



December 19, 2024

Dear Member of Congress:

I wrote to you yesterday urging you to vote yes on the year-end funding package that was released on Tuesday. Shortly after sending that letter, it became evident that Congressional leaders were drafting a new proposal. Time is running out to reach a deal, and I write you with a great deal of urgency about the conditions facing America's farm and ranch families.

While National Farmers Union (NFU) continues to support the previously negotiated continuing resolution (CR), we must stress that *any* new or revised CR must continue to include an extension of the 2018 Farm Bill, along with robust disaster and economic assistance that helps farmers across the country facing devastating natural disasters and a worsening farm economy. The bill should also continue to provide for nationwide year-round sales of E15 blends of ethanol, which helps farmers and consumers while supporting domestic fuel production.

Farmers are already planning for the next growing season, and Congress must not continue to delay setting our farm policy for the year ahead. Kicking the can down the road into the new year is not acceptable. Congress should quickly provide much-needed support to farm families and their communities continuing to face or recover from hurricanes, drought, wildfires, and flooding. Additionally, economic conditions are becoming increasingly dire for farm families experiencing ongoing declines in commodity prices, along with persistently high input costs and interest rates. Family farmers simply cannot wait any longer; without timely economic assistance, many farmers will be forced out of business.

On behalf of NFU's more than 230,000 family farmers and ranchers, I urge Congress to stand by their commitment to the people that feed and fuel our nation in a year-end funding package.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Larew".

Rob Larew
President