

**Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Information Required from Nongovernmental Witness**

Biographical Sketch

The Honorable John F. Piotti

In July 2016, John Piotti became the fifth president of American Farmland Trust (AFT), the pioneering national organization that has helped permanently protect 5 million acres of farmland and helped farmers adopt environmentally-sound farming practices on millions more.

John has worked at the forefront of sustainable agriculture in his home state of Maine since the early 1990s, when he created the Maine Farms Project. John later helped found Maine Farmland Trust (not affiliated with AFT), becoming its president in 2006. Under his leadership, MFT supported 500 farm families and protected 50,000 acres of farmland, and was recognized as the best-run non-profit of its size in Maine.

Until termed-out in 2010, John served in the Maine State Legislature, where he chaired the Agriculture Committee and Tax Committee and later served as House Majority Leader.

In 2013, John was named to Maine Magazine's inaugural list of the 50 people who have done the most for the state.

In 2005, John was one of only eight Americans awarded a prestigious Eisenhower Fellowship, which he used to study agricultural policy in Europe.

John holds three degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT): in engineering, public policy, and systems management.