



October 14, 2025

The Honorable John Thune, Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the 220,000 members of National Farmers Union (NFU), I urge the U.S. Congress to provide immediate economic assistance to support struggling family farmers and ranchers and to make important policy corrections that will help American agriculture in the long-term.

Family farmers and ranchers face severe economic challenges and a deepening crisis if they do not receive immediate assistance. Recently enacted trade policies and the resulting actions by other countries have wreaked havoc on our markets, driving commodity prices far below the cost of production and significantly impacting once-reliable agricultural export sales. Meanwhile, input costs are projected to reach record levels in 2025. Stress levels are high among farmers, reflected in the rising number of farm bankruptcy filings across the country. The number of farms in the U.S. has been declining for decades, with the loss of more than 140,000 farms, or 7 percent, from 2017 to 2022. Every farm lost also dramatically impacts the surrounding community and rural economy. Without swift intervention, this trend will only accelerate in the coming years.

Family farmers and ranchers need economic assistance as soon as possible to survive this cycle of negative profitability. As plans to provide this much-needed aid develop, I urge you to work with the administration to incorporate the following principles to ensure the aid has the strongest and most lasting impact:

- Payments must be directed to family agriculture operations and balanced among regions and crops. They must be subject to meaningful payment limits, and foreign-owned corporations and large, concentrated agribusinesses must be barred from accessing economic assistance.



- Aid must be paired with efforts to investigate monopolies in the agriculture industry and their resulting impact on the farm economy. I support the administration's recent announcement to investigate concentration in the agriculture inputs industry and its impact on the high prices farmers pay for seed, fertilizer, energy, and crop protection products. I urge you to ensure these investigations result in purposeful action to break up monopolies and expand this initiative to explore the impacts of concentration throughout the entire food and agriculture industry.
- Resources must be dedicated to developing new, high-value domestic markets for American crops and enhancing existing markets, including local and regional markets. Economic assistance must be paired with authorization for nationwide, year-round E15 usage, building toward the use of higher blends of ethanol like E30, as well as increased opportunities for biodiesel and sustainable aviation fuel production.

Thank you for your consideration as you work to protect family farmers and ranchers. I look forward to working with you on these ongoing priorities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Larew", with a stylized, cursive script.

Rob Larew
President

cc: The Honorable John Boozman
The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
The Honorable G.T. Thompson
The Honorable Angie Craig