



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

Influential Lawmakers, Farmers And Consumers Voice Concerns About The Bayer-Monsanto Merger *Concerns raised over merger's impact on food prices, market control and competition*

Politico Power Briefing: Farmers And Families First Poll Found That “54 Percent Of Trump Voters Oppose Merger”:

“Farmers and Families First -- a new outside group focused on ag issues - - polled Trump voters about the Bayer-Monsanto merger, and found that 54 percent oppose, and just 23 percent support. The group is made up of farmers and agriculture policymakers who oppose the deal, polling memo.” (Politico Power Briefing, [Playbook Power Briefing](#), 12/18/2017)

Morning Consult: “Giving This Merger The Stamp Of Approval Would Represent A Slap In The Face By The Trump Administration To The Hard-Working Farmers Who’ve Placed Their Trust In The President”:

“Trump voters already have a clear understanding of the merger’s impact on American farmers and are sympathetic to the stranglehold one combined mega-conglomerate would have on farmers...and the more Trump’s voters hear about the deal, the less they like it. After hearing and learning about exactly how the proposed merger will impact farmers and families, opposition grows to 78 percent.” (Dan Conston, Trump’s Opportunity to Save American Farmers, [Morning Consult](#), 12/21/2017)

Alabama Political Reporter: “Older And Low-Income Women, Households With An Annual Income Of Less Than \$50,000 Per Year, And Rural Householders Hold The Strongest Views Against The Merger”:

“Trump voters’ opposition to the merger centers around concerns about a company becoming too large and too powerful, and increasing costs for consumers.” (Brandon Mosely, New poll shows that voters oppose Monsanto/Bayer Ag merger, [Alabama Political Reporter](#), 12/20/2017)

FITS News: “More Than Half Of U.S. President Donald Trump’s 2016 Supporters Oppose A Proposed “Mega-Merger” Between German Life Sciences Giant Bayer AG And Missouri-Based Agribusiness Behemoth Monsanto”:

“The proposed merger would hurt the very people who elected President Trump by handing over disproportionate control of an industry to one company and in turn raising both operating costs for farmers and the cost of food for middle class families. We believe the Department of Justice should carefully review the proposed merger and ask the tough questions to ensure it doesn’t negatively impact American families or businesses.” (Poll: Donald Trump Voters Don’t Want Bayer AG-Monsanto Merger, [FITSNews](#), 12/21/2017)

Michigan Farm News: “A Merger Of These Agriculture Behemoths Would Only Increase Prices And Hurt American Families”:

“Seed costs are the highest expense for farmers, and a merger of these agriculture behemoths would only increase prices and hurt American families already struggling to put food on the dinner table.” (What’s the next merger impact?, [Michigan Farm News](#), December 18, 2017)

Alabama Political Reporter: “America’s Farmers Always Put Families First By Producing The High-Quality And Affordable Food We Rely On”:

“Washington policies should not burden farmers who are already experiencing consistently declining incomes, or hurt the average American family with increased prices on essential goods. We stand as an ally for farmers across the country and the customers they serve.”

(Brandon Mosely, Farmers and Families First launches public education campaign, [Alabama Political Reporter](#), 12/15/2017)

KTIC: “A Research Document Released By Farmers And Families First Shows The Proposed Bayer AG-Monsanto Merger Would Reduce Competition And Increase Cost For Farmers.”:

“The white paper says the deal would create a \$66 billion corporation with “unprecedented control” over the products farmers and agriculture businesses need to grow, produce and distribute food.” (Report Outlines Bayer ag-Monsanto Merger Impact, [KTIC](#), 12/15/2017)

Alabama State Representative Jim Carnes (R-48), Chairman of the House Commerce Committee: “Asking The Anti-Trust Division Of The U.S. Department Of Justice To Take A Serious Look At A Proposed Merger Between Agrochemical Giants Bayer AG And The Monsanto Company”:

“From the perspective of sound competition, innovation, pricing, and commerce, this merger needs to be reviewed very closely and tough questions need to be answered before and action is taken.” (Alabama State Rep. Jim Carnes, State Rep. Jim Carnes concerned about Monsanto-Bayer merger, [Alabama Political Reporter](#), 01/3/2018)

Arkansas State Senator (R-23) Ron Caldwell, Chairman Of The Senate Agriculture Committee: “A Monsanto-Bayer Merger Is About As Un-American As It Gets, And Something Arkansas Simply Can’t Afford”:

