,4-D imports from those countries will stand. Indian products face countervailing duties of between 5.29% and 6.32% and antidumping duties as high as 20%, in some cases. Further, one Chinese company will face anti-dumping duties of more than 120% and all will face countervailing duties of between 26.50% and 169.63%.

2,4-D Import trends									
Location	2021			2022			2023		
	TONS	% OF VOL.	\$ VALUE	TONS	% OF VOL.	\$ VALUE	TONS	% OF VOL.	\$ VALUE
China	10,115	68.4%	\$24,277,760	25,392	72.2%	\$94,225,092	10,325	46.5%	\$22,917,839
India	4,397	29.7%	\$9,640,900	9,181	26.1%	\$35,264,996	7,653	34.4%	\$21,605,520
All others	274	1.9%	\$2,010,808	590	1.7%	\$4,459,250	4,247	19.1%	\$27,772,857
Total imports	14,786	100.0%	\$35,929,468	35,162	100.0%	\$133,949,338	22,225	100.0%	\$72,296,216
SOURCE: CORTEVA ITC PETITION, MICHIGAN FARM NEWS									

**Federal Budget** –House Agriculture Committee is working to find agreement on a budget reconciliation plan that includes finding \$230 billion in spending cuts over 10 years. Those savings are intended to help provide for increased spending on commodity programs and crop insurance. To achieve those savings, leaders are considering tightening work requirements for SNAP recipients, including raising the age limits for able-bodied adults without dependents and restricting work requirement waivers. The committee is also exploring various other options, including scaling back federal spending for SNAP by requiring states to split some costs, which could significantly impact state budgets – a concern for many members of congress.

**MAHA** – OSA has been encouraging members of the Ohio Congressional delegation to join the effort to encourage the Trump Administration to take important steps to protect the work of the Make American Healthy Again (MAHA) Commission from ill-intended environmental activists. Congressional leaders recently sent a letter along those lines to members of the MAHA commission which states it is essential to ensure that the Commission's work is rooted in sound science and risk-based regulatory principles.

**Trade** – Nineteen U.S. Senators are asking USTR Ambassador Jamieson Greer for information on how the administration's tariff taxes will impact farmers across the



country. A [letter](#) sent by the senators expressed “great concern” about the impact of the administration’s tariff agenda on U.S. farmers. They emphasized that farmers face uncertainty with not only billions of dollars in commodities waiting to be sold from last year’s harvest but also the need for stable markets for their planning as they begin spring planting.

### **State Policy Updates**

**Advocacy In Action** – OSA Staff spoke to Wilmington Collegiate Farm Bureau prior to their Annual Legislative Day in April. The presentation provided students with an overview of OSA’s key policy priorities at the state level. During the discussion, OSA staff highlighted ongoing efforts to advance renewable fuels, including biodiesel and sustainable aviation fuel, and explained how these markets create significant economic opportunities for Ohio soybean growers. Staff also discussed broader initiatives within the bioeconomy and the importance of developing policies that promote the use of soy-based products across various industries.



**State Budget** – OSA continues to engage with the State budget process. The House version was voted out the second week in April. It passed 60-39 largely along party lines as expected, with 5 Republicans joining Democrats in opposition of the bill. The spending plan thus far entails \$91.5 billion in mostly state General Revenue Fund appropriations and \$202.7 billion in all funds over the biennium. By comparison, the FY 24-25 budget as enacted provided \$86.1 billion in GRF and \$190.7 in all funds. Budget hearings in Senate standing committees will be held the weeks of April 28, May 5 and May 12 following spring break.

Agriculture related issues in the House passed version include:

- **H2Ohio** – In the House passed version of the bill, funding for H2Ohio has been cut by over \$120 million overall. The Department of Agriculture is seeing a 44% cut in H2Ohio funding. It seems unlikely H2Ohio can remain a statewide initiative at these lowered funding levels. We are engaging with the Senate to request that funding levels be restored to the as introduced levels.
- **Pesticide Law** - The House passed version reinstated pesticide law changes outlined in the Governors original budget proposal. These changes were proposed to ensure Ohio is in compliance with federal requirements. While we



don't encourage new regulation, this is unfortunately necessary. There could be significant negative consequences for our industry if Ohio falls out of federal compliance.

- **OSU Research/Extension** – Both of these line items continue to see a 3% cut in the House passed version of the bill. OSA is engaging with Senators in the coming weeks to discuss the importance of full funding for these items.
- **Livestock Show Fund** - Earmarks \$800,000 in each fiscal year to support up to 50% of the rental and equipment costs associated with hosting state and national livestock events at the Ohio Expo Center.
- **Ethanol Rebate Program** - Requires the Agriculture Director to create a pilot High Blend Ethanol Rebate Program to support new construction of E15 or higher blend ethanol pumps at motor fuel retailer locations across Ohio. Requires the Director to provide a rebate of 5¢ per gallon of blended fuel sold, up to \$100,000 per fiscal year, to a retailer that meets the program's conditions. Establishes general conditions for the program and authorizes the Director to adopt rules to administer it. The bill provides \$10.0 million for grants.

**Carbon Capture** – Legislation was reintroduced this GA that would regulate carbon sequestration at the state level, handing Ohio primacy over Class VI injection wells. Under the bill, ODNR's Division of Oil and Gas Resources Management would receive exclusive regulatory authority and be required to adopt rules. Among other provisions, it would require storage operators to pay the agency a fee of \$0.0525 per metric ton of carbon dioxide injected for storage. This bill is currently receiving hearings in the House Natural Resources Committee and last session's version of the plan received support from the Ohio Oil and Gas Association, the Ohio Farm Bureau, Encino Energy and the Ohio Coal Association among others.

**Renewable Fuel** – OSA has been actively engaging with a variety of stakeholders to explore potential renewable fuel legislation that would benefit Ohio's farmers and support the broader agricultural economy. These initial discussions have included industry partners, and agricultural organizations, all with the shared goal of expanding the production and use of renewable fuels such as renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel. By fostering collaboration and gathering input from key voices across the energy and agricultural sectors, OSA is working to develop legislative solutions that create new market opportunities for soybeans in the state.