



August 2, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

The Agriculture Workforce Coalition urges the Senate to pass an agriculture workforce reform bill this Congress that provides the solution American agriculture needs to defend our national security through protecting our domestic agricultural production and curtailing rising food costs for every consumer.

Food security is national security. American farmers and consumers need the U.S. Senate to pass farmworker visa reform this year. From the COVID-19 pandemic to the war in Ukraine, the range of challenges we currently face reiterates that our national security is tied to our ability to feed ourselves, and that ability is currently under threat due to the agricultural workforce crisis across America's farms and agribusinesses. The domestic workforce shortage remains one of the greatest challenges impacting our farmers today. We must address this workforce crisis threatening farms across the United States so our producers can continue to feed, clothe, and fuel our nation.

Agricultural workforce reform not only helps farmers, ranchers and farm workers, but a stable agricultural workforce is good for the U.S. economy, which impacts every consumer, according to a 2022 study by Texas A&M International University. Consumers are seeing high costs of milk, produce, fruits, meat, and eggs in the supermarket. In fact, the latest Consumer Price Index report by the Bureau of Labor and Statistics revealed that butter and margarine increased 26.3 percent, fruits and vegetables rose 8.1 percent, and cereals and bakery products rose 13.8 percent. This reinforces the urgency for agricultural workforce reform.

We also know that inaction will force many farmers to consider whether they can continue in labor-intensive agriculture. Unfortunately, we have already seen a decline in the number of farms over the last decade (2010-2021). According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the number of farms in the U.S. has decreased by more than 185,000 farms and the total land in farms has decreased by around 25 million acres. When farms go out of business rural America suffers. We know statistically that every seasonal worker supports three to four full-time year-round jobs. The economic impact reaches further to truck and equipment dealerships, restaurants, and the other businesses on main street. In order to protect America's domestic agricultural production, the Senate must act now to provide stability for our existing workers and make key reforms to the H-2A program, the visa program farmers use to hire legal workers to supplement their U.S. workforce.

Reforms that provide farmers certainty and mitigate against spiraling production costs will support three goals in America's interest: affordable food, domestic production, and national security. As representatives of agricultural organizations throughout the United States, we stand ready to help you develop and pass legislation to fully address the needs of American agriculture and every American consumer. We thank Senator Bennet and Senator Crapo for their bipartisan leadership on this critical issue and encourage you to work with them to advance a Senate bill.

Thank you for your urgent attention to solving America's agricultural workforce crisis.

Sincerely,

AWC Steering Committee

American Farm Bureau Federation  
AmericanHort  
Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association  
International Fresh Produce Association  
National Council of Agricultural Employers  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Farmers Union  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Potato Council  
USAFarmers  
U.S. Apple Association  
Western Growers

Additional Signatories

4Earth Farms  
A-3Farms  
AgCountry Farm Credit Services  
Agricultural Council of California  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
Agri-Mark, Inc.  
Agri-Placement Services, Inc.  
Agtegra Cooperative  
Alabama Farmers Federation  
Alabama Pork Producers  
Alaska Ranch  
Allen Lund Company LLC  
Alliance Hospital Group  
Alsum Farms & Produce, Inc  
Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Amcot  
American AgCredit  
American Cotton Producers  
American Crystal Sugar Company

American Honey Producers Association  
American Mushroom Institute  
American Soybean Association  
American Sugar Alliance  
American Sugarbeet Growers Association  
Andrew & Williamson Fresh Produce  
Andy Shaw Cattle  
Apeel Sciences  
Applewood Fresh Growers  
Arizona Dairy Producers Trade Association  
Arizona Farm Bureau  
Arizona Nursery Association  
Arizona Pork Council  
Associated Milk Producers Inc.  
B Catalani Inc  
Baker Ranches, Inc.  
Baldor Specialty Foods, Inc.  
Baxter Wholesale Nursery, Inc  
Bay Cities Produce, Inc.  
Beaverhead7up Ranch  
Belrose, Inc.  
Bergh Farms LLC  
Berthelson CPA  
Betteravia Farms  
Big Sky Ranch LLP  
Biosafe Systems LLC  
Black Gold Farms  
Bobalu Berry Farms, LLC  
Bolthouse Farms  
Bongards' Creameries  
Braga Fresh Family Farms  
Brodasi Organic Farms, Inc  
Brooks Tropicals  
Brown and Brown of MT, Inc.  
Bushel Boy Farms  
C.O.C. Placement Service  
Calavo Growers  
California Apple Commission  
California Avocado Commission  
California Blueberry Association  
California Blueberry Commission  
California Canning Peach Association  
California Citrus Mutual  
California Dairies, Inc.  
California Date Commission  
California Farm Bureau  
California Farm Labor Contractor Association

California Fig Advisory Board  
California Fresh Fruit Association  
California Olive Oil Council  
California Prune Board  
California Strawberry Commission  
California Tomato Growers Association  
California Wild Rice Advisory Board  
Capital City Fruit, Co.  
Caribbean Produce  
Cayuga Marketing  
Center for Dairy Excellence (Pennsylvania)  
Central Valley Ag Cooperative  
Central West Produce  
Ceres Solutions Cooperative  
Cherry Marketing Institute  
Christopher Ranch LLC  
Co-Alliance Cooperative, Inc.  
CoBank  
Coconut King Inc.  
Colorado Dairy Farmers  
Colorado Farm Bureau  
Colorado Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association  
Colorado Nursery & Greenhouse Association  
Colorado Pork Producers Council  
Colorado Potato Legislative Association  
Compeer Financial  
Cooperative Milk Producers Association  
Cooperative Network  
Cornerstone Ag Enterprises, LLC  
Cornie Land & Livestock  
Corteva Agriscience  
Cotton Growers Warehouse Association  
Crapo's  
Crispy Green Inc.  
Crist Bros. Orchards, Inc.  
Crunch Pak Sliced Apples  
D.R. Walcher Farms  
Dairy Business Association  
Dairy Farmers of America, Inc.  
Dairy Producers of New Mexico  
Dairy Producers of Utah  
Danaco Solutions LLC  
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP  
Delaware Farm Bureau  
Delta Council  
DiMare Ruskin Inc.  
DNO Inc.

Domex Superfresh Growers  
Dorn Farms Incorporated  
Dosner Organic Farms  
Driscoll's  
Duda Farm Fresh Foods, Inc.  
Duncan Family Farms  
Edge Dairy Farmer Cooperative  
Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery  
Farm Credit Council  
Farm Credit East  
Farm Credit Services of America  
Farm Credit West  
FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative  
Field Fresh Foods  
First District Association  
Fish Creek Orchards  
Florida Citrus Mutual  
Florida Farm Bureau Federation  
Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association  
Florida Strawberry Growers Association  
Florida Tomato Exchange  
Food Producers of Idaho  
Foremost Farms USA  
Four Seasons Produce  
Fox Packaging  
Frederick County Fruit Growers Association, Winchester, VA  
Fresh Avenue Partners  
Fresh Farms  
Fresh Innovations LLC  
Fresh Texas  
FreshEdge  
Frieda's, Inc.  
Frontera Produce  
Frontier Farm Credit  
Fruit Growers Marketing Association  
Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association  
Georgia Green Industry Association  
Georgia Milk Producers, Inc.  
Georgia Urban Ag Council  
Gibbs Farms  
Girardin's Gardens, LLC  
Glaize Apples, Winchester, VA  
GoodFarms  
Grant Neibaur & Sons Farms  
Green Thumb Farms  
GreenVenus, LLC  
Grimmway Farms

