

Illinois Corn Marketing Board Referendum Passes

April 22 2022 8:49 AM



SPRINGFIELD – Illinois corn producers overwhelmingly approved an increase in the check-off rate they pay when marketing their grain. By a vote of 1078 to 141, they passed a referendum March 29 to raise the rate by 1/4 cent per bushel. The referendum result was announced today after the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) completed its review of the ballots and certified the statewide vote total.

The Illinois Corn Marketing Board (ICMB) requested the referendum by petitioning the Director of Agriculture. The measure was supported on 88 percent of the ballots cast.

That means effective Oct. 1, 2022, the current 5/8 cent check-off rate will increase to 7/8 of a cent per bushel. If they choose, however, corn farmers still have the right to receive a full refund.

The ICMB, a volunteer board of corn farmers elected by their peers, administers the check-off fund. Members invest the proceeds in market development, research, education and promotion programs designed to enhance the profitability of Illinois corn farmers.