

July 9, 2012

The Honorable Frank Lucas  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Collin Peterson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Peterson,

As the House Agriculture Committee begins consideration of the 2012 Farm Bill, the organizations listed below write to thank you for moving the bill forward.

Farmers need certainty about farm policy as they make annual operating decisions, so it is important that we get a farm bill done this year. With the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline looming for the current law, we are pleased that the House Agriculture Committee is working hard to get the bill completed.

The farm bill is tremendously important for every single American, not just farmers and ranchers. In addition to helping farmers plan ahead and mitigate risk to survive the tough times, the bill provides critical investment in rural communities, conserves precious natural resources like soil and water, provides food for those less fortunate, and creates new sources of energy made here at home.

Thank you for your leadership in bringing the bill before your committee and we urge the committee to work in a cooperative, bipartisan fashion to move the bill to the floor.

Sincerely,

25x'25 Alliance  
Advanced Biofuels USA  
Advanced Ethanol Council  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
American Association of Crop Insurers  
American Beekeeping Federation  
American Biogas Council  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Farmland Trust  
American Forests

American Seed Trade Association  
American Sheep Industry Association  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Sugar Alliance  
American Sugar Cane League  
American Sugarbeet Growers Association  
American Veterinary Medical Association  
California Climate and Agriculture Network  
Center for Rural Affairs  
Cherry Marketing Institute  
Community Food Security Coalition  
Cotton Warehouse Association of America  
Crop Insurance Professionals Association  
Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau  
Crop Science Society of America  
Eastern Regional Conference of CSG  
Environmental and Energy Study Institute  
Farm Credit Council  
Farmworker Association of Florida  
Food System Economic Partnership  
Illinois Stewardship Alliance  
International Biochar Initiative  
Iowa Environmental Council  
Izaak Walton League of America  
League of Rural Voters  
National Association of Conservation Districts  
National Association of Federal Veterinarians  
National Association of State Conservation Agencies  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Farmers Organization  
National Farmers Union  
National Grange  
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Potato Council  
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association  
National Sorghum Producers

National Watermelon Association  
National Wild Turkey Federation  
National Young Farmers' Coalition  
Organic Farming Research Foundation  
Pheasants Forever  
Produce Marketing Association  
Quail Forever  
Renewable Fuels Association  
Society for Range Management  
Soil and Water Conservation Society  
Soil Science Society of America  
Southern Peanut Farmers Federation  
Southwest Council of Agribusiness  
Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance  
State Agriculture and Rural Leaders  
The Fertilizer Institute  
The Nature Conservancy  
United Dairymen of Arizona  
United Fresh Produce Association  
United States Dry Bean Council  
U.S. Beet Sugar Association  
U.S. Cattlemen's Association  
U.S. Rice Producers Association  
USA Rice Federation  
Western Growers  
Western Peanut Growers Association  
Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine