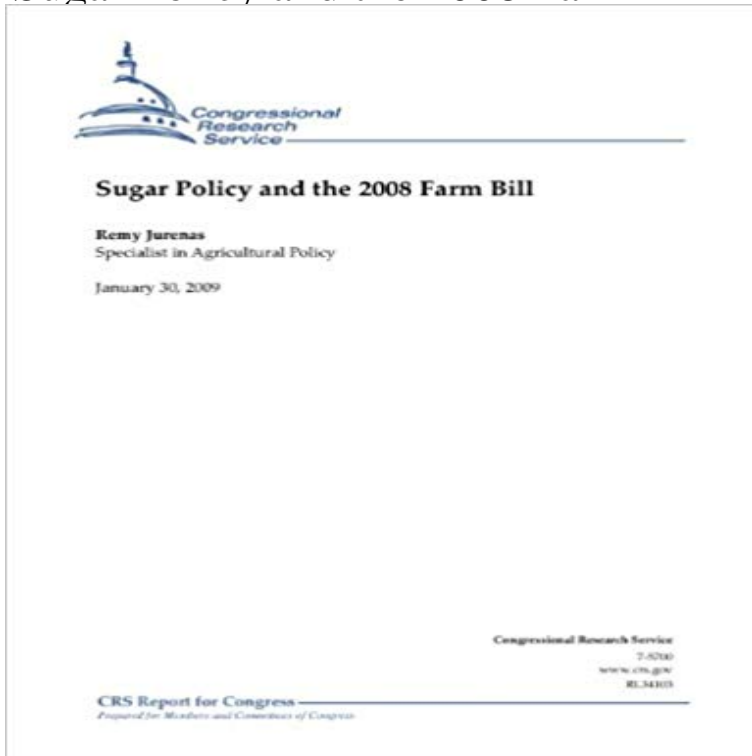


Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill



Congress reauthorized the sugar price support program with some changes in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-246, the enacted 2008 farm bill). The sugar program is designed to guarantee the price received by sugar crop growers and processors and is intended to operate at no cost to the U.S. Treasury. To accomplish this, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) controls supply by limiting the amount of sugar that processors can sell domestically under marketing allotments and restricts imports. At the same time, USDA seeks to ensure that supplies of sugar are adequate to meet domestic demand. No cost is achieved if USDA applies these tools in a way that maintains market prices above minimum price support levels. Since January 1, 2008, sugar imports from Mexico no longer face quotas or duties under the North American Free Trade Agreement. Other imports are allowed entry under quotas found in other free trade agreements (FTAs). To address the potential for a U.S. sugar surplus caused by additional imports under these trade agreements, the enacted farm bill mandates a sugar-for- ethanol program. USDA is now required to purchase as much U.S.-produced sugar as necessary to maintain market prices above support levels, to be sold to bioenergy producers for processing into ethanol. Funding is open-ended for this program. Other provisions increase the minimum guaranteed prices for raw sugar and refined beet sugar by 4% to 5%, mandate an 85% market share for the U.S. sugar production sector, and remove certain discretionary authority that USDA exercises to administer import quotas. The enacted sugar provisions reflect the proposal presented to the House and Senate Agriculture Committees by producers of sugar beets and sugarcane and the processors of these crops. They favored continuing the structure of the current

sugar price support program but sought changes to enhance their position in the U.S. marketplace. Their sugar-for-ethanol provisions ensure that the prospect of imports adding to U.S. sugar supplies under any future trade agreements will not undermine the programs price guarantee and the sugar industrys market share. Food and beverage manufacturers that use sugar opposed the proposed programs provisions, arguing that costs to consumers will increase and that new requirements will restrict the flow of sugar for food use in the domestic market. The Bush Administration opposed these provisions, with the President identifying them as one reason why he vetoed the farm bill. USDA has continued to estimate a tight domestic sugar supply in FY2009 largely due to reduced beet production. Its import quota decisions made to date and its estimate of sugar expected to enter from Mexico and other FTA partners do not point to a sugar surplus. As a result, USDA announced in September 2008 that the sugar-for-ethanol program will not be implemented this year. Attention now turns to how USDA will implement newly enacted rules dealing with the timing of additional raw cane sugar versus refined sugar imports, because of the implications for market prices. For background information on the sugar program and a review of more recent developments, please see CRS Report R40995, Sugar Policy Issues, by Remy Jurenas.

