

May 04, 2018

The Honorable Pat Roberts
Chair
Senate Agriculture Committee
328-A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
Senate Agriculture Committee
328-A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Stabenow,

The undersigned organizations represent millions of farmers and ranchers, food companies, sportsmen and women, fish and wildlife professionals, conservationists, landowners, and business leaders. As the process for reauthorizing the Farm Bill moves forward in the Senate, we write to support full baseline funding for the Conservation Title in the next Farm Bill.

Budgetary savings found through bipartisan reforms that enhance program delivery should be reinvested within Title II. Over the years, conservation programs have become important, reliable tools for farmers and ranchers as they strive to make good management decisions on their land and water. Evidence of their broad popularity is demonstrated by the fact that unmet demand for these programs is at an all-time high. At a time when farmers are struggling due to falling crop prices and increased instability across global markets, we urge Congress to preserve Title II funding in the next Farm Bill reauthorization.

We thank you for the opportunity to express our support, and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure Title II funding reflects the demand, popularity, and necessity of Farm Bill conservation programs.

Sincerely,

Alliance for the Great Lakes
American Bird Conservancy
American Chestnut Foundation
American Farmland Trust
American Fly Fishing Trade Association
American Forest Foundation
American Forests
American Rivers
American Water Works Association
American Woodcock Society
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Audubon Naturalist Society
Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.)
Bear Trust International
Blue Heron Environmental Network Inc.

Buffalo Audubon Society
California Waterfowl Association
CarbonVerde
Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
The Conservation Fund
Danone North America
Defenders of Wildlife
Delta Waterfowl
Ducks Unlimited
Environmental Defense Fund
Federal Forest Resource Coalition
Friends of Schlitz Audubon Nature Center
Friends of the Naticoke River
Gulf Coast Land Trust

Healing Our Waters Coalition
Heart of the Lakes
Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited
Izaak Walton League of America
The Land Improvement Contractors of America
Lancaster Farmland Trust
Land Trust Alliance
The Lyme Timber Company
Mars Incorporated
The Michigan Wildlife Conservancy
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Mississippi River Trust
National Association of Conservation Districts
National Association of Forest Owners
National Association of Forest Service Retirees
National Audubon Society
National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative
National Deer Alliance
National Milk Producers Federation
National Parks Conservation Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Refuge Association
National Wild Turkey Federation
National Young Farmers Coalition
Nature Abounds
The Nature Conservancy
Nestlé USA
North American Grouse Partnership
Ohio Forestry Association
Onondaga Audubon
Pennsylvania Council of Churches
Pheasants Forever
Pollinator Partnership
Pope & Young Club
Professional Outfitters and Guides of America
Quail Forever
Quality Deer Management Association
Rayonier
Redington
RIO Products
Rock Creek Conservancy
Ruffed Grouse Society
Sage Manufacturing
Savage River Watershed Association
Shenandoah Riverkeeper
SITKA Gear
Snook and Gamefish Foundation
Society for Range Management
Soil and Water Conservation Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trout Unlimited
The Trust for Public Land
Unilever
Virginia Conservation Network
Virginia Forestry Association
Vista Outdoors
Water Environment Federation
Watershed Research and Training Center
Western Landowners Alliance
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Western Pocono Trout Unlimited
Western Reserve Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America
The Westervelt Company
West Virginia Highlands Conservancy
West Virginia Rivers Coalition
Whitetails Unlimited
Wildlife Mississippi
Wild Salmon Center
Wisconsin Metro Audubon Society
World Wildlife Fund
The Wildlife Society

CC: Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry