

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 30th 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