

United States Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency



Joel Johnson State Executive Director, Michigan

Joel Johnson was appointed by the Trump Administration to serve as the state executive director of the Michigan USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) in October 2017.

Johnson grew up on a beef and cash crop farm in Merrill, Michigan. He graduated from Michigan State University Institute of Agricultural Technology in 1978 with a degree in agricultural business management.

He started his career selling fertilizer and chemicals. He later worked as a division manager for a beef and commodity farm, worked in retail sales of farm inputs for a Michigan cooperative, sold livestock feed to dealers, managed two privately owned grain elevators and was an independent consultant for Mid-Michigan Community College.

He served in the Michigan House of Representatives, sitting on the House Committee on Agriculture for all three terms. He also served on the committees on commerce, judiciary, natural resources, tourism and outdoor recreation, financial services, insurance, along with chairing the Workforce and Talent Development Committee.

As a legislator, he was recognized by the Michigan FFA and the Michigan Farm Bureau for his efforts in helping increase opportunities for high school students to take career technical education classes, including agriculture education.

Johnson and his wife, Dawn, background cattle on their small farm in Clare. They have four children and 11 grandchildren.