

March 27, 2025

The Honorable John Boozman
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Glenn “GT” Thompson
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Angie Craig
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Boozman and Thompson and Ranking Members Klobuchar and Craig:

We, the undersigned farm, food, and rural organizations, write to express our support for the Honor Farmer Contracts Act.

For the past two months, farmers, small businesses, and organizations providing critical support and service to our nation’s farm and food system have been left waiting for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to honor contracts and pay for completed work.

A few examples of critical projects and associated payments caught up in these unnecessary delays and freezes include:

- Rural infrastructure investments that will help farmers get products from the field to market;
- Payments to farmers who planted cover crops to reduce erosion and improve their soil health;
- Creation of market opportunities for farmers to sell more of what they grow through regional food systems that build resiliency in our food supply;
- Assistance for young and beginning farmers and ranchers to access land, supporting the development of the next generation of farmers; and,
- Investments in energy efficiency that will quickly lower energy bills for farmers facing rising input costs.

The above projects, as well as many other initiatives, are not instances of fraud or abuse. A wide array of stakeholders, including Republicans and Democrats in Congress, have previously

praised these projects and recognized the vital work they bring to farmers, ranchers, and rural America.

The USDA's continued failure to honor its contractual obligations will be detrimental to American agriculture, harming farmers, small businesses, and other project participants who have invested significant time and resources. Failing to meet these commitments will drive farmers out of business and sow distrust in farming communities, causing massive setbacks in the food and farm system while wasting previously invested funds.

As the most productive season of the year approaches, farmers and rural communities cannot afford further delays—without urgent action to reinstate these contracts, farms and organizations risk laying off workers, missing the planting season, or shutting down entirely.

The Honor Farmer Contracts Act is based on the fundamental principle that, as Americans, when we make a deal, we honor it and pay our bills—especially when that deal is with the hardworking people who feed us. We urge you to support swift passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Agri-Cultura Cooperative Network
Agricultural Justice Project
Agroecology Commons
Alabama State Association of Cooperatives
Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network
Alaska Farmers Market Association
Alaska Farmers Union
Alaska Food Policy Council
Alchemist CDC
Alexandria Farmers Market
Alianza Agricultura de Taos
Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, Inc.
Alliance for Local Economic Prosperity
American Agriculture Movement
American Grassfed Association
Angelica Village
Appalachian Sustainable Development
Appalachian Voices
Berkshire Grown, Inc.
Beyond Pesticides

Big River Economic and Agricultural Development Alliance
Black Farmers and Ranchers New Mexico Global/Latino Farmers and Ranchers International,
Inc.
Black Farmers United – New York State Inc.
Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture
Bold Alliance
Braiding Seeds Fellowship
Brian's Food Bank Garden
BriarPatch Food Co-op
Buffalo and Erie County Food Policy Council
California Climate and Agriculture Network
California FarmLink
California Food and Farming Network
Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment
CAMPO
Capulin Grazing Association
Carbon Cycle Institute
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
Catskill Mountainkeeper
Center for Food Safety
Center for Rural Affairs
Ceres Community Project
Change the Chamber
Chef Ann Foundation
Chester Agricultural Center
Chicago Food Policy Action Council
Chilis on Wheels
City Green
City of Seattle
Climate-Smart Grown in SC
Colorado Blueprint to End Hunger
Colorado Farm and Food Alliance
Common Threads
Community Alliance with Family Farmers
Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture
Concordia Charter School
Connecting Ag
Cooking with Kids
Cooperative Food Empowerment Directive
Covenant Pathways

Creation Care Team of the North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church
Creighton Community Foundation
Crop Swap LA
Cultivate Kansas City
Cultivate Oregon
Cultivating Community
Cultural Harvest Collective
Dakota Resource Council
Davidson County Local Food Network
Desert Spoon Food Hub
Detroit Black Community Food Sovereignty Network
Detroit Food Policy Council
Down East Coal Ash E&SJ Coalition
Dreaming Out Loud, Inc.
Dry Farming Institute
EarthDance Organic Farm School
Eastern Food Hub Collaborative
Economic Council Helping Others, Inc.
Equitable Food Oriented Development Collaborative
Equity Advocates
FairShare CSA Coalition
Faith CDC
Family Farm Defenders
Farm Action Fund
Farm Aid
Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance
Farm Fresh Rhode Island
Farm to Table - New Mexico
Farm2People
Farmer Foodshare
Farmers Fresh CSA
Farmers Rising
Farms to Grow, Inc.
Farmshare Austin
Farmworker Association of Florida
Feast Down East
FedUp Ministries
Feed'em Freedom
Feeding the Carolinas
Fibershed

Florida Organic Growers
Food & Water Watch
Food + Planet
Food Animal Concerns Trust
Food Bank of Alaska
Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina
Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico
Food Bank of the Southern Tier
Food Revolution Network
Food Systems Foresight
Food Works
FoodCorps New Mexico
FoodPlay Productions
Foodshed Alliance
Foodshed Capital
Foodshed Cooperative
Footprints In The Garden
For Love of Water
Fountain Heights Farms Cooperative
Fresh Approach
Friends of Family Farmers
Friends of the Earth
Friends of the Mississippi River
Georgia Organics
GoFarm
Good Food Collective
Gorge Grown Food Network
Green Bridge Growers
Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities
GROW North Texas
Grow Pittsburgh
Grow Your Own Meal
Growing Hope
Hanover Co-op Food Stores
Hawai'i 'Ulu Cooperative
Hawaii Cattlemen's Council
Headwater Food Hub
HEAL Food Alliance
Hearty Provisions
Holistic Management International

Hoosac Harvest
HOPE for Small Farm Sustainability
Hudson Varick Resources
HumanLinks
Hunger Free Colorado
Illinois Stewardship Alliance
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Inter-Faith Food Shuttle
International Friendship Center
Iowa Farmers Union
Iowa Food System Coalition
Iowa Valley Resource Conservation & Development
Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council
Jefferson County Farmers Markets
Jefferson County Food Policy Council
Just Harvest
Kansas Black Farmers Association
Kansas City Community Gardens
Kansas Farmers Union
Kansas Rural Center
KC Can Compost
Khuba International
Kiss the Ground
Kitchen Table Advisors
Klamath Grown
La Plata Food Equity Coalition
La Semilla Food Center
Land For Good
Land Stewardship Project
Latino Farmers & Ranchers International, Inc.
Legacy Taste of the Garden
Lettuce Turnip the Beet Sustainability Collective
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
Los Angeles Climate Reality Project
Los Angeles Food Policy Council
Louisiana Food Policy Council
Louisiana Small Scale Agriculture Coalition
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Marbleseed
Market Umbrella

Massachusetts Farm to School
Massachusetts Food System Collaborative
Michael Fields Agricultural Institute
Michigan Agriculture Advancement
Michigan Association of Conservation Districts
Michigan Farmers Union
Michigan Food and Farming Systems
Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance
Michigan Sustainable Business Forum
Michiganders for a Just Farming System
Mid Atlantic Food Resilience & Access Coalition
Mid-County United Ministries
Mill City Farmers Market
Minnesota Farmers Union
Missouri Rural Crisis Center
MOSA Certified Organic
MW TOPP Regional Lead
MWV BIPOC Farmers Co.Op
National Center for Appropriate Technology
National Co+op Grocers
National Farm to School Network
National Organic Coalition
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
National Young Farmers Coalition
Neighborhood Roots
Neighboring Food Co-op Association
New Connecticut Farmer Alliance
New England Farmers Union
New Entry Sustainable Farming Project
New Jersey Farm Bureau
New Jersey Food Democracy Collaborative
New Mexico & El Paso Interfaith Power and Light
New Mexico Basic Needs Consortium
New Mexico Farmers' Marketing Association
New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council
New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group
New Mexico Thrives
No More Empty Pots
North Carolina Farmers Market Network
North Jersey Resource Conservation & Development

Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Massachusetts
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey
Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont
Northeast Organic Farming Association-Interstate Council
Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group
Northern Plains Resource Council
Nourish Colorado
Nourish Up
NW Indiana Food Council
Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association
Ohio Farmers Union
Ohio Food Policy Network
O‘ahu Resource Conservation and Development Council
Oklahoma Black Historical Research Project
Oregon Agricultural Trust
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network
Oregon Farm to School Network
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Organic Coalition
Oregon Organic Hazelnut Collective
Organic Association of Kentucky
Organic Farmers Agency for Relationship Marketing
Organic Farmers Association
Organic Farming Research Foundation
Organic Seed Alliance
Pacific NW CSA Coalition
Pasa Sustainable Agriculture
Pennsylvania Certified Organic
Pennsylvania Farmers Union
Pinnacle Prevention
Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group
Pittsburgh Food Policy Council
Plant Chicago
Port Angeles Food Bank
Practical Farmers of Iowa

PRAIRIE

Progress Michigan
Quivira Coalition
Real Food Challenge
REAP Food Group
RegeNErate Nebraska
Regenerative Agriculture Alliance
Regenerative Agriculture Coalition
Region Roots of Indiana
ReImagine Appalachia
Renewing the Countryside
Residential GRuB (Garden Raised urban Bounty)
Rhode Island Food Policy Council
Roadrunner Food Bank
Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
Rogue Farm Corps
Rural Advancement Foundation International
Rural Coalition
Rural GroundGame
RuralOrganizing.org
Sammamish Valley Alliance
Sammamish Valley Grange #286
San Diego Food System Alliance
San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition
Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute
SEED Agricultural Law and Policy Center
Seed2Shirt
Seven Generations Ahead/IL Farm to School Network
Shiprock Traditional Farmers Cooperative
Sierra Harvest
Slow Food Santa Fe
Slow Food Savannah/GMO Free PA
Slow Food USA
Socially Responsible Agriculture Project
Sonoma County Bioregional Hub
Southeast Tennessee Young Farmers
Springfield Food Policy Council
Sprout
Sun Produce Cooperative
Sustainable Farming Association

Sustainable Food Center
Sustainable Iowa Land Trust
Sustainable Pittsburgh
Syracuse-Onondaga Food Systems Alliance
Taste the Local Difference
Texas Center for Local Food
Texas Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
The Ag & Food Lab
The Center for Science in the Public Interest
The Community Pantry
The Cornucopia Institute
The Food Group Minnesota
The Food Trust
The Giving Grove
The Good Acre
The Help Center NC
The Kohala Center
The Land Connection
The Land Institute
The Marion Institute, Inc.
The Nashville Food Project
The Niles Foundation
Think Regeneration
Toohnii Binaneest'ą? Ałtaas'ėí Alliance (ToohBAA)
Toxic Free North Carolina
Tucson CSA
UFCW Western States Council
Unified Fields
United Way of Tompkins County
Upper Gila Watershed Alliance
Upper Willamette Stewardship Network
UpRoot Colorado
Urban Harvest, Inc.
Urban Triage, Inc.
Valley Food Partnership
Verdant Phoenix Farm & Nursery
Virginia Association for Biological Farming
Virginia Fresh Match/LEAP
Viva Farms
Wallace Center at Winrock International

Wallowa Land Trust
Washington Farmland Trust
Western Montana Growers Cooperative
Western North Carolina Food Systems Coalition
Western Organic Dairy Producers Alliance
Wild Farm Alliance
Winter Farmers Market
Wisconsin Farmers Union
Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment
Women Advancing Nutrition Dietetics and Agriculture
Women, Food and Agriculture Network
World Farmers
Young Farmer Network of SE New England

Cc: The Honorable John Thune, Senate Majority Leader; The Honorable Charles E. Schumer, Senate Minority Leader; The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker of the House; The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, House Minority Leader; The Honorable Cory A. Booker, U.S. Senator; The Honorable Gabe Vasquez, U.S. Representative