U.S. Swine Health Improvement Plan

National Pork Producers Council

Our Appropriations Asks

> **$3 million for US SHIP** to continue to grow and develop.
> Report language directing **USDA create a federal advisory committee for US SHIP.**

Background

The United States Swine Health Improvement Plan (US SHIP) is a cooperative state-federal-industry program designed to **improve the health and marketability of U.S. swine and pork products**. Modeled after the National Poultry Improvement Plan, US SHIP is piloted by USDA's Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in cooperation with industry. Participants can apply for disease-specific certifications recognized across participating states.

US SHIP uses a national platform for **biosecurity**, **traceability**, and **surveillance** standards, which are updated annually by producers. With an initial focus on foreign swine diseases, such as African swine fever and classical swine fever, participation aims to increase domestic and international trade partner confidence in U.S. swine and pork products.

Impact

As of March 2026, there are **38 states participating** in US SHIP, which is designed for producers, packers, veterinarians, diagnostic labs, and state and federal officials.

Appropriations

In FY 2021, APHIS funded the US SHIP pilot project, which has progressed more rapidly than anticipated, and states requiring support from APHIS continue to increase. The pilot has been overwhelmingly endorsed by pork producers. The detection of African swine fever on the island of Hispaniola in 2021 added urgency to implementation of SHIP. **U.S. pork producers need Congress' continued support to developing program with adequate funding.**

> In FY 2024 and 2025, Congress directed APHIS to spend $1 million on US SHIP. Half funded the Swine Health budget, and half was to be repurposed elsewhere in the funding line.
> In FY 2026, Congress provided an additional $500,000 for US SHIP beyond the $1 million from the prior two fiscal years.
> For FY 2024 and 2025, the US SHIP program operating expenses were approximately $2.7 million, including staffing and administrative expenses, with a majority of the funds allocated to state support.
> For FY 2027, **NPPC requests $3 million in appropriations** for US SHIP to continue to grow and develop.

Federal Advisory Committee

The National Poultry Improvement Plan's key to success is a federal advisory committee in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This committee of industry representatives advises and makes recommendations to USDA. To date, the Secretary of Agriculture has not approved the establishment of a US SHIP federal advisory committee. Without one, the program cannot be codified within USDA, and US SHIP cannot function as intended.

NPPC requests report language that directs USDA to create a Federal Advisory Committee for US SHIP.

We invite you to learn more about policy issues to support and strengthen America's pork producers at **NPPC.org**.

Connect with us: