



Rep. Eric Cantor

Update: Farm Bill

The House and Senate have both passed farm bills. The current law expires on September 30th. There are huge problems with reconciling the two bills. The House bill removed all food stamp funding and cut billions more than the bill passed by the Senate.

House Majority Leader Eric Cantor said in the next two months negotiations will begin and it is his hope that the final bill ends up being about \$100 billion a year.

Food stamps are the real sticking point. Republicans in the House think the food stamp program is too big and Democrats in the Senate think it is not big enough. Cantor and the Senate's number-two Democrat Sen. Steny Hoyer of Maryland are in negotiations over the food stamp funding.

Neither side thinks an agreement can be reached before the September 30th expiration of the current bill. To add to the urgency, House Speaker John Boehner has said he's not in favor of a temporary farm bill extension.