

June 17, 2014

Dear Member of the House of Representatives:

The undersigned organizations represent a very broad cross-section of U.S. production agriculture and agribusiness. We urge you to cast an affirmative vote on H.R. 4413, the “Customer Protection and End-User Relief Act,” when it moves to the floor for consideration.

This legislation, unanimously approved on a bipartisan basis by the Committee on Agriculture, provides important protections for futures customers:

- Enhanced reporting, transparency and accountability in futures markets. These much-needed improvements will help prevent another MF Global.
- The ability for customers to “claw back” assets from a parent firm in the event of a shortfall of customer funds in FCM insolvencies – something that wasn’t possible with MF Global.
- A clear roadmap for meaningful cost-benefit analysis to be performed by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission before proposing major rules.
- A solution to the very troubling “residual interest” rule approved last fall by CFTC that would force customers to pre-margin hedge accounts, thereby putting perhaps twice as much customer money at risk, dramatically increasing hedging costs, and likely driving farmers, ranchers and small hedgers out of the futures market.
- Relief from technologically infeasible recordkeeping requirements in the cash commodity markets.

Thank you in advance for your support of this bill that is so important to U.S. farmers, ranchers, hedgers and futures customers.

Sincerely,

Agribusiness Association of Iowa  
Agribusiness Council of Indiana  
Amcot  
American Cotton Shippers Association  
American Feed Industry Association  
American Soybean Association  
Commodity Markets Council  
Grain and Feed Association of Illinois  
Indiana Grain and Feed Association

Iowa Institute for Cooperatives  
Kansas Cooperative Council  
Kansas Grain and Feed Association  
Michigan Agri-Business Association  
Michigan Bean Shippers  
Minnesota Grain and Feed Association  
Montana Grain Elevators Association  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Pork Producers Council  
North American Export Grain Association  
North Dakota Grain Dealers Association  
Ohio Agribusiness Association  
Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council  
Oklahoma Grain and Feed Association  
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives  
South Dakota Grain & Feed Association  
Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council  
United Egg Producers  
USA Rice Federation