October 26, 2023

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515  

Dear Speaker Johnson:

We write to congratulate you on your election as Speaker of the House and to highlight the critical importance of your commitment to prioritizing American farm, ranch, and forester families and the federal policies important to them throughout the remainder of the 118th Congress.

More than 92 percent of our nation’s planted acres are represented by Republican Members. Moreover, in 2022, the food and agriculture sectors contributed $7.4 trillion in economic activity, creating 43 million jobs, $2.3 trillion in wages, $718 billion in tax revenue, and $183 billion in exports, stemming from direct, indirect, and induced output.

Americans today enjoy the safest, most abundant, and affordable food supply in the world. And we accomplish this despite a global market that is awash in high and rising foreign subsidies, tariffs, and other predatory, non-tariff barriers to free and fair trade. Farm country has also faced serious challenges straining the food supply chain throughout the last several years, including impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, weather-related disasters, and skyrocketing input costs, underscoring the importance of the Farm Bill.

Simply put, farm and food security is national security. For a mere one-fifth of one percent of federal spending, the farm safety net, including commodity support programs and crop insurance, provides farmers and ranchers the foundation they need to manage risk, pass their farm or ranch down to the next generation, and continue producing the highest quality, lowest cost food, fuel, fiber, and forestry products in the world.

The Farm Bill is a critical agenda item that must be addressed this Congress. We urge you and the Conference at-large to be united in ensuring swift passage of a strong Farm Bill that is written by farmers, for farmers, and by rural communities, for rural communities – supporting the farm, ranch, and forester families we represent.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with you and our colleagues in the House to achieve the important objective of supporting farm country.

Sincerely,
Mark Alford
Member of Congress

John S. Duarte
Member of Congress

John Rose
Member of Congress

Lori Chavez-DeRemer
Member of Congress

Mariannette Miller-Meeks,
M.D.
Member of Congress

Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress

Barry Moore
Member of Congress

Mike Carey
Member of Congress

Ralph Norman
Member of Congress

Monica De La Cruz
Member of Congress
Marcus J. Molinaro  
Member of Congress

Ryan K. Zinke  
Member of Congress

Zach Nunn  
Member of Congress

Lisa C. McClain  
Member of Congress

Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress

Jenniffer González-Colón  
Member of Congress

Blake D. Moore  
Member of Congress

Max L. Miller  
Member of Congress

Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress

Julia Letlow, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress

Mike Flood  
Member of Congress

Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress
Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress

Trent Kelly
Member of Congress

Derrick Van Orden
Member of Congress

Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress

Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress

Jack Bergman
Member of Congress

Byron Donalds
Member of Congress

Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress

Kay Granger
Member of Congress

Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress

Jerry L. Carl
Member of Congress