



Press Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 13, 2023

Contact: Eileen Figueroa
(833)528-4661

**FORWARD LATINO APPLAUDS USDA CLIMATE-SMART COMMODITIES INITIATIVE
DURING USDA SECRETARY VILSACK VISIT**

Franklin, WI – Forward Latino, a national non-profit, non-partisan service and advocacy organization headquartered in Franklin, Wisconsin and with affiliates and members in 29 states met with USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack during his visit to Waukesha, Wisconsin. The trip was to discuss the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Climate-Smart Commodities Initiative. The effort will incentivize more than 60,000 farms to implement climate-smart production practices, will sequester more than 60 million metric tons of carbon dioxide over the life of the program, and provide new and much needed revenue streams for family farmers and ranchers.

Forward Latino National President Darryl Morin issued the following statement:

“I wish to thank USDA Secretary Vilsack for our discussion this morning and for his leadership on the USDA’s Climate-Smart Commodities Initiative. We can no longer ignore the direct correlation between food supply chain resilience and the effects of climate change. This initiative addresses these challenges while also addressing the pressing need for additional sources of income for our nation’s family farmers, making the program a win for our farmers, consumers, and our planet.”

About Forward Latino:

Forward Latino is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that empowers affiliates to inspire and engage communities, strengthen our democracy, improve the lives of working families, protect the environment, and stand up for equality and civil rights. Forward Latino cultivates, trains, and supports a diverse national network of Latina/o/x community leaders addressing the civic, economic, and political challenges of the 21st century. Forward Latino has members and affiliates across 29 states. www.forwardlatino.org

###