

Sen. Saxby Chambliss' statement for the record – Title 2

Moreover, our nation's farmers and landowners deserve to have long-term conservation program certainty to effectively and efficiently manage their land and resources for the years ahead.

Locally-led conservation is critical in supporting America's long-term environmental and economic stability. Georgia's 40 soil and water conservation districts depend on farm bill conservation funding to address the non-point source water quality issues across the state along with ensuring that water conservation practices are installed to effectively and efficiently make use of water for agricultural production.

Not only do farm bill conservation programs play a key role in supporting clean air, clean water, and productive soils, they also help producers avoid unnecessary regulation, and support our nation's long-term economic and food security.

Further, I would like to express my support for the measure in the Senate bill that ties conservation compliance to crop insurance. My amendment last year on the floor relinked the two, and then many leading agricultural, conservation, and crop-insurance groups came together to forge a compromise on details of this linkage.

This compromise will provide a strong safety net for our nation's farmers and natural resources, while allowing them to be wise stewards of taxpayer resources.