

May 6, 2013

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition and Forestry
328-A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition and Forestry
328-A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Stabenow and Ranking Member Cochran:

The undersigned organizations are writing to share a position paper we drafted to provide an effective farm and natural resource safety net. The draft is a good compromise position supporting linking conservation compliance with crop insurance premium assistance and opposing means testing, payment limitations or premium subsidy reductions for the crop insurance program.

In the spirit of compromise and in the interest of completing a 2013 Farm Bill this year, each of the groups has committed to not support amendments beyond this compromise that might weaken the crop insurance program or amendments that might not link conservation compliance with crop insurance premium assistance.

We would appreciate the opportunity to review draft language on this issue or to be helpful to you in any way you deem appropriate.

Sincerely,

American Association of Crop Insurers
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Farmland Trust
American Society of Agronomy
American Soybean Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Audubon
Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau
Crop Science Society of America
Ducks Unlimited
Environmental Defense Fund
Land Improvement Contractors of America
National Association of State Conservation Agencies
National Association of Conservation Districts
National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils
National Conservation District Employees Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Farmers Union
National Wildlife Federation

Pheasants Forever
Pollinator Partnership
Quail Forever
Soil and Water Conservation Society
Soil Science Society of America
Southern Peanut Farmers Federation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
The Nature Conservancy
USA Rice Federation
Wildlife Mississippi
World Wildlife Fund

Cc: United States Senate