



## Freedom and Opportunity Agenda Agriculture and Rural Plan

*"Hoosier family farms feed the world with millions of acres of crops, livestock, and poultry, and as governor, I will protect our farms while giving rural communities the tools they need to grow and thrive."*

– Mike Braun

Farming has long been the backbone of Indiana, with generations of Hoosier families working together to feed the world. As more young people leave rural communities for opportunities elsewhere, the future of our farms and small towns is at risk.

Hoosiers living in rural Indiana and farmers face rising taxes, population decline, and challenges to economic growth, while new and beginning farmers lack the support they need. Mike Braun's agriculture agenda offers forward-thinking solutions to preserve Indiana's farming legacy and protect the future of our rural communities.

### Mike Braun's agenda proposes the following solutions for farmers and rural Hoosiers:

- **Improve Customer Service for Farmers** – Establish a one-stop online portal to simplify access to funding, market opportunities, technical support, and regulatory updates—ensuring Hoosier farmers get the help they need quickly and efficiently.
- **Tax Relief that Protects Family Farms** – Provide historic property tax relief by capping annual increases, fixing the referendum process, and modernizing how farmland is valued to reflect the realities of today's farm economy.
- **Target Economic Development to Rural Communities** – Ensure economic development dollars flow to rural communities with full transparency and accountability, so that small towns can grow and thrive.
- **Build Out Reliable Connectivity** – Introduce a matching grant program for broadband expansion to ensure every Hoosier, no matter where they live, has access to high-speed internet—a necessity for both families and modern agriculture.
- **Protect Hoosier Farmland** – Protect Indiana's farmland from foreign adversaries by enforcing divestment rules, increasing transparency, and working with the General Assembly to monitor emerging threats.