

May 13, 2008

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Member of Congress:

As the U.S. House of Representatives prepares for final consideration of the 2008 Farm Bill, the organizations listed below strongly urge you to vote in favor of the Conference Report.

Communities across the nation, from urban to rural have been waiting too long for this legislation. The Conference Report makes significant farm policy reforms, protects the safety net for all of America's food producers, addresses important infrastructure needs for specialty crops, increases funding to feed our nation's poor, and enhances support for important conservation initiatives.

This is by no means a perfect piece of legislation, and none of our organizations achieved everything we had individually requested. However, it is a carefully balanced compromise of policy priorities that has broad support among organizations representing the nation's agriculture, conservation, and nutrition interests.

Our organizations applaud the strong bipartisan leadership demonstrated in Congress to authorize and approve a strong new five-year Farm Bill. Sound policy and long-term certainty are absolutely essential to everyone served by the Farm Bill, and the final Conference Report provides both.

Again, we urge you to support communities across America – rural, urban and suburban, by voting in favor of the 2008 Farm Bill Conference Report.

Sincerely,

Abiding Love Food Pantry (TX)  
ACORN  
ACS, Emergency Food Pantry (TX)  
AgCountry Farm Credit Services  
AgFirst Farm Credit Bank  
AgPreference  
AgriBank  
Agricultural Council of Arkansas  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
Agri-Mark Inc.  
AgSouth Farm Credit  
AgStar Financial Services  
Alabama Contract Poultry Growers Association  
Alabama Peanut Producers Association  
Alabama State Association of Food Banks  
Alabama Women Involved in Farm Economics  
Alameda County Community Food Bank (CA)  
Alaska Marine Conservation Council  
Alliance for Children and Families  
Alliance for Rail Competition

America Cargo Transport Corporation  
America's Second Harvest  
American AgCredit  
American Agriculture Movement  
American Agriculture Movement of Arkansas  
American Association of Crop Insurers  
American Beekeeping Federation  
American Cane Sugar Refiners' Association  
American Commodity Distribution Association  
American Corn Growers Association  
American Cotton Shippers Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Farmland Trust  
American Grassfed Association  
American Malting Barley Association  
American Maritime Congress  
American Maritime Officers  
American Maritime Officers Service  
American Meat Goat Association  
American Public Power Association  
American Sheep Industry Association  
American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers  
American Soybean Association  
American Sugar Cane League  
American Sugarbeet Growers Association  
Americans for Indian Opportunity (NM)  
Annunciation Church Food Pantry (NY)  
Arizona Community Action Association  
Arkansas Farmers Union  
Arnold Food Pantry (MO)  
Associated Milk Producers, Inc.  
Association for Children of New Jersey  
Association of Arizona Food Banks  
Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs  
Association of State and Territorial Public Health Nutrition Directors (PA)  
Atlanta Community Food Bank (GA)  
Bay Area Food Bank (AL)  
Bedstuy Campaign Against Hunger (NY)  
Blue Mountain Action Council (WA)  
Blue Ridge Area Food Bank Network (VA)  
Bookkeeping Services (AK)  
Boys & Girls Club of Central Texas  
Bradley Food Pantry (NJ)  
Bread of Life Ministries of AR, Inc. (AR)  
BRIDGES Healthy Cooking School (CT)  
Burke Center for Youth (TX)  
C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation (IL)  
California Association of Food Banks  
California Food Policy Advocates  
California Hunger Action Coalition

