June 27, 2013

Dear Senator:

The undersigned organizations are writing to strongly urge you to support final passage of S. 744, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013.

American agriculture has acutely felt the effects of our flawed immigration system, as foreign labor is largely responsible for harvesting our crops and tending to our livestock. S. 744 offers the reforms needed to mend our broken immigration system and provide the agriculture industry with a stable and secure workforce. Without the reforms of S. 744, our farmers and ranchers will not be able to produce the abundant, safe and affordable food supply our country relies on.

The agriculture provisions of S. 744 reflect the landmark agreement between the Agriculture Workforce Coalition (AWC) and the United Farm Workers union (UFW). These provisions include both an earned adjustment of status for current experienced and essential but unauthorized agricultural workers, and a new, more flexible program to provide access to a legal workforce into the future. S. 744 will provide a lasting solution for the industry and allow American agriculture to remain a bright spot in our economy.

It is critically important that you vote ‘yes’ on final passage of S. 744 to address our nation's immigration crisis.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Council of California
Agricultural Retailers Association
Alabama Farmers Cooperative
American Beekeeping Federation
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Honey Producers Association
American Mushroom Institute
American Nursery & Landscape Association
American Sheep Industry Association
American Sugar Cane League
Apricot Producers of California
Arizona Farm Bureau Federation
Arkansas Farm Bureau
Aurora Organic Dairy
Blue Diamond Growers
Calcot Ltd.
California Association of Winegrape Growers
California Avocado Commission
California Canning Peach Association
California Cotton Ginners Association
California Date Commission
California Farm Bureau Federation
California Fig Advisory Board
California Grape and Tree Fruit League
California Strawberry Commission
California Sweet Potato Council
California Walnut Commission
California Women for Agriculture
Certified Greenhouse Farmers
CoBank
Cooperative Network
Dairy Farmers of America
Dairy Producers of Utah
Dairylea Cooperative, Inc.
Darigold/Northwest Dairy Association
Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association
Farm Credit East
Florida Citrus Mutual
Florida Farm Bureau Federation
Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association
Fruit Growers Supply Company
Georgia Farm Bureau
Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association
Georgia Watermelon Association
Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
GROWMARK, Inc.
Idaho Dairymen’s Association
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
Indiana Farm Bureau
Iowa Farm Bureau Federation
Kansas Cooperative Council
Kansas Farm Bureau
Land O’ Lakes, Inc.
Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation
Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.
MBG Marketing/The Blueberry People
Michigan Farm Bureau
Michigan Milk Producers Association
Michigan Processing Apple Growers
Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
National All-Jersey
National Christmas Tree Association
National Cotton Council
National Cotton ginners Association
National Council of Agricultural Employers
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Farmers Union
National Grain and Feed Association
National Grange
National Grape Cooperative
National Milk Producers Federation
National Onion Association
National Peach Council
National Potato Council
Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation
Nevada Farm Bureau Federation
New Mexico Cotton Ginners Association
New York Farm Bureau
New York State Vegetable Growers
NORPAC Foods, Inc.
North American Blueberry Council
North Carolina Farm Bureau
Northeast Dairy Farmers Cooperatives
OFA-The Association of Horticultural Professionals
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation
Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council
Oklahoma Cotton Council
Oregon Association of Nurseries
Oregon Cherry Growers
Oregon Farm Bureau
Pacific Ridge Farms
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
Produce Marketing Association
Scully Packing Company
Society of American Florists
South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives
South Dakota Wheat Growers
South East Dairy Farmers Association
Southeastern Cotton Ginners Association
Southern Cotton Ginners Association
State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL)
Sunkist Growers
Sun-Maid Growers
Sunsweet Growers, Inc.
Teays Investments, Inc.
Tennessee Farmers Cooperative
Texas Cotton Ginners Association
Texas Farm Bureau
The American Horse Council
U.S. Apple Association
United Dairymen of Arizona
United Fresh Produce Association
United Potato Growers of America
USA Farmers
Valley Fig Growers
Washington Farm Bureau
Washington Growers League
Welch Foods Inc., A Cooperative
Western Growers Association
Western United Dairymen
WineAmerica
Yankee Farm Credit
Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association