Grower-Shipper Association of Central California  
GROWMARK/FS System  
H Plus Livestock  
Harbinger Group LLC  
Hart Apple Farms LLC  
Heinzen Manufacturing  
Hemdale Greenhouses  
Horizon Farm Credit  
Idaho Alfalfa and Clover Seed Growers Association  
Idaho Apple Commission  
Idaho Cherry Commission  
Idaho Dairymen's Association  
Idaho Farm Bureau  
Idaho Grower Shippers Association  
Idaho Hay and Forage Association  
Idaho Hop Growers Association  
Idaho Horticulture Society  
Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association  
Idaho Oilseed Commission  
Idaho Onion Growers Association  
Idaho Pork Producers Association  
Idaho Potato Commission  
Idaho-Oregon Fruit and Vegetable Association  
iDecisionSciences  
IFCO  
Illinois Farm Bureau  
Illinois Green Industry Association  
Illinois Milk Producers Association  
Illinois Pork Producers Association  
Illinois Specialty Growers Association  
Indiana Berry & Plant Co.  
Indiana Dairy Producers  
International Dairy Foods Association  
Iowa Institute for Cooperatives  
Iowa Pork Producers Association  
Iowa State Dairy Association  
IPR Fresh  
JAB PRODUCE  
John B. Martin & Sons Farms, Inc.  
John Vena Inc.  
Johnson Ag  
Joseph Bezon & Son  
Kansas Cooperative Council  
Kansas Dairy Association  
Kansas Livestock Association  
Kanza Cooperative Association  
Kenoyer Orchards

Kentucky Farm Bureau  
Kentucky Pork Producers Association  
Kirk Jacobs Farms/Jacobs Silver K Farms, Inc.  
Kling Strategic Partners LLC  
L&M Companies  
Labor Services International  
Lake Ag LLC  
Land O'Lakes, Inc.  
Landus Cooperative  
Laurel Springs Nursery, L.L.C.  
Legacy Labor, Inc.  
Leitz Farms LLC  
Liberty Fruit Company, Inc.  
Lipman Family Farms  
Little Bear Produce  
Loffredo Fresh Foods  
Lone Star Milk Producers  
Louisiana Association of Cooperatives  
Louisiana Pork Producers Association  
Lynn Whittig  
M & R Farms, Inc.  
Mack Farms, Inc; McMelon Inc.  
Magic Irrigators, Inc.  
Magic Water Company, Inc.  
Maine Landscape & Nursery Association  
Maine Potato Board  
Malheur County Onion Growers Association  
Market Demand Corp  
Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association  
Maryland Farm Bureau  
Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association  
Mason Cattle Company  
Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association  
Mastronardi Produce USA  
Maurice H. Eckert & Son's, Inc.  
Measure to Improve, LLC  
Mercer Ranches Inc.  
MFA Oil Company  
Michigan Apple Association  
Michigan Blueberry Advisory Committee  
Michigan Blueberry Growers (MBG)  
Michigan Farm Bureau  
Michigan Milk Producers Association  
Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association  
Michigan Pork Producers Association  
Michigan Processing Apple Growers  
Michigan Processing Asparagus Growers

Michigan State Horticultural Society  
Michigan Sugar Company  
Mid Columbia Ag Services, LLC  
Midwest Council on Agriculture  
Milk Producers Council  
Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative  
Minnesota Agri-Growth Council  
Minnesota Milk Producers Association  
Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association  
Minnesota Pork Producers Association  
Missouri Pork Association  
MKC Cooperative  
Montana Farm Bureau Federation  
Montana Nursery and Landscape Association  
Montana Pork Producers Council  
Monterey County Farm Bureau  
Mount Adams Fruit  
Mount Joy Farmers Cooperative Association  
NAPAR  
National All-Jersey  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Christmas Tree Association  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Cotton Ginners Association  
National Onion Association  
National Peach Council  
National Watermelon Association  
NationFresh LLC  
Nature Fresh Farms USA Inc  
NatureSweet  
NEAC  
Nebraska Cooperative Council  
Nebraska Pork Producers Association, Inc.  
Nebraska Soybean Association  
Nebraska State Dairy Association  
Nevada Farm Bureau Federation  
New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau  
New York Apple Association  
New York Apple Sales, Inc.  
New York Farm Bureau  
New York Pork Producers CO-OP  
New York State Flower Industries  
New York State Horticultural Society  
Nezperce Prairie Grass Growers Assn.  
North American Blueberry Council

North Bay Produce, Inc.  
North Carolina Farm Bureau  
North Carolina Pork Council  
Northeast Dairy Producers Association  
Northern Orchard Co., Inc.  
Northwest Dairy Association  
Northwest Farm Credit Services  
Northwest Horticultural Council  
NW Ag Cooperative Council  
Ohio Apple Marketing Program  
Ohio Dairy Producers Association  
Ohio Green Industry Association  
Ohio Pork Council  
Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association  
Oklahoma Agricultural Cooperative Council  
Oklahoma Pork Council  
Ole Tyme Produce  
Olive Growers Council of California  
One Equals One Farms  
Oneida-Madison Milk Producers Cooperative Association  
Oregon Association of Nurseries  
Oregon Dairy Farmers Association  
Pacific Coast Fruit Company  
Pacific Coast Producers  
Pacific Trellis Fruit LLC  
Pandol Bros., Inc.  
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau  
Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council  
Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association  
Picabo Livestock Co.  
Plains Cotton Cooperative Association  
Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.  
Polatis Farms  
Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.  
PPI  
Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc.  
Premier ProduceOne  
Premium Peanut  
Pro Citrus Network, Inc.  
Produce Alliance, LLC  
Produce Pro Software  
Producers Cooperative Association  
Prosperous Boyles Tree Fruit Wine Orchard & Company  
Proven Winners  
Randy Gillette Farms Inc.  
Ratto Bros. Inc.  
Rio Farms, LLC

Rounds Farms  
S Bar B Ranch  
S. Katzman Produce  
Safe Food En Route, LLC  
Scioto Cooperative Milk Producers' Association  
Seso, Inc.  
Shaw Land and Livestock  
Shawver Farms Inc.  
Silmatoledo, Farm  
Smith's Farm  
Snake River Farmers' Association  
South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation  
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives  
South Dakota Dairy Producers  
South Dakota Pork Producers Council  
South East Dairy Farmers Association  
South Mill Champs  
Southeast Milk, Inc.  
Southern Idaho Potato Cooperative, Inc.  
Southern Impact  
Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative  
Southern Specialties, Inc.  
Specialty Crop Farm Labor Contractors, LLC  
Spring Valley Associates, LLC  
Serman Masser Inc.  
SunFed  
Sunmaid Growers of California  
Sunrise Fresh LLC  
Sunsweet Growers Inc.  
SunTerra Produce  
Tennessee Pork Producers Association  
Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council  
Texas Association of Dairymen  
Texas Citrus Mutual  
Texas Farm Bureau  
Texas International Produce Association  
Texas Vegetable Association  
The Michigan Vegetable Council, INC.  
The Oppenheimer Group  
The Produce Moms  
The Sanson Company  
Thomas Honey Farms Inc.  
Thompson Seed Potato  
Tillamook County Creamery Association  
TMK Produce  
Tops Markets  
UC Davis Dept of Agricultural and Resource Economics

United Dairy Farmers of Florida, Inc.  
United Dairymen of Arizona  
United Potato Growers of America  
United Vegetable Growers Cooperative  
Upstate Niagara Cooperative, Inc.  
US Beet Sugar Association  
U.S. Custom Harvesters, Inc.  
US Sweet Potato Council  
US Tobacco Cooperative  
USA Rice  
Utah Apple Marketing Board  
Utah Horticulture Society  
Utah Tart Cherry Marketing Board  
Valley Fig Growers  
Verdell Olson Ranch  
Virginia Horticultural Society  
Virginia State Dairymen's Association  
Wafra  
Walter P. Rawl & Sons  
Walters Farms  
Washington Growers League  
Washington State Dairy Federation  
Washington State Nursery & Landscape Association  
Washington State Potato Commission  
Washington State Tree Fruit Association  
Washington Winegrowers Association & Winegrape Growers of America  
West Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association  
Western Sugar Cooperative  
Westfalia Fruit US  
Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine  
Will Rowe Farm  
Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association  
Wisconsin Pork Association  
Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association  
Wish Farms  
World Wide Farms LLC  
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation  
Wyoming Sugar Company

cc: U.S. Senate