

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
The Secretary of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

December 8, 2025

Dear Madam Secretary:

Right now, the cost of everyday goods from ground beef and coffee to clothes and car parts are crushing Americans in every corner of our country and making it hard for them to make ends meet. The economic pain and hardship have hit family farmers — no matter their size, production type or location — particularly hard. The president's trade war has increased the cost of production, depressed the price of goods and commodities and eliminated the valuable market access our farmers depend on. Based upon public reporting, it is clear that USDA is planning to provide some direct relief to farmers, growers, producers and ranchers, and that the announcement of such a program could come this week.

Given the fact that Congress has been given no additional information on your plans, we, the undersigned Members of Congress who represent a wide variety of agriculture stakeholders and producers, encourage you to ensure that any farm relief package is fair and equitable. It should provide appropriate relief to all types of producers, of all sizes and in all locations.

The effects of the administration's trade war know no bounds. It hurts specialty crop producers from coastal Maine to the Central Valley of California, large row crop farmers from Northern Minnesota to Southern Arkansas, dairies in New York, cattle ranches in New Mexico, and everywhere in between. In 2025, fertilizer increased by 25 percent and 37 percent, respectively, for specialty crop growers compared to just a few short years ago.¹ In just the last 12 months, we have seen production costs for farmers increase by \$12 billion.² Soybeans may only achieve barely half of all the total purchases it normally receives from China, and we are already seeing signs that future orders may fall short of those promised in the latest trade deal struck between the administration and the Chinese Communist Party.³ Despite strong exports, dairy producers are having to discount their products.⁴ The entire farm economy is hurting, and it is critical that any relief you provide does not pick winners and losers.

¹ [“Specialty crop growers suffer as input, labor costs devour margins.”](#) *Michigan Farm News*. 9 October 2025.

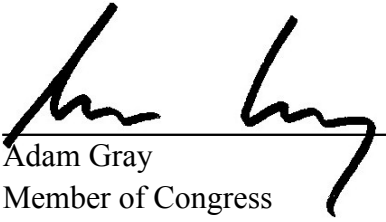
² [“Farm Sector Income & Finances - Farm Sector Income Forecast.”](#) *USDA*. 03 September 2025.

³ [“China to Buy 12 Million Metric Tons of U.S. Soybeans This Season, Bessent Says.”](#) *Successful Farming*. 31 October 2025.; [“China Slow to Honor U.S. Soybean Purchase Commitments.”](#) *Brownfield*. 17 November 2025.

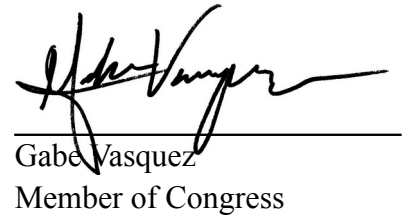
⁴ [“Dairy Market Dynamics and Domestic Constraints: A Dairy Sector Assessment as of June 2025.”](#) *University of Wisconsin Division of Extension*. June 2025

As you finalize this program and speak to your cabinet colleagues, we impress upon you the importance of finding opportunities to provide relief and support for more than just our nation's farmers. Main street businesses and manufacturers are struggling, and all hardworking Americans are confronting higher costs for everyday goods. Our most vulnerable neighbors are struggling to make ends meet and put food on their table due to the high cost of groceries. It is time we found a way to support them as well.

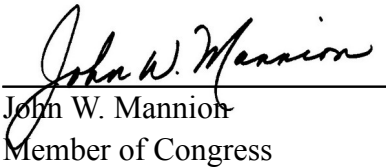
Sincerely,



Adam Gray
Member of Congress



Gabe Vasquez
Member of Congress



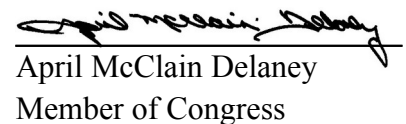
John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Committee
on Agriculture



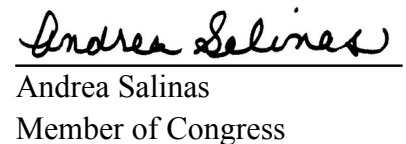
Eugene Simon Vindman
Member of Congress




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Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
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Shontel M. Brown
Vice Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture