



# **ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS 2026**

*With Amendments through December 2025*

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Sacramento, California 95833

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## ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The Articles of Incorporation, as amended, of CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION, a California corporation, existing under and subject to the General Nonprofit Corporation Law of the State of California, read as follows:

### I

That the name of said corporation is CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION.

### II

That the purposes for which this corporation is formed are:

(a) To work for the solution of the problems of the farm, the farm home, and the rural community, by use of the recognized advantages of organized action, to the end that those engaged in the various branches of agriculture may have opportunity for happiness and prosperity in their chosen work.

(b) To represent, protect, and advance the social, economic and educational interests of the farmers of California.

(c) To correlate the activities of and to encourage and strengthen the various county farm bureaus in California, and to assist in the accomplishment of their aims and desires.

(d) To cooperate with the American Farm Bureau Federation and with Agricultural Extension Service in bringing their resources to the farmers of California.

(e) To represent the interests of the county farm bureaus and their members, including those who receive bundled service from investor-owned electrical or natural gas companies, in regulatory proceedings with regard to all facets of the provision of energy services before the California Public Utilities Commission and in any other appropriate venue.

(f) To do and perform any and all acts and things necessary, proper, convenient, or desirable for and to effect the full and complete exercise and enjoyment of any and all of the powers and purposes of the corporation hereby created.

This corporation does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members thereof.

### III

That the principal office for the transaction of the business of the corporation is to be located in the County of Sacramento, State of California.

### IV

The names and residences of those selected to act in the capacity of directors until their successors shall have been elected and shall have accepted office are:

R.W. Blackburn	Thermal, California
U.B. Tyler	Red Bluff, California
J.A. Smiley	Orange, California
Roy K. Cole	Whittier, California
M.W. Dula	Visalia, California
L.E. McChesney	Arroyo Grande, California
Amon Swank	Linden, California
Ray B. Wiser	Gridley, California
J.E. Bandy	Sacramento, California
J.C. Johnson	Ukiah, California
Prof. B.H. Crocheron	Berkeley, California
Mrs. B.H. Schulte	Monterey, California

The number of directors so named shall constitute the authorized number of directors until changed by an amendment of the articles or by a bylaw, duly adopted by the members. Authority is hereby expressly granted to the members of this corporation, by the adoption of a by-law to change the number of directors,

determine their qualifications and fix the term of office.

V

This corporation shall not issue capital stock but shall issue membership certificates to each member, such membership certificates to be signed by the president and secretary; the membership of this organization shall consist of and be limited to regularly organized county farm bureaus in California. Neither the said membership nor the said certificate shall be subject to assignment and/or transfer in any manner, whether by operation of the law or otherwise, and no assignee or transferee of said membership and/or said certificate shall be entitled to membership or to any property rights or interest of any degree in the corporation.

VI

That the voting power of each member of the corporation shall be as set forth in the by-laws. The property rights and interests of each member of the corporation shall be in proportion that its membership bears to the total membership of all members of the corporation.

VII

This corporation represents the incorporation of the California Farm Bureau Federation, an existing unincorporated association.

VIII

These articles of incorporation may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the corporation at any regular or special meeting thereof.

IX

That the right to determine the consideration for which memberships shall be issued is limited to the members.

**BYLAWS**  
**of**  
**California Farm Bureau Federation**

**Article I—Purposes**

The purposes for which this corporation is formed are:

(a) To work for the solution of the problems of the farm, the farm home and the rural community, by use of the recognized advantages of organized action, to the end that those engaged in the various branches of agriculture may have opportunity for happiness and prosperity in their chosen work.

(b) To represent, protect and advance the social, economic and educational interests of the farmers of California.

(c) To correlate the activities of and to encourage and strengthen the various County Farm Bureaus in California, and to assist in the accomplishment of their aims and desires.

(d) To cooperate with American Farm Bureau Federation and with University of California Cooperative Extension in bringing their resources to the farmers of California.

(e) To do and perform any and all acts and things necessary, proper, convenient or desirable for and to effect the full and complete exercise and enjoyment of any and all of the powers and purposes of the corporation hereby created.

**Article II—Membership**

**Sec. 1.** The membership of this corporation shall consist of and be limited to regularly organized County Farm Bureaus in the State of California.

**Sec. 2.** A regularly organized County Farm Bureau shall be one whose bylaws provide for the following:

(a) The maintenance of purposes as set forth in Article I.

(b) That there shall be three classes of members to be known as agricultural members, associate members and collegiate members, respectively.

(c) That the requirement for an agricultural member shall be that such member received during the five-year period prior to the membership year, or reasonably expects to receive, income from the farming industry.

(d) That only agricultural members shall have voting and other rights afforded members under the California Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation Law.

(e) That the requirements for a collegiate member shall be that such member shall be at least 16 but less than 25 years of age, should be enrolled in a community college, public or private four-year college, trade school, university or other post-high-school formal educational program, and shall have elected to be a collegiate member despite the member's eligibility to be an agricultural member or an associate member.

(f) That the vote of an agricultural corporation, partnership or unincorporated association, or farm family, may be cast by an authorized representative.

(g) The use of a uniform membership application form approved by this corporation.

(h) That all applications for membership be approved by the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

(i) That in no event shall a County Farm Bureau be considered as regularly organized unless it comprises either 50 members or ten percent of the farmers in the county, whichever is smaller.

(j) That for the purpose of remitting dues to this corporation the membership roll of a County Farm Bureau shall consist of all three classes of members.

(k) That the eligibility of an agricultural, associate or collegiate member of a County Farm Bureau member for participation in any service program authorized by the House of Delegates shall be determined by the Board of Directors of this corporation.

(l) That each member of the Board of Directors of the County Farm Bureau shall be an agricultural member

of the County Farm Bureau or an individual designated by an entity that is an agricultural member of the County Farm Bureau to participate individually in the activities or benefits derived from that membership and shall either (i) derive a substantial portion of his or her gross income from farming operations, including as an owner, lessor, lessee, manager, officer, or substantial shareholder of a corporate entity, in California in the year when elected or during the five-year period prior to the election or (ii) have his or her principal occupation in the farming industry in California in the year when elected.

(m) That provision be made for the required attendance at meetings of Boards of Directors of member County Farm Bureaus.

(n) That (i) the membership in the County Farm Bureau of a corporation, limited liability company, association, partnership, trust or other entity shall also entitle one individual who is a shareholder, member, partner, trustee, officer or key employee thereof as may be designated in writing from time to time by the entity to participate individually in the activities or benefits derived from that membership and (ii) if the entity is an agricultural member of the County Farm Bureau, the designated individual must meet the qualification for an agricultural member of a County Farm Bureau as specified in paragraph (c) of this Section 2.

(o) That dues paid by an individual for membership in the County Farm Bureau shall cover the individual and the individual's spouse.

**Sec. 3.** Bylaws which may be adopted by a member County Farm Bureau shall be in conformity with the provisions hereof, and all members shall comply with the provisions of these bylaws, and with such requirements as may be from time to time adopted by the House of Delegates. County Farm Bureaus seeking admission to membership shall be admitted as members by the House of Delegates if found to be regularly organized in accordance with the provisions hereof.

**Sec. 4.** Any member County Farm Bureau may withdraw from this corporation by presenting to the Board of Directors thereof a written resignation and complying with all provisions of the agreement between such member and this corporation, including the payment of all dues for the membership year in which the request for withdrawal is received.

**Sec. 5.** Certificates of membership in identical form and signed by the President and Secretary of this corporation shall be issued to each member upon its signing the bylaws and agreeing to be governed thereby, and upon its execution of the membership agreement with this corporation prescribed by the House of Delegates.

### **Article III—Meetings of Members**

**Sec. 1.** The policies of this corporation and the general activities to be carried on by it shall be determined at the annual meeting of members, except where subsequently modified or changed at any special meeting of members or by referendum vote.

An annual meeting of members shall be held at a place designated by the members commencing the first Monday of December of each year, unless such place or date be changed by two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.

**Sec. 2.** A special meeting of members may be called at any time by the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, and shall be called by him upon the request of at least five percent of the members. Members at an annual meeting may also provide for the holding of a mid-year or other special meeting of members during the ensuing year.

**Sec. 3.** At any meeting of members, a quorum necessary for the transaction of any official business of the corporation shall consist of a majority of all the State Delegates except that for adoption of an amendment to the bylaws a quorum shall consist of at least a two-thirds majority of all such Delegates.

**Sec. 4.** Notice of each regular or special meeting of members shall be in writing and shall state the time and place thereof and, in the case of a special meeting, shall also state the objects and purposes thereof. Such notice shall be prepared and mailed by the Secretary to each member at least ten days before the date of any such meeting. No failure or irregularity of notice of any regular or special meeting shall in any manner invalidate such meeting or any proceeding thereat, if a waiver of notice or any irregularity thereof or a consent to the holding of such meeting be approved by a majority vote of all State Delegates.

**Sec. 5.** The order of business at the annual meeting of the members may be:

1. Call to order and statement of purpose of meeting.
2. Roll call of delegates and admission of member County Farm Bureaus.
3. Adoption of minutes.
4. Reports of committees.
5. Confirmation of election of District Directors.
6. Election of President and 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents in election years or to fill vacancies, and election of Voting Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the American Farm Bureau Federation.
7. Communications and unfinished business.
8. New business and good of the order.
9. Adjournment.

#### **Article IV—House of Delegates**

**Sec. 1.** The House of Delegates shall consist of the following members:

(a) Two State Delegates from each County Farm Bureau, one of whom shall be the President thereof, provided, however, that no person who is a Director of this corporation shall be eligible to be a State Delegate from a member County Farm Bureau; and, provided further, that a member County Farm Bureau whose President is also a Director of this corporation may designate another person to serve as State Delegate in place of the President.

(b) One additional State Delegate for every 1,000 or major portion thereof of paid-up agricultural members of a member County Farm Bureau for the preceding membership year.

(c) District Directors.

(d) The President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Director of University of California Cooperative Extension, the Chairman of the State Rural Health and Safety Committee, and the duly elected Chairman of the California Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee.

(e) Past Presidents of this corporation.

In the event a member County Farm Bureau fails to select all of the State Delegates to which it is entitled, the Board of Directors of said member County Farm Bureau shall have the authority to fill said vacancies.

All members of the House of Delegates shall have the privilege of the floor, but only State Delegates shall be entitled to vote.

**Sec. 2.** At all meetings of members, the representation of each member County Farm Bureau shall be by State Delegates or Alternates. Representation of a member County Farm Bureau at the annual meeting shall be conditioned upon payment by the member during the year just ended of all membership dues provided for herein.

**Sec. 3.** In no event shall any salaried or paid employee of this corporation, or salaried or paid employee in regular and continuing employment, or agent on commission holding an agency in its affiliated or subsidiary companies be qualified to serve as a State Delegate.

**Sec. 4.** All State Delegates shall meet the qualifications for a member of the Board of Directors of a County Farm Bureau as set forth in Article II, Sec. 2 (I), except that only one State Delegate of a County Farm Bureau may be a person who is an agricultural member of the County Farm Bureau and meets only the qualification

set forth in clause (ii) of Article II, Sec. 2 (I).

**Sec. 5.** Alternate Delegates, not in excess of the number of its State Delegates, may be elected by each member County Farm Bureau. In the event any State Delegate is unable to attend any meeting of members, an Alternate Delegate designated by the member County Farm Bureau shall take his place in representing the member County Farm Bureau at such meeting and the Board of Directors of the member County Farm Bureau shall, through its Secretary, certify to such fact and request that the Alternate serve as a fully qualified State Delegate. Alternate Delegates shall have the privilege of the floor but may not vote except when taking the place of a State Delegate as provided for herein.

**Sec. 6.** The national Voting Delegates to the next ensuing annual meeting, or subsequent special meetings, if any, of the American Farm Bureau Federation, shall be the President, 1st Vice President, and such additional Delegates as this corporation may be entitled to. The additional Delegates shall be elected for two-year terms with approximately half of such delegates being elected each year. Alternate delegates for each national Voting Delegate shall be elected for one-year terms at the annual meeting of members. In the event a Voting Delegate is unable to attend any meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation, his Alternate shall represent this corporation at said meeting. No Alternate Delegate shall qualify as a Voting Delegate for any position on the Board of Directors of the American Farm Bureau Federation unless the Voting Delegate declines to serve and the President or Secretary of this corporation certifies to such fact and requests that the Alternate serve as a fully authorized Voting Delegate of this corporation.

## **Article V—Districts**

**Sec. 1.** The number of districts and the counties composing them shall be as follows:

District	Counties
1	Imperial, San Diego
2	Riverside, San Bernardino, Inyo-Mono
3	Los Angeles, Orange
4	Santa Barbara, Ventura
5	Kern, Kings
6	Tulare
7	Fresno
8	Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo
9	Madera, Mariposa, Merced
10	San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco
11	Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano
12	San Joaquin, Calaveras
13	Stanislaus, Tuolumne
14	Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento
15	Butte, Yuba-Sutter, Nevada
16	Colusa, Glenn, Yolo
17	Marin, Napa, Sonoma
18	Lake, Mendocino
19	Modoc, Lassen, Plumas-Sierra
20	Shasta, Siskiyou, Trinity, Tehama
21	Del Norte, Humboldt

**Sec. 2.** The number of districts may be increased, reduced, or existing districts reapportioned, by amendment to these bylaws.



## **Article VI—Board of Directors**

**Sec. 1.** The business and property of this corporation and its policies and activities, as authorized by the members, shall be administered and carried out by a Board of Directors composed of the President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Chairman of the California Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee, and a Director from each of the districts.

**Sec. 2.** Without prejudice to or limitation upon its said powers, or authority or discretion to do anything required, necessary, desirable or expedient for and on behalf of the corporation, said Board shall have power to adopt, use and alter at will a corporate seal of form and device approved by the Board; to borrow money without limitation as to corporate indebtedness and to lien any property of the corporation as security therefor, and to make and issue notes and other negotiable and transferable instruments, mortgages, deeds of trust and trust agreements, and to do every act and thing necessary to effectuate the same; to create any and all funds as may be required; to generally contract and enter into agreements, and to authorize any officer or officers, who shall be designated by the Board, to enter into and execute generally, for and on behalf of the corporation, all contracts and agreements in connection with any business of the corporation.

**Sec. 3.** The odd-numbered districts shall elect their District Directors in the odd-numbered years and the even-numbered districts shall elect their District Directors in the even-numbered years. Such District Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of members at a caucus by the State Delegates from the respective districts. The election of all District Directors chosen by caucus shall be subject to confirmation by the House of Delegates.

**Sec. 4.** Should a vacancy occur, the President shall call a caucus of the State Delegates in the district where the vacancy exists, and they shall elect a District Director to fill out the unexpired term.

**Sec. 5.** Each District Director shall be elected for a term of two years. He shall hold office until his successor shall have been elected and confirmed. No person shall be elected as a District Director for more than three full consecutive terms, provided, however, that this provision shall only apply to terms of District Directors commencing at or after the annual meeting of members of this corporation at which this bylaw provision was adopted.

**Sec. 6.** To be eligible for election as a District Director, a candidate must be either (1) a State Delegate or past State Delegate; (2) a County Farm Bureau President or past President; or (3) a member or former member of the Board of Directors.

**Sec. 7.** Each member of the Board of Directors, except for the Chairman of the California Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee, must derive a majority of his or her gross income from farming operations, including as an owner, lessor, lessee, manager, officer, or substantial shareholder of a corporate entity, in California in the year when elected or during the five-year period prior to the election. Income paid to an elected officer by this corporation shall not be included in computing gross income.

**Sec. 8.** The Director of University of California Cooperative Extension and the Chairman of the State Rural Health and Safety Committee shall be advisory members of the Board of Directors, and at the meetings of the directors shall have the privilege of the floor but shall not have the power to vote.

**Sec. 9.** Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the time and place designated by the President or by previous action of the Board. The President may call a special meeting of the Board of Directors at any time and must call a special meeting of the Board of Directors upon the written request of any five members thereof. A tentative agenda of the meeting shall be circulated in advance to officers, directors, and member County Farm Bureaus in order that the district discussions can be conducted as required by Article XII of these bylaws.

**Sec. 10.** Notice shall be given of all meetings of the Board of Directors, excepting a meeting held immediately following an annual or special meeting of member County Farm Bureaus. All notices of meetings, when

required, shall be in writing and shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member of the Board not less than five days before any such meeting, and notices of special meetings shall state the objects and purposes thereof. No failure or irregularity of notice of any regular or special meeting shall in any manner invalidate such meeting or any proceeding thereat, if a waiver of notice or any irregularity thereof, or a consent to the holding of such meeting be approved by a majority of all members of the Board.