California School Employees Association  
Campaign for Contract Agriculture Reform  
Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association  
Capital Area Food Bank (DC)  
Capital Area Food Bank of Texas  
CASA del Llano (TX)  
Cascade - Blue Mt. Food Share (WA)  
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Stockton (CA)  
Catholic Parish Outreach (NC)  
Cattle Producers of Washington  
Center for Civil Justice (MI)  
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) (DC)  
Center for Public Policy Priorities (TX)  
Center for SEAL (support, education, advocacy, leadership) (AK)  
Central Pennsylvania Food Bank  
Central Utah Food Sharing  
Central Virginia Food Bank  
Channels Food Rescue (PA)  
Children's Alliance (WA)  
Children's Sentinel Nutrition Assessment Program (MA)  
Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations  
Coalition on Human Needs (DC)  
CoBank  
Collaborative Center for Justice (CT)  
Colonial Farm Credit  
Colorado Anti-Hunger Network  
Colorado Independent Cattlegrowers Association  
Community Action Partnership (DC)  
Community Action Services and Food Bank (UT)  
Community Food Bank (CA)  
Community FoodBank of New Jersey  
Community Services of Moses Lake, Inc. (WA)  
Comstock Community Center (MI)  
Congregation Emanu-El (CA)  
Congressional Hunger Center  
Connecticut AIDS Resource Coalition (CT)  
Connecticut Association for Community Action  
Connecticut Association for Human Services  
Connecticut Food Bank  
Connecticut Food Policy Council  
Conquer Hunger And Needy Together (CHANT) (NJ)  
Consumer Direct Personal Care (AK)  
Cooperative Milk Producers Association  
Corn Producers Association of Texas  
Corporation for Enterprise Development  
Cotton Warehouse Association of America  
Council of Churches Johnstown Food Pantry (NY)  
Covenant Soup Kitchen (CT)  
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Foundation (OH)  
Crop Insurance Professionals Association

Crop Insurance Research Bureau  
CropLife America  
Daily Bread Soup Kitchen (NY)  
Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.  
Dairylea Cooperative Inc.  
Dare To Care Food Bank (KY)  
Denver Urban Ministries  
Desert Cities Hunger Action (CA)  
Downtown Youth Center (DTYC) (CA)  
East Side Soup Kitchen (MI)  
Economic Opportunity Commission Direct Services (CA)  
Edibles Advocate Alliance, LLC (CT)  
El Buen Samaritano (TX)  
Emergency Food Bank Stockton/San Joaquin (CA)  
Emergency Food Network of Tacoma/Pierce County (WA)  
Emmaus House of Saginaw, Inc. (MI)  
Empire Justice Center (NY)  
End Hunger Connecticut!  
EOC Direct Services (CA)  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America-Washington State  
FACES NY Inc. (NY)  
Families USA (DC)  
Family Dairies USA  
Family Promise of Monmouth County (NJ)  
FareStart (WA)  
Farm Credit Bank of Texas  
Farm Credit Council  
Farm Credit of Central Florida  
Farm Credit of Central Oklahoma  
Farm Credit of Ness City  
Farm Credit of New Mexico  
Farm Credit of North Florida  
Farm Credit of Southern Colorado  
Farm Credit of Southwest Florida  
Farm Credit of the Virginias  
Farm Credit of Western New York  
Farm Credit Services of America  
Farm Credit Services of Colusa-Glenn  
Farm Credit Services of East Central Oklahoma  
Farm Credit Services of Mandan  
Farm Credit Services of North Dakota  
Farm Credit Services of the Mountain Plains  
Farm Credit West  
Farm Fresh Rhode Island  
Farmers Union Industries, LLC (MN)  
Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund (GA)  
Feed My People (MO)  
Ferris Counseling Services (MO)  
First AgCredit, FCS  
First District Association (MN)

First Pioneer Farm Credit  
First Presbyterian Church (LA)  
First South Farm Credit, ACA  
FISH Food Banks of Pierce County (WA)  
FLBA of South Alabama  
Florida Farmers, Inc.  
Florida Impact  
Florida Legal Services, Inc.  
Florida Peanut Producers Association  
Florida Sugar Cane League  
Focus: HOPE (MI)  
Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo Co. (CA)  
Food Bank Council of Michigan  
Food Bank for Monterey County (CA)  
Food Bank for New York City  
Food Bank of Abilene (TX)  
Food Bank of Alaska  
Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina  
Food Bank of Central New York  
Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano (CA)  
Food Bank of Iowa  
Food Bank of North Alabama  
Food Bank of Northeast LA/Americas Second Harvest  
Food Bank of Northeast Louisiana  
Food Bank of San Luis Obispo County (CA)  
Food Bank of the Hudson Valley (NY)  
Food For All (NY)  
Food Lifeline (WA)  
Food Research and Action Center  
FOOD Share, Inc. (CA)  
FoodChange (NY)  
Foremost Farms, USA (WI)  
Forgotten Harvest (MI)  
Freehold Area Open Door, Inc. (NJ)  
Fremont Public Association (WA)  
Fresno Metro Ministry (CA)  
Frontier Farm Credit  
Full Gospel Tabernacle (NY)  
Georgia Peanut Commission  
Georgia Poultry Justice Alliance  
Georgia Rural Urban Summit  
Gleaners Community Food Bank (MI)  
Gleaners Community Food Bank of SE Michigan (MI)  
Global Container Lines Limited  
Good Samaritan (MI)  
Grace Christian Church (NJ)  
Grace Resource Center (CA)  
Great Plains Ag Credit  
Greater Christ Gospel Food Pantry (TX)  
Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger (PA)

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank (PA)  
Harvest Hope Food Bank (SC)  
Hawaii Sugar Growers  
Helping Hand Crisis Ministry of Spicewood (TX)  
Heritage Land Bank  
Hispanic Health Council (CT)  
HOPE Ministries (LA)  
Hope-Net (CA)  
Houston Food Bank (TX)  
HRC Food Bank, Calaveras County (CA)  
Hunger Solutions Minnesota  
Hunger Task Force (WI)  
Hyde Park Baptist Church Food Pantry (TX)  
Idaho Agricultural Credit Association  
Idaho Community Action Network  
Idaho Rural Council  
Illinois Farmers Union  
Illinois Hunger Coalition  
Imperial Valley Food Bank (CA)  
Independent Beef Association of North Dakota  
Independent Cattlemen of Nebraska  
Independent Community Bankers of America  
Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America  
Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas  
Indiana Coalition for Human Services  
Indiana Farmers Union  
Indiana Plant Food & Ag Chemical Association  
Insight Center for Community Economic Development (CA)  
Interfaith Council of Amador (CA)  
International Organization of Masters Mates & Pilots  
Intertribal Agriculture Council  
Iowa Farmers Union  
Iris House, Inc. (NY)  
James Weldon Johnson Head Start (NY)  
Jewish Community Council of Washington Heights (NY)  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs  
Jewish Family & Children's Service (MO)  
Jubilee Christian Center Food Pantry (TX)  
Just Harvest (PA)  
Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes (MI)  
Kansas Cattlemen's Association  
Kansas Farmers Union  
Kenai Peninsula Food Bank (AK)  
Kentucky Task Force on Hunger  
Kingsley House (LA)  
Lake Shore Baptist Church Food Pantry (TX)  
Land O' Lakes, Inc  
Let Justice Roll (IL)  
Liberty Maritime Corporation  
Lifelong AIDS Alliance (WA)

Local Food Dude (CT)  
Love of Christ (TX)  
Lubbock, Texas Chamber of Commerce  
Lunch Break of Red Bank (NJ)  
LUNCH Program (LA)  
Lutheran Office of Delaware Public Advisory Committee  
MACC Charities (CT)  
Maersk Line, Limited  
Manitowoc Milk Producers Cooperative (WI)  
MANNA (TN)  
MANNA FoodBank (NC)  
Marine Engineers Beneficial Association  
Maritime Institute for Research and Industrial Development  
Mary Lee Foundation (TX)  
Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association, Inc.  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute (MA)  
MAZON--A Jewish Response to Hunger (CA)  
McClendon Center (DC)  
Mel Trotter Ministries (MI)  
Merced-Mariposa Cattlemen's Association (CA)  
Mercer Street Friends Food Bank (NJ)  
Michigan Agri-Business Association  
Michigan Bean Shippers Association  
Michigan Farmers Union  
Michigan Milk Producers Association  
Midwest Dairy Coalition  
Mid-West Dairymen's Company (IL)  
Midwestern Legislative Conference of CSG  
Migrant Legal Action Program (DC)  
Minnesota Association of Cooperatives  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association  
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers  
Minnesota Farmers Union  
Minnesota FoodShare  
Mississippi Contract Poultry Growers Association  
Missouri Association for Social Welfare  
Missouri Dairy Association  
Missouri Farmers Union  
Montana Farmers Union  
Montana Women Involved In Farm Economics  
Montgomery County Community Action Development Commission (PA)  
Mother Hubbard's Cupboard (NC)  
MSUE Oakland County (MI)  
National Association of Conservation Districts  
National Association of Counties  
National Association of Farmer Elected Committees  
National Association of Farmers Market Nutrition Programs  
National Association of Produce Market Managers  
National Association of Professional Insurance Agents  
National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils

National Association of Social Workers (CT)  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Barley Growers Association  
National Biodiesel Board  
National Bison Association  
National Center for Appropriate Technology  
National Center for Law and Economic Justice (NY)  
National Center on Poverty Law (IL)  
National Commodity Supplemental Food Program Association (SD)  
National Community Action Foundation (DC)  
National Conservation District Employees Association  
National Consumers League  
National Cooperative Business Association  
National Cooperative Grocers Association  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of Textile Organizations  
National Farmers Market Coalition  
National Farmers Organization  
National Farmers Union  
National Grange  
National Head Start Association  
National Hmong American Farmers, Inc.  
National Latino Farmers and Ranchers Trade Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Mission Committee of the Wayne Presbyterian Church (PA)  
National Organic Coalition  
National Priorities Project (MA)  
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association  
National Sorghum Producers Association  
National Sunflower Association  
National Wild Turkey Federation  
National Women's Law Center  
Nebraska Farmers Union  
Nebraska State Grange  
Nebraska Women Involved in Farm Economics  
Neighborhood Visitor Program – EACM (KY)  
New Destiny Outreach Ministries (NC)  
New England Farmers Union  
New England Fuel Institute  
New Mexico Center on Law & Poverty  
New Mexico Peanut Growers Association  
New Mexico Voices for Children  
New York City Coalition Against Hunger  
New York State National Farmers Organization  
North American Deer Farmers Association  
North Blenheim UMC Food Pantry (NY)

North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers Land Loss Prevention Project  
North Carolina Contract Poultry Growers Association  
North Carolina Cotton Producers Association, Inc.  
North Carolina Peanut Growers Association  
North Dakota Farmers Union  
North Dakota Petroleum Marketers Association  
North Dakota Propane Gas Association  
North Dakota Retail Association  
North Texas Food Bank  
Northeast Dairy Farmers Cooperatives  
Northeast States Association for Agricultural Stewardship  
Northern California Farm Credit  
Northwest Dairy Association (WA)  
Northwest Federation of Community Organizations (WA)  
Northwest Harvest (WA)  
Northwest Settlement House (DC)  
Nutrition Consortium of NYS (NY)  
Oceano Community Center (CA)  
Office of Kentucky Legal Services Programs  
Ohio Farmers Union  
Oklahoma Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Oklahoma Black Historical Research Project  
Oklahoma Cotton Council  
Oklahoma Grain and Feed Association  
Operational Emergency Center (WA)  
Oregon Farmers Union  
Oregon Food Bank  
Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force  
Organización en California de Lideres Campesinas  
Panhandle Peanut Growers Association  
Panhandle-Plains Land Bank  
Partners in Ending Hunger (ME)  
Peanut Growers Cooperative Marketing Association  
Peggy Cole Ministries Int'l (CA)  
Pennsylvania Association of Regional Food Banks, Inc.  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches  
Pennsylvania Farmers Union  
Pennsylvania Hunger Action Center  
Pennypack Farm Education Center for Sustainable Food Systems  
People's Place Food Pantry (NY)  
Pheasants Forever  
Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. (TX)  
Progressive Farm Credit Services  
Project Bread/The Walk for Hunger (MA)  
Project Hospitality, Inc. (NY)  
Protecting Arizona's Family Coalition (AZ)  
Putnam Valley Community Food Pantry Ltd. (NY)  
Quail Forever  
Ransom Everglades School (FL)  
R-CALF United Stockgrowers of America

RECAP Inc. Emergency Food Pantry (NY)  
Redwood Empire Food Bank (CA)  
Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York  
Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (DC)  
RESULTS (DC)  
Ricebelt Warehouses  
Rio Grande Valley Sugar Growers  
River Bend Food Bank (IL)  
Rocky Mountain Farmers Union  
Rolling Plains Cotton Growers (TX)  
Room at the Inn (MO)  
Rotary First Harvest (WA)  
Rural Advancement Foundation International – USA  
Rural Advancement Fund  
Rural Coalition/ Coalición Rural  
Rural Community Insurance Services  
Rural Opportunities, Inc. (NY)  
Sailors Union of the Pacific  
San Francisco Javier Catholic Church (TX)  
San Luis Obispo County YMCA (CA)  
San Luis Obispo Food Bank Coalition (CA)  
San Luis Obispo Supported Living, Inc. (CA)  
Save-A-Lot Food Stores (MI)  
School Nutrition Association  
Seafarers International Union  
Sealift, Inc.  
SeaView Community Services (AK)  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Lehigh Valley and NE Pennsylvania  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Tennessee  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties (CA)  
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties (CA)  
Secular Franciscan Order (NY)  
Seward Senior Center (AK)  
Share Our Strength (DC)  
Shriver Center on Poverty Law (IL)  
Slow Food Utah  
Smithville Food Pantry (TX)  
Solid Ground (WA)  
South Carolina Fertilizer & Agrichemicals Association  
South Carolina Peanut Growers Association  
South Dakota Farmers Union  
South Dakota Sheep Growers  
South Dakota Stockgrowers Association  
South East Dairy Farmers Association  
South Texas Food Bank  
Southern Cotton Growers, Inc (AL, FL, GA, NC, SC & VA)  
Southern Crop Production Association  
Southern New Hampshire Services Inc.  
Southern Peanut Farmers Federation  
Southern Shrimp Alliance

Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group  
Southwest Council of Agribusiness  
Soybean Producers of America  
Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance  
St. Albans Cooperative Creamery Inc.  
St. Lawrence Cotton Growers Organization of Garden City(TX)  
St. Mary's Food Bank (AZ)  
St. Vincent de Paul Society (NJ)  
State Agriculture and Rural Leaders  
Statewide Emergency Food and Anti-Hunger Network (NJ)  
Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida  
Sullivan County Federation for the Homeless (NY)  
Tanglewood Baptist Church Food Pantry (TX)  
TEFAP Alliance (TX)  
Texas Cotton Ginners' Association  
Texas Cotton Producers, Inc.  
Texas Grain Sorghum Association  
Texas Peanut Growers Association  
Texas Peanut Producers Board  
Texas Rice Producers Legislative Group  
Texas Southern Rolling Plains Cotton Growers Association  
Texas Wheat Producers Association  
The Addictions Care Center of Albany, Inc (NY)  
The Advocacy for the Poor, Inc, Winston-Salem (NC)  
The Altamont House Rehabilitation Center (NY)  
The Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
The Center in Asbury Park (NJ)  
The Church of God of Prophecy (NC)  
The New Mexico Center on Law & Poverty  
The Pantry at St. Patricks – Ravena (NY)  
The Resource Center (MI)  
The Salvation Army (NJ)  
The Salvation Army Copperas Cove (TX)  
The Workforce Alliance (DC)  
Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group (TEEG) (CT)  
Three Square (NV)  
Thurston County Food Bank (WA)  
Tillamook County Creamery Association (OR)  
Tobacco Valley Food Pantry (MT)  
Tosi Maritime Consultants, LLC  
Transitional Food and Shelter, Inc. (CA)  
Transitions Mental Health Association (CA)  
Transportation Institute  
U.S. AgBank  
U.S. Beet Sugar Association  
U.S. Canola Association  
U.S. Cattlemen’s Association  
UCHM (KY)  
Union for Reform Judaism (DC)  
United Dairymen of Arizona

United Egg Producers  
United Farm Credit Services  
United Maritime Group, LLC  
United Way of New York City: Emergency Food & Shelter Program  
University District Food Bank (WA)  
Upstate-Niagara Cooperative, Inc. (NY)  
US Dry Bean Council  
US Rice Producers Association  
USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council  
USA Rice Federation  
Utah Community Action Partnership Association  
Utah Farmers Union  
Utahans Against Hunger  
Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger  
Vermont Foodbank  
Village Community Resource Center (CA)  
Virginia Cotton Growers Association  
Virginia Peanut Growers Association  
Virginia Poverty Law Center  
Virginia State Dairymen's Association  
Voices for America's Children (DC)  
Walsh & Weathers Research and Policy Studies (UT)  
Washington Farmers Union  
West Side Campaign Against Hunger, New York City  
Western Peanut Growers Association  
Westmoreland County Food Bank (PA)  
WIC Association of New York State  
WIC at West Central Community Center Spokane (WA)  
Wisconsin Crop Production Association  
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection  
Wisconsin Farmers Union  
Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives  
Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)  
Worcester County Food Bank (MA)  
World Wide Missionary Movement Inc Food Pantry Program (NY)  
Xaverian Brothers USA (MD)  
Yankee Farm Credit