

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
June 25, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
H-232, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
H-204, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

In the United States some sixteen million jobs depend on the success of American agriculture. As you know, the Farm Bill has a huge impact in my home state of Iowa. Over the past month, I have held eleven Food, Farm and Jobs Bill listening sessions around Iowa and one thing I hear over and over is the importance of getting a Farm Bill passed sooner rather than later.

I continually hear about the lack of certainty about not having a Farm Bill in place and how it will affect business investments and decisions moving forward. It is important that we get a Farm Bill passed prior to the August recess to address these concerns. No one wants to revert to permanent law, which is the outdated 1949 Farm Bill.

As you know, the Senate passed their version of the Farm Bill on Thursday, June 21st, with strong bipartisan support. This bill applies almost \$24 billion in savings towards deficit reduction. Reducing the deficit should be a shared sacrifice, and Iowa farmers understand this, but it is concerning to hear that the House may not be satisfied with this level of savings and may try to make deeper cuts that will impact jobs in Iowa and across the country.

I hope that the House will bring up a bill with cost savings in line with the Senate version. Farmers feed our nation, but are susceptible to things such as drought or flooding. We need to make sure to provide them the tools they need so that they can continue to deliver safe, affordable food to the table. Every American has a stake in this bill.

Please do what you can to bring forward a multi-year Farm Bill. I stand prepared to work with you in a bipartisan manner to accomplish this goal.

Sincerely,


Bruce Braley