

December 6, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the U.S. House  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Mitch McConnell  
Senate Republican Majority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
U.S. House Republican Leader  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Charles Schumer  
Senate Democratic Minority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Schumer:

America's farmers and rural communities are facing overwhelming economic uncertainty right now due to policy instability. They are waiting for Washington to complete work on trade deals and stabilize markets for U.S. agricultural output in China, Canada and Mexico. The economic hardships are spreading throughout the economy. One thing Congress can do before the end of the year to help rural economies and provide some policy stability is extend the expired biodiesel and renewable diesel tax incentive.

Farm income is down significantly compared to just five years ago. That discourages new investments and farm equipment purchases, which in turn undercuts Midwest manufacturing, capital lending, and many other economic activities. Everyone wants equitable trade agreements, but it is becoming apparent they are unlikely to be finalized by the end of this year.

There is broad bipartisan support for the biodiesel tax credit, and we believe that Congress can, and must, pass an immediate extension before returning home at the end of the year.

The future of the credit has been unclear for nearly two years. Since the start of the year, producers have cut back production, investments in new technologies and facility upgrades, and purchases of raw materials. Now, at least ten biodiesel plants have closed or stopped production, furloughing several hundred workers; the states impacted include Connecticut, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Pennsylvania and Texas. The economic fallout impacts more than 7,500 total jobs across the U.S. economy.

Without an immediate extension of the tax credit, we anticipate widespread plant closures, more production cutbacks, and significant job losses. That will harm farmers who are already hurting and create additional uncertainty for rural communities, where biodiesel production creates a significant market for agricultural coproducts. Biodiesel production stimulates economic activity worth \$17 billion annually and supports more than 65,000 U.S. jobs. Biodiesel also has many environmental benefits, reducing carbon emissions and toxic air pollutants.

Tens of thousands of American workers, farmers and manufacturers are depending on you to provide much-needed policy certainty. The U.S. biodiesel and renewable diesel industry's continued success is at stake. That is why it is imperative that Congress act to extend this bipartisan, bicameral, pro-growth tax incentive prior to the end of the year.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to working with you to achieve this job-creating policy objective.

Sincerely,



Michael McAdams  
President  
Advanced Biofuels  
Association (ABFA)



Zippy Duvall  
President  
American Farm Bureau  
Federation (AFBF)



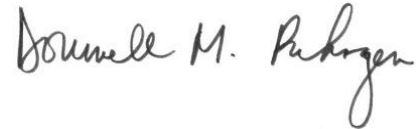
Davie Stephens  
President  
American Soybean  
Association (ASA)



Thomas Halverson  
President & CEO  
CoBank



Todd Van Hoose  
President & CEO  
Farm Credit Council



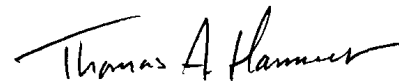
Donnell Rehagen  
CEO  
National Biodiesel Board  
(NBB)



Charles F. Conner  
President & CEO  
National Council of Farmer  
Cooperatives (NCFC)



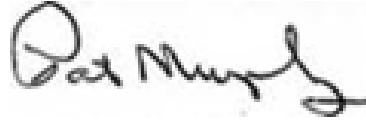
Roger Johnson  
President  
National Farmers Union  
(NFU)



Thomas A. Hammer  
President  
National Oilseed Processors  
Association (NOPA)



Nancy Foster  
President & CEO  
North American Renderers  
Association (NARA)



Pat Murphy  
President  
U.S. Canola Association

CC: The Hon. Charles Grassley  
The Hon. Ron Wyden  
The Hon. Richard Neal  
The Hon. Kevin Brady