**Sec. 11.** A quorum at any meeting shall consist of a majority of the entire voting membership of the Board. A majority of such quorum shall decide any question that may come before the meeting.

**Sec. 12.** It shall be the policy of this corporation that any member or advisory member of the Board of Directors or any officer of the corporation shall be requested to tender his resignation as a member of the Board or as such officer upon appointment to, or announcement of his candidacy for public office in the county, state or national government, and failing to tender such resignation, the Board of Directors shall by resolution duly adopted, declare vacant any such office in the corporation. Public office in the county, state or national government shall mean any such office which carries with it a fixed monthly or yearly salary.

### **Article VII—Officers**

**Sec. 1.** The officers of this corporation shall consist of a President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, a Chief Operating Officer, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

The President and the Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual meeting of the members in the odd-numbered years and shall hold office for terms of two years and until their successors shall have been elected and qualified. No person shall be elected to the same office for more than four full consecutive terms.

A vacancy occurring in the office of President shall be filled by the 1st Vice President who shall serve as President for the unexpired term of the President; a vacancy in the office of 1st Vice President shall be filled by the 2nd Vice President who shall serve as 1st Vice President for the unexpired term of the 1st Vice President; a vacancy in the office of the 2nd Vice President shall be filled by the Board of Directors, the appointee to hold office until the next annual meeting of members, at which time a 2nd Vice President shall be elected to fill the unexpired term.

The Chief Operating Officer, the Secretary, and the Treasurer shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors, subject to the rights, if any, of an officer under any contract of employment authorized by the Board.

One person may not hold two or more offices, except those of Secretary and Treasurer.

**Sec. 2.** The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall preside at all meetings of the members and directors. Except as otherwise provided by these bylaws, the President shall appoint committees and shall be a member ex officio of all standing and special committees but not of the Nominating Committee. The President shall report on the activities of the corporation in regard to policy and action directives as determined by the House of Delegates and on such other matters as are necessary to inform members of the corporation's activities and for the good management of the organization. The President shall perform all such duties as are incident to the office of President or are properly required by the Board of Directors.

In the absence or disability of the President, the 1st Vice President shall exercise all functions of the President, and in the absence or disability of both the President and the 1st Vice President, the 2nd Vice President shall exercise all functions of the President.

**Sec. 3.** The Chief Operating Officer shall be the general manager of the corporation, shall oversee its daily operations and the management of its personnel, shall not be a member of the Board of Directors but shall attend meetings of the Board except when excused by the Board or the President from attending, and shall

perform all such duties as are incident to the position of Chief Operating Officer or are properly required by the Board of Directors or the President.

**Sec. 4.** The Secretary shall keep minutes of the meetings of the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for that purpose; shall attend to the giving of all required notices; shall furnish reports on all meetings of the Board of Directors to member County Farm Bureaus; shall be the custodian of the corporate records and of the seal of the corporation; shall affix the seal attested by his signature to such instruments as may be required; and in general shall perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

**Sec. 5.** The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of, and be responsible for all funds and securities of this corporation; shall receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to this corporation from any source whatsoever; shall deposit all such monies in the name of this corporation in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors; shall disburse the funds of this corporation in accordance with due authorization of the Board of Directors; shall render a statement of account and transactions of this corporation whenever required by the Board of Directors or the President; shall make a complete annual statement of this corporation; and shall in general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer.

**Sec. 6.** The Board of Directors shall require all officers, agents and employees, having control or access to monies or securities of this corporation in the regular discharge of their duties to give bond for the faithful discharge of their duties in such sum and with such surety as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The premium on such bonds shall be paid out of the funds of this corporation.

**Sec. 7.** The Board of Directors may appoint such assistants to the Secretary and the Treasurer as it may find necessary to carry on the work of the corporation.

## **Article VIII—Committees**

**Sec. 1.** Advisory committees may be constituted from time to time by the Board of Directors or the President to advise with and assist the officers and directors in the activities of the corporation. Except as otherwise provided by these bylaws, advisory committees shall be appointed by the President from among nominees of the member County Farm Bureaus and others.

