



October 13, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Majority Leader

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House

Letter of Support for Including Climate-Smart Agriculture Funding in Reconciliation

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer,

We are writing today in support of the \$28 billion allocated in funding for climate-smart agricultural practices in the budget reconciliation bill. Farmers, ranchers, and rural landowners have been at the frontlines of the fight against climate change for years, and this funding will provide those communities the resources they need as leaders in the climate solution.

Currently, the agriculture industry is responsible for 10 percent of the country's greenhouse gas emissions, but with adequate funding and support, the industry can be a critical partner in implementing policies like carbon sequestration, cover crops, and clean energy. These new climate-smart practices will not only have a substantial impact on combatting the growing threat of climate change but will also spur economic development and help small farms diversify their revenue streams.

Producers across the country already use climate-smart practices to grow healthier crops, mitigate the impact of drought and flooding, and reduce carbon emissions. By including unprecedented support and funding for these practices in the Build Back Better Act, lawmakers can empower a greater number of farmers to fully embrace climate-smart practices and reap the immediate environmental and economic benefits that go along with it.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has taken significant steps to offer farmers and ranchers aid and guidance to adopt these beneficial practices, yet a lack of funding has left thousands of farmers without support. In order to help rural, agricultural communities get back on their feet and build back better, while recruiting key leaders in the fight against climate change, funding for climate-smart agriculture must be part of the solution.

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring rural America is a pivotal player in the fight against climate change.

Sincerely,



One Country Project Board of Directors

Heidi Heitkamp, Founder

Joe Donnelly, Co-Founder

Ashton Clemmons

Anthony Daniels

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