



Government Affairs Committee

BPIA 2026 Annual Meeting
March 5, 2026
10:30am

Objective



Our government affairs meeting will provide an overview of BPIA's government affairs activities and highlight key legislative priorities that are central to our advocacy efforts. While also providing insights on this upcoming midterm elections and Platform10.

Agenda



1. Intro
2. Plant Biostimulant Act of 2025
3. Legislative Momentum
4. Appropriations
5. Partnerships
6. Midterm Outlook: Kirin Kennedy CEO/Founding Partner, KR Public Affairs
7. Platform10: Keith Pitts, SVP, ProFarm Group
8. Adjourn

Government Affairs Co-Chairs



Keith Pitts

Company: Pro Farm Group

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Jeffrey Smith

Company: Valent USA

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**Reintroduced: Plant Biostimulant Act of 2025,
H.R. 3738, S.1907**

Define Plant Biostimulants: Establish a clear federal definition for plant biostimulants, and amending from FIFRA.

Clarify Regulatory Status: Exclude plant biostimulants from regulation under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), thereby providing a consistent and predictable path to market for these products.

Soil health study: Evaluate how plant biostimulants contribute to soil quality, sustainability, and agricultural productivity.

PBA: 119th Co-Sponsors



House

Jimmy Panetta (D-CA)

Rep. James R. Baird (R-IN-4)

Rep. Nikki Budzinski (D-IL-13)

Rep. Brian K. Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1)

Rep. Bradley Scott Schneider (D-IL-10)

Rep. Michael Lawler (R-NY-17)

Rep. Deborah K. Ross (D-NC-2)

Senate

Roger "Doc" Marshall (R-KS)

Alex Padilla (D-CA)

Ted Budd (R-NC)

Legislative Momentum



Farm Bill

- The Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026, H.R. 7567
- Bi-partisan package

Unanimous Consent

- Senate posture
- Bipartisan

NSCEB

- National Security Commission on Emerging Biotech
- Timing

PRIA FY27 Appropriations



Requested Funding: \$166M total

- \$147.1M (EP&M Account ~85%)
- Remaining 15% via STAG and S&T accounts

EP&M Funding	President's Budget	House	Senate	Final
FY 2019	\$79.800	\$102.363	\$109.363	\$109.363
FY 2020	\$85.679	\$96.135	\$107.046	\$107.046
FY 2021	\$89.400	\$107.046	\$107.046	\$109.000
FY 2022	\$110.219	\$110.219	\$110.219	\$110.196
FY 2023	\$118.161	\$138.495	\$120.661	\$120.277
FY 2024	\$150.781	\$120.244	\$122.277	\$115.375
FY 2025	\$152.202	\$115.375	\$118.901	\$115.375
FY 2026	\$112.07	\$115.375	\$115.375	\$115.375

Elevating BPIA's Hill Presence: Partnerships



Founding Member of BioTech Caucus's Steering Group

Sets the caucus agenda and priorities: (issue focus, goals for the Congress, and themes that guide activity)

Advises on education and briefings for Members and staff (e.g., "Biotech 101" sessions, policy roundtables, field hearings/site visit concepts).

Coordinates stakeholder engagement by connecting offices with credible technical/regulatory experts and responsible industry voices.

Supports coalition-building across committees and interested offices to keep topics active in the legislative pipeline

Kirin Kennedy

CEO/Founding Partner, KR Public Affairs



Kirin Kennedy is the Founder and Principal of KR Public Affairs, a boutique lobbying and policy firm that helps organizations, coalitions, and leaders shape legislation and public policy. She is a former senior advisor on Capitol Hill, including as a Senior Professional Staff member on the Senate Agriculture Committee focused on forestry and environmental regulation.

Kirin brings deep experience across government relations, coalition strategy, and advocacy. She has led policy initiatives at national environmental, education, and civil rights organizations, with work spanning appropriations, climate, civil rights, immigration, and education.

Kirin's commentary has appeared in NBC News, E&E News, and NPR, and Kirin holds a B.S. in Geography (Physical & Environmental) from Penn State, with executive training at The Campaign School at Yale and The Management Center.

Elections and 2026 Legislative Outlook

Implication for Agriculture and Regulatory Policy.



Strategy, Substance, Service



Executive Summary

- Narrow margins limit major legislative movement
- Appropriations is the primary federal vehicle in 2026
- Oversight will shape agency behavior more than new statutes
- Major structural reform (NEPA, Farm Bill overhaul) unlikely before November
- A Democratic flip in 2027 would increase oversight and slow deregulatory momentum



Electoral Overview

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



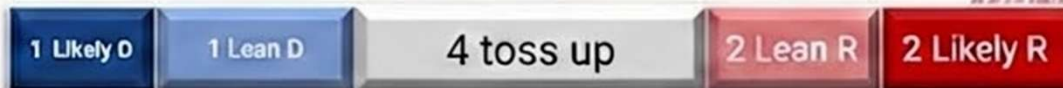
U.S. SENATE



House Competitive Races



Senate Competitive Races



Key Insights

- ★ 60+ Seats Open, 55 Retirements (32 Republicans, 23 Democrats)
- ★ House has 1 seat Majority; Dems could pick up 40 seats similar to 2018
- ★ Redistricting in at least 5 states and 8 states with active discussion on redistricting.
- ★ Senate has 25 competitive races including Maine, Michigan, North Carolina, and GA.

2026 Legislative Capacity

What This Environment Allows:



- Appropriations movement



- Targeted bipartisan measures



- Hearings and oversight



- Incremental policy adjustments

What It Constrains:



- Comprehensive Farm Bill deal



- Major environmental statute reform



- Structural FIFRA rewrite



- Large reconciliation packages under divided control

Policy Timeline

January -
February



Wrap up Funding from 2025

Congress wraps up remaining Appropriations Bills. We see that DHS Bill stalls and ACA fight ends.

February -
June



Budget Season

Budget season begins, low likelihood of any major legislation passing.

June-
November



Appropriations /General Election Season

Appropriators will hash out the bills and begin to form the minibus packages. General Election season in full swing.

November -
December



End of Year wrap up



Likely to see legislative movement for any end of year deals. Things to wrap up before a new congress starts.

2026 Landscape- What is the focus this year?

What we expect to see March - November

-  **Housing Reform- Housing Bill**
-  **Permitting Reform**
 - Hearings and Markups
-  **Data Centers/AI**
 - Hearings and Markups
-  **Farm Bill**
 - Extended until September 30th, 2026
 - House Markup March 3rd
-  **Appropriations**
-  **Tariffs/Taxes**
-  **SAVE ACT**
-  FEMA Act 2025 H.R. 4669

What will likely move?

-  **Appropriations**
 - Budgets for EPA/USDA
-  **Limited Statutory Reform-** Agencies will drive the work on regulations and labeling

What could stall?

-  **SAVE Act**
-  **Changes to FIFRA- Political Risk**
-  **Uniformity in Labeling**
-  **Major Permitting Reform Overall**
-  **Farm Bill**
(Nothing ambitious will move)

Note: Narrow vote margins in both House and Senate and limited floor time do not give much room for movement. Appropriations and incremental policy wins focusing on what can get attached to a Mini/omnibus more likely.

What Happens if the Congress Flips



Affordability and Cost of Living Issues

Focus on reducing costs for families.





Oversight of the Executive Branch

Increased scrutiny and investigations.



Build towards 2028- Focus on

-  Economic Growth
-  Housing affordability
-  climate/energy investments
-  Trade policy.



Expect to see an increase in oversight hearings in the House and Senate over agency actions.



Congressional Review Act: Not likely to see many of those since they would require Presidential Signature.

Strategic Focus for Industry Groups



1) Prioritize Appropriations over Authorizing Legislation

- Focus on funding bills as primary legislative vehicle.



2) Treat Oversight as a Policy Arena

- a) Oversight increase
- b) Deregulatory momentum slows
- c) Agency will become more cautious



3) Focus on Agency Posture, Not Statutory Rewrite

- a) Major changes are unlikely
 - i) Engage early on rule making
 - ii) Build coalitions to help with implementation clarity
 - iii) Advocate for predictability and administrative consistency
 - iv) Avoid statutory fixes that are not bipartisan



4) Prepare early for Change in Control

- a) Need affordability and jobs messaging
- b) Be prepared for heightened safety scrutiny
- c) Pivot to Resilience language

2026-2027 Strategic Framework



Environment

-  Tight Margins
-  Low Legislative Probability
-  High Political Volatility
-  Possible Democratic Flip



Strategic Focus

-  Appropriations, Oversight Management
-  Administrative Clarity, Implementation
-  Bipartisan Durability
-  Compliance Strength, Affordability narrative

Bottom Line

Between now and 2027:



Don't plan around sweeping legislative reform.



Plan around oversight pressure and agency caution.



Use appropriations as your primary federal tool.



Build bipartisan relationships now.



Prepare messaging for an affordability- and consumer-protection-oriented Congress.



Strengthen compliance posture to withstand increased scrutiny.

The operating environment is not about expanding policy – it is about preserving predictability and reducing regulatory whiplash.

Thank you



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KR
PUBLIC
AFFAIRS

Strategy, Substance, Service

Grower Adoption



Platform10

- Multi-year collaboration aimed at accelerating the adoption of biopesticides in specialty crops by conducting rigorous field trials and enhancing grower confidence.
- Initiated by Western Growers and Wharf42, it seeks to address gaps in pest management and promote sustainable agricultural practices globally.

Thank You



For questions or additional details, please contact:

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