**Sec. 2.** There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. The Committee shall review and make recommendations on matters to be considered and acted on by the Board but shall have no authority of the Board unless so delegated by the Board. The Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice Presidents, the Finance Committee Chairman, and one District Director who shall be nominated by the President and appointed by the Board. The President shall be the Chairman of the Committee.

**Sec. 3.** There shall be a Finance Committee of the Board of Directors. The Committee shall review and make recommendations on financial matters to be considered and acted on by the Board but shall have no authority of the Board. The Committee shall consist of the President, the 1st Vice President, the Treasurer, and at least two District Directors who shall be appointed by the President and whose appointments shall be subject to confirmation by the Board. The President shall appoint one of such District Directors to serve as the Chairman of the Committee.

**Sec. 4.** There shall be a Nominating Committee of this corporation. The Committee shall solicit and vet and may nominate candidates for election to the offices of the President and the Vice Presidents. The Committee shall consist of the Chairman of the immediately preceding Nominating Committee and one agricultural member from each district, each of whom shall be elected at the annual meeting of members in each even-numbered year at a caucus by the State Delegates of each respective district. In addition, each caucus shall elect an alternate, who shall also be an agricultural member. The Committee shall elect its Chairman.

The Committee shall convene no less than 180 days before the next annual meeting of members. The Committee shall review the qualifications of and interview each such candidate who responds to the solicitation. No less than 90 days before that annual meeting of members, the Committee shall announce any nominations it has made and may nominate for election at that meeting no more than one candidate for the office of President, one candidate for the office of 1st Vice President, and one candidate for the office of 2nd Vice President. The Committee shall publish to the members the names of all candidates who completed the Nominating Committee process for the meeting.

Only candidates who completed the Nominating Committee process for the meeting at which the election will be held or who have filed with the Secretary endorsements of their nomination for a specified office or specified offices, signed by at least one State Delegate of each of 18 County Farm Bureaus attending the meeting at which the election is being held, shall be eligible for election at that meeting.

**Sec. 5.** There shall be a Resolutions Committee of this corporation. The Committee shall consider and make to the House of Delegates recommendations on policy recommendations and bylaw amendments proposed by the corporation's Board of Directors, committees, and member County Farm Bureaus. The Committee shall consist of the 1st Vice President, who shall serve as its Chairman, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of each Policy Recommendation Committee, the District Directors of even-numbered districts in odd-numbered years or of odd-numbered districts in even-numbered years, the Chairman of the California Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee, and the Chairman of the State Rural Health and Safety Committee.

#### **Article IX—California Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee**

**Sec. 1.** California Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee shall be an integral part of this corporation and is organized for the following purposes:

To provide leadership and coordination at the state level for a framework within Farm Bureau which will influence farm young people to join the organization and associate themselves together for social, educational, recreational and similar purposes; and through their active participation in Farm Bureau activities, to develop future leadership for the organization, and an increased interest in agriculture as a means of livelihood and a way of life.

**Sec. 2.** The Committee shall consist of a Chairman and 21 additional members, one from each district, appointed by the President from nominations by the several California Farm Bureau Federation Directors. Each member shall be an agricultural member of a County Farm Bureau that is a member of this corporation, or an individual designated by an entity that is an agricultural member of such a County Farm Bureau to participate individually in the activities or benefits derived from that membership, and who has not reached his or her 36th birthday.

Each member shall be appointed for a term of two years and hold office until a successor shall have been appointed. Directors of odd-numbered districts shall make their nominations in odd-numbered years, and Directors of even-numbered districts shall make their nominations in even-numbered years.

**Sec. 3.** Should a vacancy on the Committee occur, the Committee shall promptly so notify the District Director for the district experiencing the vacancy. The District Director may nominate to the President to fill the vacancy a willing individual from that district who meets the eligibility criteria specified in Section 2 of this Article IX, and the President may appoint that individual to fill it.

If the District Director does not nominate such an individual within 90 days after having been notified of the vacancy, the Committee may by majority vote nominate to the President a willing and eligible individual to fill the vacancy as a member at large. The nominated individual must have the endorsing signatures of the President and District Director of their home county and district experiencing the vacancy prior to having the opportunity for appointment by the President.

If, during the term of office being filled by the member at large, an eligible individual who is from the district that is experiencing the vacancy and who is willing to serve on the Committee for that district surfaces, the District Director for that district may nominate to the President that individual to fill the vacancy for the rest of that term. If the President appoints that individual to fill the vacancy, the member at large will become an adjunct member of the Committee with privilege of the floor but without the right to vote on matters that come before it for the rest of that term.

**Sec. 4.** The Committee shall elect a Chairman, two Vice Chairmen, and a Secretary, who when elected shall be between the ages of 18 and 34 and who shall meet the qualification for a member of the Board of Directors of a County Farm Bureau as set forth in either clause (i) or (ii) of Article II, Sec. 2 (I). Such election shall be for a term of one year and shall be subject to confirmation by the House of Delegates.

The Committee may nominate for appointment a representative to the American Farm Bureau Federation.

**Sec. 5.** County Farm Bureaus shall be encouraged to organize their young people who have not yet reached the age of 36 years, into active Committees of Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers. Members of the State Committee shall maintain close contact, liaison and understanding with such organized county groups within their districts.

### **Article X—California Farm Bureau Rural Health Department**

**Sec. 1.** A California Farm Bureau Rural Health Department shall be an integral part of this corporation and is organized for the following purposes:

- (a) To establish working relationships with medical or safety professionals.
- (b) To work with groups or agencies providing emergency assistance.
- (c) To help County Farm Bureau Rural Health Departments develop a program of work to meet local health and safety needs.
- (d) To work with health systems agencies at the county, regional and state levels.
- (e) To sponsor health insurance plans and programs.
- (f) To promote employee health and safety.
- (g) To promote health and safety in agricultural operations.
- (h) To assist in the implementation of programs to reduce or eliminate rural crime.

**Sec. 2.** Membership in this department shall consist of and be limited to duly organized County Farm Bureau Rural Health Departments. A duly organized County Farm Bureau Rural Health Department is one which is recognized as such by the County Farm Bureau in such county and where not less than two County Farm Bureau members belong thereto. All members of such department shall be members of the County Farm Bureau and the Chairman thereof shall be elected by the membership of such department.

**Sec. 3.** The President shall appoint a State Rural Health and Safety Committee to provide a framework for leadership and coordination of the department's programs and activities. Members of the committee shall be appointed from nominations by the California Farm Bureau Federation Directors.

A Chairman of the committee shall be appointed by the President at the annual meeting of members of this corporation or at such time, place and manner as may be decided by the Board of Directors to serve for a term of two years beginning in 1987 and until a successor is appointed. The appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the House of Delegates. No person shall be appointed to serve more than three full consecutive terms.

**Sec. 4.** Bylaws adopted by the California Farm Bureau Rural Health Department shall be in conformity with the provisions hereof.

## **Article XI—Remuneration And Indemnification**

**Sec. 1.** Subject to the provisions of this Article, all sums herein provided to be paid shall be paid from funds of the corporation.

**Sec. 2.** Members and advisory members of the Board of Directors, subject to the provisions of Section 3 hereof, shall each be paid a per diem, all necessary traveling expenses and a daily subsistence allowance while in attendance at annual and special meetings of the corporation and at meetings of the Board of Directors and when engaged on such other business of the corporation as may be authorized by the President. State Delegates shall each be paid a per diem, all necessary traveling expenses and a daily subsistence allowance while in attendance at annual and special meetings of this corporation and when engaged on such other business of the corporation as may be authorized by the President or the Board of Directors.

When specifically authorized by the President or the Board of Directors, Chairmen of the advisory committees and the Chairman of the State Rural Health and Safety Committee shall be paid the same remuneration as the Directors.

**Sec. 3.** The President shall be paid such compensation for his services as shall from time to time be fixed by the Board of Directors. In addition, he shall receive his actual traveling expenses and a daily subsistence allowance when engaged on the business of the corporation, in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

Each Vice President shall be paid such compensation for his services as shall from time to time be fixed by the Board of Directors. In addition, each Vice President shall be paid his actual traveling expenses and a daily subsistence allowance when engaged on the business of the corporation, in accordance with the provisions of this article.

**Sec. 4.** The Board of Directors shall from time to time determine the amount of per diem allowances and the amount of the daily subsistence allowances provided for in this article.

**Sec. 5.** Persons entitled to indemnification under this Section shall include present or former officers, directors, employees and agents of this corporation, persons presently or formerly serving at the request of the corporation, as directors, officers, employees or agents of any other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, association or other enterprise, and the heirs, executors and administrators of such persons. Indemnification under this Section shall be provided to such persons against any and all liability, including expenses, judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts, actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, as permitted by the Corporations Code of the State of California.

## **Article XII—District Organization**

District Directors shall meet from time to time as may appear desirable, with County Farm Bureau Presidents, officers and other State Delegates in the various districts, for the purpose of carrying forward projects of a district character and particularly for the purpose of communicating with respect to matters pertaining to the activities of this corporation.

## **Article XIII—Staff Organization**

This corporation shall maintain for the benefit of its members such staff organization as shall be determined by the Board of Directors. The management of the staff shall be under oversight of the Chief Operating Officer.

## Article XIV—Dues and Finance

**Sec. 1.** Effective May 1, 2011, each member County Farm Bureau shall set for and assess to its collegiate members annual dues in the amount of \$25.

**Sec. 2.** Each member County Farm Bureau shall pay to this corporation annual dues for each member of the County Farm Bureau as follows:

Effective Date	Agricultural Member	Associate Member	Collegiate Member
Nov. 1, 1993	\$45	\$25	
Nov. 1, 2002	\$55	\$35	
Nov. 1, 2004	\$65	\$45	
May 1, 2011			\$14
May 1, 2017	\$100		
Nov. 1, 2018	\$105		
Nov. 1, 2019	\$110		
Nov. 1, 2020	\$115		
Nov. 1, 2021	\$120		
Nov. 1, 2024	\$150	\$50	\$15
Nov. 1, 2025	\$175		
Nov. 1, 2026	\$200		

The above dues shall be payable to this corporation when and as membership dues are received by the County Farm Bureau from such members and shall be remitted to the Treasurer of this corporation on or before the tenth day following the close of the fiscal month in which they were received by the County Farm Bureau. The said annual dues payable by the member County Farm Bureau to this corporation shall be the total of its obligation to this corporation and shall include the dues of this corporation to the American Farm Bureau Federation. The remainder shall be apportioned by the Directors as the needs of this corporation may demand.

Starting November 1, 2025, the Board of Directors of this corporation shall forecast dues rate adjustments to its member County Farm Bureaus a minimum of eight months in advance of the House of Delegates consideration for approval.

In addition to the receipt of such sums as may be derived from this corporation, the California Farm Bureau Rural Health Department may raise departmental funds by collecting dues or assessments from members subject to approval by the Board of Directors of the corporation.

**Sec. 3.** A budget of all estimated income and expenditures of this corporation for each fiscal year shall be submitted by the Treasurer to the Board of Directors at the beginning of the fiscal year.

**Sec. 4.** The Board of Directors shall appoint a Finance Committee which shall review and recommend a proposed budget to the Board of Directors and periodically review the budget and compare it with actual financial operations of the corporation.

Action programs requested by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates shall be submitted to the Finance Committee for its review and recommendation of the Board of Directors prior to implementation.

**Sec. 5.** An annual financial audit shall be prepared by a certified public accountant selected by the Board of Directors, and it shall be furnished to each member County Farm Bureau.

#### **Article XV—Membership and Fiscal Year**

The membership and fiscal year adopted by this corporation shall be from the first day of November of each year to the thirty-first day of October in the following year and the fiscal year for each County Farm Bureau shall be from the first day of November of each year to the thirty-first day of October in the following year.

#### **Article XVI—Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of member County Farm Bureaus by a unanimous vote of the duly accredited State Delegates present, or by two-thirds vote of such Delegates, provided notification to amend is on file with the Secretary not less than 85 days prior to the meeting and further provided such notification to amend has been given to said members 45 days prior to the meeting by the Secretary. Such notification to amend shall include the text of the proposed amendment or amendments and shall apply to only that amendment or those amendments. Bylaw amendments may be proposed by County Farm Bureaus, committees of the corporation, or the Board of Directors not less than 85 days prior to the meeting, or by State Delegates from the floor of any regular meeting of member County Farm Bureaus.