

STATEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATED WOMEN OF THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU  
FEDERATION

The American Farm Bureau Federation has been a potent factor in the securing of legislation favorable to rural America for many years. At each succeeding session of Congress, its representatives have appeared in behalf of such measures, or vigorously opposed those which the organization felt were opposed to the best interests of agriculture.

Recently there has been formed an affiliate organization known as the "Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation," whose purpose is to assist in an active, organized way in carrying forward such phases of the American Farm Bureau Federation programs as inevitably enlist the creative interest of women, namely, to help accent the fundamental importance of organized efforts to bring about, better educational, social, and spiritual opportunities for rural people; to strengthen and support the extension organizations associated with home-demonstration work throughout the United States; to serve as a means for the exchange of experience in this field of adult education relating to home and community life; to provide nationalization for the State organizations of rural women in the United States, in order that they may participate in national councils of American women in cooperation with national organizations of city women and to give to the rural womanhood of America the means of expression and the strength that comes from unity in organized efforts that are dedicated to the development of a more abundant country life.

The influence of this organization, which is Nation-wide, reaches into every State where Extension Service and the Farm Bureau are laboring together for a better rural America.

It is a well-known fact that even at the peak of prosperity, four-fifths of the rural areas of the United States were without organized health service. No one can deny that maternity and infancy are without proper protection in most of our rural communities. The Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation "count children as the best crop of the farm" and are glad to add their influence to help secure measures which will properly safeguard mothers and children. This principle has been oftentimes expressed by official resolution and presented by our representatives to congressional committees.

The Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation hereby endorse those sections of S. 1130 and H. R. 4120 as relate to maternal and child health and child welfare.

Furthermore, the Associated Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation wish to endorse section 802 of S. 1130, provided that the words "particularly in rural areas", be inserted in line 23, after the words, "State health services."

Respectfully submitted.

MRS. CHAS. W. SEWELL,  
*Administrative Director of the Associated  
Women of the American Farm Bureau Federation.*

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EMORY UNIVERSITY,  
*Atlanta, Ga., January 28, 1935.*

Hon. PAT HARRISON,  
*Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee,  
Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR SIR: Please permit me the privilege of writing you concerning the economic security bill. I am particularly interested in the provision of the bill that, has to do with maternal and child health.

I have been teaching obstetrics for 25 years. For the past 5 years I have been teaching obstetrics to rural doctors in five Southern States. This I have done by going directly to a group and staying for 5 days.

I was born and reared in the South and I know its people and needs. Being more familiar with maternal problems, I can more easily see the great need for help along those lines in our rural counties.

I think that a well-planned program, with competent supervision, can lower the maternal death rate in our rural counties at least 50 percent.

It will be of inestimable value in making our people think along public health lines. I urge your cooperation and support.

Very truly yours,

JAMES R. McCORD, M. D.