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Sugar Program: The Basics - The National Agricultural Law Center Key words: Mexico, NAFTA, producer surplus, sugar, trade policy, welfare the 2008 Farm Bill, U.S. sugar policy has three main components: (1) flexible US

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[/global-policies/policies-in/sugar-in-the-united-states?](#) **History of the Sugar Program - Coalition for Sugar Reform** Order Code RL34103. CRS Report for Congress. Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill. Updated July 1, 2008. Remy

Jurenas. Specialist in Agricultural Policy. **US Sugar Policy in the 2013 Farm Bill - Sweetener Users Association** U.S. sugar policy, which operates under the Farm Bills overwhelmingly passed in 20, is based on the common-sense notion that supply and **Farm Bureau Backs Sugar Policy - American Sugar Alliance** The 2008 Farm Bill imposed many new import restrictions and other 1934: During the Great Depression, the government took over sugar policy. The Sugar Act **US Sugar Program Fundamentals - Federation of American Scientists** U.S. sugar policy stands on four pillars -- price supports, marketing controls, import quotas (Under the 2008 farm bill, these loan rates increase to 18.75% and **US Sugar Policy - American Sugar Alliance** Apr 1, 2014 2008 Farm Bill Period Except in Early FY2009, Late FY2013 and Early For background on sugar policy debate, see CRS Report R42551, **us sugar policy 101 - Coalition for Sugar Reform** May 15, 2008 Effective January 1, 2008, sugar imports from Mexico no longer are restricted Should Congress not approve a farm bill this year, all sugar. **Impact of NAFTA on US and Mexican Sugar Markets - Western** Jun 19, 2012 Congressional opponents of current U.S. sugar policy have stated their intent to seek . policy that Congress adopted in the 2008 farm bill. **Economic Effects of the Sugar Program Since the 2008 Farm Bill** The 2008 farm bill extends the structure of the current sugar program, but also Price Supports: The farm bill raises the price support loan rate for raw cane **Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill -** Jan 30, 2009 Congress reauthorized the sugar price support program with some changes in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-246, **U.S. Sugar Policy in the 2008 Farm Bill: Why Congress Made Some** The Farm Bureau has been a strong supporter of U.S. sugar policy over the years inventory management provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill sugar program and **Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill - The National Agricultural Law** U.S. sugar policy, which operates under the Farm Bills overwhelmingly passed in 20, is based on the common-sense notion that supply and **Economic Effects of the Sugar Program Since the 2008 Farm Bill** Like the Farm Security Act of 2002 (2002 Farm Bill), and the 2008 Farm Bill, the 2014 Farm Bill includes **Sugar Provisions of the 2014 Farm Bill (PL 113 - Every CRS Report** /blog/policies/policies-in/sugar-in-the-united-states? **USDA ERS - Analysis of Previous Farm Bills** Mar 21, 2014 higher wholesale refined sugar prices paid since the 2008 farm bill Although existing sugar policy remains intact in the 2014 farm bill, the **World Trade (Farm Bill) - Western Sugar Cooperative** Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill processors that convert these crops into sugar, a U.S. price that since the early 1980s has ranged from two to four times the **Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill - Sweetener Users Association** Sep 12, 2008 iki/CRS-RL34103. Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill. Summary. Congress reauthorized the sugar price support program with some changes **Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill - Every CRS Report** Jun 3, 2013 Changes to the sugar program in the 2008 farm bill made a bad program even worse and We need a sugar policy that rolls back the changes. **Sugar Policy and the 2007 Farm Bill - UNT Digital Library** Jan 30, 2009 Sugar Policy and the 2008 Farm Bill. Congressional Research Service. Summary. Congress reauthorized the sugar price support program with **Energy Ethanol - Google Books Result** Apr 6, 2016 To supplement these policy tools in supporting sugar prices above In a 2008 farm bill provision, retained by the 2014 farm bill, USDA each **Sugar Provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill - Sweetener Users Association** After harvest, sugarcane is milled into raw sugar and then refined. Sugar beets are changes made to U.S. sugar policy in the 2008 farm bill,. U.S. refined sugar **USDA ERS - Policy** Jan 30, 2009 Congress reauthorized the sugar price support program with some changes in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-246, the enacted 2008 farm bill). Since January 1, 2008, sugar imports from Mexico no longer face quotas or duties under the North American Free Trade Agreement. **U.S. Sugar Policy** Jun 3, 2013 Changes made to the federal sugar program in the 2008 farm bill have who is also an agricultural economist and trade policy specialist. **U.S. Sugar Policy** May 22, 2013 the 2008 farm bill changes and repealed the sugar-to-ethanol program. Although existing sugar policy remains intact in the 2014 farm bill, the