

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

ScholarWorks @ UTRGV

---

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers -  
Agriculture Committee News Releases

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers

---

4-22-1994

## Agriculture News Release - 1994-04-22

United States. Congress. House. Committee on Agriculture

E. De la Garza

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.utrgv.edu/>

[kikadelagarzaagriculturecommitteeenews](#)



Part of the [Agricultural Economics Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Agriculture Committee News Releases, UTRGV Digital Library,  
The University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers at ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Agriculture Committee News Releases by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. For more information, please contact [justin.white@utrgv.edu](mailto:justin.white@utrgv.edu), [william.flores01@utrgv.edu](mailto:william.flores01@utrgv.edu).

# news release

**COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Room 1301, Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

(NR94-034)

*For further information:*  
Jim Davis, Press Secretary  
(202) 225-2171  
FAX (202) 225-3158

## **SELF-HELP LEGISLATION WOULD REDUCE DAIRY ASSESSMENTS**

For immediate release, Friday, April 22, 1994

WASHINGTON -- The export-oriented "self-help" dairy legislative proposals currently being considered by the House Livestock Subcommittee would lower the costs of the dairy price support program and allow the Federal government to reduce the assessment rate currently levied on dairy producers, according to a preliminary analysis by the Congressional Budget Office released Thursday by Subcommittee Chairman Harold L. Volkmer, D-Mo.

"This report is good news for dairy producers," Volkmer said after reviewing the analysis. "The savings that self-help would generate are large enough to allow us to reduce the assessment that producers have had to pay since 1990 and still maintain a price support program."

H.R. 4235, introduced by Rep. Volkmer and others, is the main legislative proposal currently before the Subcommittee. It would establish a producer-funded Dairy Export Marketing Board that would have the responsibility of removing surplus dairy products from the domestic market and selling them overseas. The board would be comprised of dairy producers and processors.

A variation of the "self-help" plan, offered by Rep. Steve Gunderson, R-Wis., during an April 14 markup session, failed on a tie vote. However, Rep. Volkmer said the alternative proposal could be reconsidered by the Subcommittee.

Volkmer said that both proposals, based on the CBO analysis, "offer the potential to reduce net producer assessments." However, CBO said the Volkmer bill would provide dairy producers with a price floor and more insulation from price volatility.

Under Volkmer's "self-help" bill, H.R. 4235, the export activities of the board would be funded through a blended price adjustment in all milk marketed in the United States. The Volkmer bill would allow for a net reduction, including the blended price adjustment, of about 3 1/2 cents in the current 11-cent per hundredweight reconciliation assessment, for every billion pounds of milk equivalent dairy products exported above current commercial levels.

At the conclusion of Thursday's Subcommittee meeting, Rep. Volkmer pledged to continue working with other Subcommittee members, the Administration and dairy industry leaders in an effort to develop legislation that would help dairy producers avoid another price-depressing, surplus crisis. The Subcommittee schedule will be announced shortly.

#