“Agriculture is a necessity to America’s economy, and ours is a state that contributes greatly to this industry. With over 43,000 active farming operations, Arkansas farmers produced over \$2 billion in soybeans, corn, and cotton in 2016 alone. A Monsanto-Bayer merger, however, would grant the two companies control over 90 percent of U.S. soybean and cotton traits, and 77 percent of its corn seed. All this would add up to a \$66 billion goliath that would create unprecedented market control, diminish innovation, and increase prices for farmers and families... a Monsanto-Bayer merger is about as Un-American as it gets, and something Arkansas simply can’t afford.” (Arkansas State Sen. Ron Caldwell, Arkansas Farmers Can’t Afford a Monsanto-Bayer Merger, [Newport Independent](#), 12/31/2017)

Chase Gasaway, An Arkansas Farmer: “It’s Really Hard To See How This Will Benefit Us”:

“They would have a stranglehold on our cotton. Prices will skyrocket, jobs will be lost, and prices hikes will be passed on to consumers. They will have a monopoly.” (Chase Gasaway, Arkansas farmers oppose mega merger between Bayer and Monsanto, [Talk Business & Politics](#), 12/27/2017)

John Tucker, A Cotton Farmer And Former South Carolina State House Representative: “I Encourage President Trump And All Our Elected Officials To Stand With American Farmers And Oppose This Merger”:

“In a free enterprise market like America’s, competition is all that matters. Without it, innovation, research and development all suffer. We need more, not less options for our farmers. It’s estimated that a merged Bayer/Monsanto would control 77 percent of corn seed and 90 percent of soybean and cotton traits; the two biggest crops in America.” (John Tucker, Letter to the editor: Farmers need our support, [Greenville News](#), 12/27/2017)

Steve Mckibben, An Iowa Businessman: “The Proposed Merger Between Bayer-Monsanto Would Deal A Devastating Blow To Agriculture And Businesses That Depend On It”:

“My company and customers rely on competitive pricing of goods to stay in business. Reasonable pricing isn’t possible without sufficient competition. Growing up in rural Iowa, I saw the challenges of farming. The proposed merger between Bayer-Monsanto would deal a devastating blow to agriculture and businesses that depend on it. This merger will raise costs for farmers by eliminating competition and eventually harm consumers by driving up the price of groceries, making Iowa families use more of their income to buy food.” (Steve McKibben, Letter to the Editor: Merger would be devastating blow to ag businesses, [Des Moines Register](#), 12/20/2017)

“The proposed merger hurts Iowa farmers by restricting choices for products they need to run their farm. If the merger were approved, just two companies would control the bulk of the soybean traits and corn

seed in the US. This lack of competition would have devastating consequences for producers, sellers and consumers by increasing prices while lining the pockets of large corporations. Further, when market participants are reduced, competition is eliminated.” (Steve McKibben, Letter to the Editor: Merger would be devastating blow to ag businesses, [Dallas County News](#), 12/20/2017)

Dwight Baldwin, A Retired Farmer And President Of The Iowa Chapter Of The Grange: “This Type Of Consolidation Is Not Good For Farmers Or Consumers”:

“In farming there is a thin line between success and failure. I fear the proposed Bayer-Monsanto merger eliminates competition and will ultimately drive costs up, making it even more challenging for farmers to make a living...this proposed merger would consolidate the power of research and new genetics. According to one study by the gm crop database, the Bayer-Monsanto merger would mean almost 90 percent of soybean traits and 77 percent of corn seed would be controlled by these two huge companies. This type of consolidation is not good for farmers or consumers. Everyone will see the impact in higher food prices.” (Dwight Baldwin, Proposed Bayer-Monsanto merger concerning, [Newton Daily News](#), 12/12/2017)

Jen Swindall, A Georgia Lawyer And Non-Profit Leader: “If This Plan Is Approved, The Already High Food Prices Families Pay Today Are Going To Rise Even More, And The Ability Of Moms Like Me And Families Like Mine To Choose What We Put On The Dinner Table Will Be Diminished”:

“I’m the mother of a 22-month-old son, and I’m worried about the proposed merger of mega-corporations Bayer AG and Monsanto. If this plan is approved, the already high food prices families pay today are going to rise even more, and the ability of moms like me and families like mine to choose what we put on the dinner table will be diminished.” (Jen Swindall, Merger will hurt working-class families, [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#), 12/9/2017)

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