

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 20, 2017

The Honorable Pat Roberts
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition & Forestry
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition & Forestry
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Stabenow:

We are following up on our letter of July 18, 2017, to provide greater clarity on the small number of reasonable actions EPA must take to ensure a minimum level of public confidence in its pesticide regulatory program before Congress should reauthorize it on a long-term basis. If the Administrator of the EPA commits in writing to the following actions, we believe that PRIA reauthorization can be expedited through the Senate on a rapid basis.

- Maintain the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard published in the federal register on November 2, 2015, including its effective dates and compliance dates, for a minimum of 3 years or the duration of PRIA reauthorization;
- Maintain the Certification of Pesticide Applicators rule published in the federal register on January 4, 2017, including its effective dates and compliance dates, for a minimum of 3 years or the duration of PRIA reauthorization; and
- Issue a final decision on the objections to the March 29, 2017 Order Denying the PAN/NRDC Petition to Revoke All Tolerances and Cancel All Registrations for the Pesticide Chlorpyrifos by November 20, 2017, and on any additional objections filed regarding future chlorpyrifos decisions within 90 days of receipt.

Thank you for listening to these concerns. We stand ready to sit down and discuss these issues in further detail as soon as possible to enable passage of a long-term PRIA reauthorization with a minimum of disruption to agency operations. If the Administration fails to take such reasonable actions to restore a minimum level of confidence in its pesticide program, then we will exercise our procedural rights on the Senate floor to ensure a full debate on these issues with an opportunity for an open amendment process.

Sincerely,



Tom Udall
U.S. Senator



Richard Blumenthal
U.S. Senator



Cory A. Booker
U.S. Senator

cc:

The Honorable Scott Pruitt

The Honorable Rodney Davis