

Donald Trump

Positions on Farm, Food and Rural Policy

Animal Rights:

Trump commented on his [Twitter](#) account about the Ringling Brothers' decision to retire its circus elephants: "Ringling Brothers is phasing out their elephants. I, for one, will never go again. They probably used the animal rights stuff to reduce costs"

Environment/Climate Change:

He says climate change is a hoax, and says those who warn of global warming only want to raise taxes. He is less outspoken on other environmental issues, though he sued unsuccessfully in 2013 to block plans for wind turbines in Scotland that would power 65,000 homes, arguing, in part, that they would mar the view from a golf course he was proposing to build.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/17/us/politics/donald-trump-on-the-issues.html>

When endorsing Mitt Romney in the 2012 presidential election, Trump [wrote in The Washington Times](#) , calling government regulations "a stealth tax that is larger than the amount the Internal Revenue Service collects every year from corporations and individuals combined. In just three years, Mr. Obama has added hugely to the annual regulatory bill."

In his 2000 book, *The America We Deserve*, Trump wrote, "Most of us think the American Dream is a birthright, but without constant care and vigilance, it can and will be whittled down to nothing. The threatening agent is not some foreign power, but people who don't understand the proper relationship between the public and private arenas. In other words, the greatest threat to the American Dream is the idea that dreamers need close government scrutiny and control. Job one for us is to make sure the public sector does a limited job, and no more."

http://ballotpedia.org/Donald_Trump_presidential_campaign,_2016#cite_note-3

Farm Bill/Farm Policy:

Trump has offered few specifics about the farm bill or any type of farm policy while on the campaign trail. In April 2015, he spoke about the farm crisis and how it relates to John Deere, according to the [following excerpt from WHOTV.com](#)

"I'm a big fan of John Deere and, look what we need in this country, we need jobs and we need to be able to export without being taxed to death. You know we take products with no tax, we send our product over there and they tax us to hell because we have people who don't know what they're doing. John Deere however is a great company, it's gonna do just fine," said Trump.

Food Stamps:

In his book "Time to Get Tough: Making America #1 Again," he wrote:

"The food stamp program was originally created as temporary assistance for families with momentary times of need. And it shouldn't be needed often. Thankfully, 96 percent of America's poor parents say their children never suffer even a day of hunger. But when half of food stamp recipients have been on the dole for nearly a decade, something is clearly wrong, and some of it has to do with fraud."

Biotechnology/GMO:

[Donald Trump's Twitter feed reposted a tweet](#) in late October of 2015 that blamed his sliding Iowa poll numbers on biotech corn, a dig that risked getting under the skin of the state's farmers as well as voters at large.

The billionaire's tweet, [originally posted by a Nevada businessman](#), noted that the latest poll showed retired surgeon Ben Carson moving ahead of Trump with GOP voters in Iowa. The tweet then said, "Too much #Monsanto in the #corn creates issues in the brain?"

Trump, or someone working for him, later appeared to apologize and blame the reposting on an intern with this [tweet](#): "The young intern who accidentally did a Retweet apologizes."

Immigration and Labor:

Trump has made immigration a major part of his campaign. He has called for mass deportations of illegal immigrants, proposed requiring Mexico to pay for a border wall, and he released [an immigration policy statement](#) that calls for mandating that all employers use E-Verify to check the legal status of new hires. "We're a country of laws. We either have a country or we don't have a country," [Trump said during one of the Republican debates](#). Illegal immigration will "have to go out and they will come back, but they are going to have to go out and hopefully they get back."

During the 2013 Conservative Political Action Conference, Trump said providing a path to citizenship would be politically disadvantageous for Republicans at the e. He explained, "You can be out front, you can be the spearhead, you can do whatever you want to do, but every one of those 11 million people will be voting Democratic. It's just the way it works and you have to be very, very careful, because you could say that to a certain extent, the odds aren't looking so great right now for Republicans, that you're on a suicide mission. You're just not going to get those votes."

Trump also rejects birthright citizenship, the principle that children born in the United States are American citizens even if their parents are in the country illegally. "The clear purpose of the Fourteenth Amendment, ratified in 1868, three years after the end of the Civil War, was to guarantee full citizenship rights to now emancipated former slaves. It was not intended to guarantee untrammelled immigration to the United States."

In 2000, Trump said in his book, "The America We Deserve," that legal immigration should be made more challenging. Trump wrote, "The majority of legal immigrants can often make significant contributions to our society because they have special skills and because they add to our nation's cultural diversity. They come with the best of intentions. But legal immigrants do not and should not enter easily. It's a long, costly, draining, and often frustrating experience-by design. I say to legal immigrants: Welcome and good luck."

http://ballotpedia.org/Donald_Trump_presidential_campaign,_2016#cite_note-3

Labor:

During the announcement of his presidential bid on June 16, 2015, Donald Trump claimed, "I will be the greatest jobs president that God ever created. I'll bring back our jobs from China, from Japan from Mexico from so many places. I'll bring back our jobs and I'll bring back our money."

In 2011, while appearing on FOX's "The O'Reilly Factor," Trump said Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's approach to unions in Wisconsin was appropriate for that state but not for the nation. Trump explained, "You know, I have had great relationship over the years with unions. We've had collective bargaining. I have become very wealthy. I have dealt with unions because, as you know, New York is largely unions. You are dealing with them. I have great friends that are in unions and heads of unions. So I haven't had the same difficulty and problem. But I think you have to do what's right for your area."

http://ballotpedia.org/Donald_Trump_presidential_campaign,_2016#cite_note-3

Rural Development:

RFS:

Trump gets a "good" rating from [America's Renewable Future](#) because of his support for the RFS. "I am totally in favor of ethanol, 100 percent," he said during a September 2015 event in Iowa.

Specialty Crops:

Trade:

Trump opposes the Trans-Pacific Partnership, [calling it a "terrible deal,"](#) and [has called for tearing up the North American Free-Trade Agreement](#) unless Mexico agrees to renegotiate it.

In a statement released to The Daily Caller in May 2015, Donald Trump criticized the Trans-Pacific Partnership, saying, "Yet again, the politicians are allowing our president to reinforce the lack of respect countries like China and Japan now have for the United States. They will devalue their currency, exploit our trade agreements, continue to destroy our economy and put Americans out of work. Politicians are all talk and no action. Instead of fast tracking TPP, Congress should pass legislation that holds China and Japan accountable for currency manipulation. This would send a message to the world that there are consequences for cheating the United States."

Trump released a radio ad in May 2015 recommending Congress reject Trade Promotion Authority. Trump said, "I learned a long time ago, a bad deal is far worse than no deal at all. And the Obama Trans-Pacific Partnership and fast track are a bad, bad deal for American businesses, for workers, for taxpayers. It's a huge set of hand outs for a few insiders that don't even care about our great, great America. Congress has to stand up and defeat this raw power grab. With the dismal Obama track record, why should a Republican Congress give him more power and gut the Constitution to do it? It's just crazy. Tell your congressmen and senators, vote no on fast track."

On April 22, 2015, Trump tweeted, "The Trans-Pacific Partnership is an attack on America's business. It does not stop Japan's currency manipulation. This is a bad deal."
http://ballotpedia.org/Donald_Trump_presidential_campaign_2016#cite_note-3

Trump is [proposing to crack down on China](#). He is calling for naming China as a currency manipulator and slapping countervailing duties on Chinese exports that he says are artificially cheap. He also promises to continue pursuing a WTO case against Chinese export subsidies that he says are illegal.

Taxes:

Trump's tax reform plan would collapse the individual tax rates to 10, 20 and 25 percent and tax dividends and capital gains at a maximum rate of 20 percent. Trump would also repeal the estate tax and the alternative minimum tax. He would limit deductions for the higher brackets, but the deductions for charitable contributions and mortgage interest would continue.

According to [an analysis by the Tax Policy Center](#), the plan would reduce federal revenues by \$9.5 trillion over its first decade and increase the national debt by nearly 80 percent of GDP by 2036, unless the lost revenue is offset by spending cuts.

People at all income levels would benefit. Some 110 million households would pay no income tax under the plan, up from 77 million under current law. The top 1 percent of earners would get an average tax cut of over \$275,000, or 17.5 percent of after-tax income.