

[Date]

The Honorable [Redacted]
U.S. Congress
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Sir of Madam:

I urge you to support passage of immigration legislation, which addresses the labor crisis facing the agriculture industry. To ensure continued production and delivery of abundant, affordable, and high quality food and agricultural products, America's farmers must have access to a stable, legal work force. Securing a reliable and skilled workforce is essential for the agricultural industry and the broader U.S. economy.

American farmers and ranchers face a critical shortage of legally authorized and experienced workers, which negatively impacts our economic competitiveness, local economies, and jobs. Economists tell us that every farm worker engaged in high-value, labor-intensive crop and livestock production sustains two to three off-farm jobs. As foreign producers take advantage of our labor crisis and gain market share, America will export not only our food production but also thousands of these farm-dependent jobs.

Congress must pass legislation that preserves agriculture's experienced workforce by allowing current farm workers to earn legal status. For future needs, legislation must create an agricultural worker visa program that provides access to a legal and reliable workforce moving forward. This visa program needs to be market-based and have the flexibility to meet the needs of producers, including those with year-round labor needs, such as dairy and livestock.

It is vital for Congress to enact meaningful immigration reform. The agriculture industry stands ready to work with Congress to achieve this goal.

Sincerely,

[Insert Name]