

August 14, 2018

The Honorable Pat Roberts
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, & Forestry
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, & Forestry
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

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

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

Dear Chairman Roberts, Chairman Conaway, Ranking Member Stabenow, and Ranking Member Peterson:

We write to express support for a number of Farm Bill provisions regarding pesticide use which are critical to the continued success of American agriculture and the public health and safety of all Americans. We represent a variety of public and private sector organizations including agriculture and silviculture producer groups and suppliers, as well as non-agricultural users of pesticides. We believe that all Americans benefit from a regulatory system that is grounded in science, balances risks and benefits, and provides certainty that allows technology providers to continue investments in innovation to meet the need for modern pest control tools while also protecting human health and the environment.

Specifically, we would like to emphasize the importance of key issues contained within the House version of the Horticulture Title of the Farm Bill which relate to the registration and use of pesticides under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). It is our hope that during the conference process these important and much needed provisions will warrant consideration by conferees and will be included in the final conference report.

These reforms would increase the global competitiveness of American agriculture, encourage much needed innovation, and reduce costs to American farmers and ranchers and other users of pesticides who protect public health and our environment. We thank the Senate Agriculture Committee for their attention to these important matters, and we are committed to working with you to advance these imperative reforms.

Thank you,

Agricultural Retailers Association

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Mushroom Institute

AmericanHort

Association of Equipment Manufacturers

Aquatic Plant Management Society

California Specialty Crops Council

Council of Producers and Distributors of Agrotechnology

CropLife America

Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

Minor Crop Farmer Alliance

National Agricultural Aviation Association

National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants

National Alliance of Forest Owners

National Association of Landscape Professionals

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

National Christmas Tree Association

National Cotton Council

National Council of Farmer Cooperatives

National Onion Association

National Pest Management Association

National Potato Council

National Sorghum Producers

Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment

Society of American Florists

Southern Crop Production Association

Texas Citrus Mutual

US Apple

USA Rice

Weed Science Society of America

Western Growers