

July 25, 2014

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Clinton Foundation
1271 Avenue of the Americas
42nd Floor
New York, NY 10020

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

We are writing to commend you for your public support of agricultural innovation, including the use of biotechnology. Your recent comments on the societal benefits of biotechnology, both domestic and abroad, are encouraging and courageous. Maintaining a sustainable food supply as world population increases to an estimated 9.6 billion in 2050 is going to require agricultural producers to exponentially increase food production. We appreciate your commitment to embrace this challenge in food production through science and innovation.

With all of the public debate on biotechnology and the fear, originating in false claims, that many have come to associate with it, hearing you speak in favor of the proven science is refreshing. It is true that “There is a gap between what the facts are and what the perceptions are.”

The biotechnology-derived seeds that are being released today produce higher yields while using less water and fewer inputs, thus promoting agricultural sustainability and placing fewer demands on the environment. These seeds are critical tools in meeting the challenges of global food security, in addition to climate volatility.

We look forward to working with you and the Clinton Foundation as the United States continues to help feed a rapidly growing global population. The moral imperative of feeding the world’s hungry will only be achieved through strong leadership, global collaboration, increased human capacity building, and the use of animal and plant science.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association
American Beverage Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Frozen Food Institute
American Seed Trade Association
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Sugar Beet Technologists
American Soybean Association
American Sugarbeet Growers Association
Beet Sugar Development Foundation

Biotechnology Industry Organization
Board on Agriculture Assembly, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Congressional Hunger Center
Cooperative Extension
Corn Refiners Association
Cornell University
Crop Science Society of America
CropLife America
CropLife International
Global Harvest Initiative
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Growth Energy
International Formula Council
Iowa State University
Kansas State University -- College of Agriculture
National Alfalfa and Forage Alliance
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Growers Association
National Confectioners Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Grain and Feed Association
National Milk Producers Federation
National Oilseed Processors Association
National Renderers Association
North Dakota State University
Oregon State University
Pet Food Institute
Snack Food Association
Soil Science Society of America
South Dakota State University
The John Innes Centre
University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
University of Nebraska
University of Missouri System
U.S. Beet Sugar Association
U.S. Canola Association
U.S. Wheat Associates