



July 24, 2024

NASS EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT

Your attention is directed to Secretary Vilsack's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy Statement, dated June 28, 2024.

[USDA EEO Policy Statement - June 28, 2024](#)

As the Administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, I fully support and endorse the Secretary's EEO policy statement of June 28, 2024. I am committed to providing a work environment that values diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility; one that is merit-based and affords all employees the opportunity to compete on a level playing field to reach their full potential.

Essential to our strategic mission is a positive work environment. NASS strives to become a model employer by ensuring that all employees, former employees, and applicants are treated fairly and equitably with dignity and respect - a workplace that is free from any discriminatory animus regardless of race, color, sex (which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression), religion, national origin, age (at least 40), disability (mental or physical), genetic information, or retaliation for engaging in prior EEO protected activity.

Your attention is also directed to Departmental Regulation (DR), 4200-003, [USDA Anti-Harassment Program](#), dated April 18, 2023, which outlines the Department's policies and program requirements for dealing with allegations of harassment. A key element of the program requires USDA agencies to promptly respond to, address, and correct any harassing conduct before it becomes severe or pervasive. All NASS employees, supervisors, managers, and senior executives are encouraged to familiarize themselves with this important Directive.

NASS employees, former employees, and applicants for employment have the right to raise allegations of discrimination and harassment without fear of reprisal. I expect all employees, supervisors, managers, and senior executives to adhere to this policy and lead by example. Anyone not complying with this policy will be held fully accountable.

Employees, former employees, or applicants who believe they have been subjected to unlawful discrimination or harassment and want to learn more about the EEO complaints procedure or file an EEO complaint should contact June Turner, NASS Civil Rights Director, by phone at (202) 720-8257 or by email at June.Turner@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

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of Agriculture, cn=JOSEPH PARSONS,
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Joseph L. Parsons
NASS Administrator