

Support Agricultural Innovation

March 24, 2015

Dear Members of Congress,

The undersigned organizations oppose any budget or appropriations amendments that would, directly or indirectly, undermine agricultural producers' access to technology or restrict or malign the commercial development of modern plant or animal agricultural applications, including those utilizing biotechnology.

Agricultural innovation is important to all Americans because it enables plant and animal producers to increase production of healthful food using less land, while conserving soil, water, and on-farm energy. These benefits are passed on to consumers who reap the advantage of affordable food prices, greater access to nutritious food, an improved environment, a strengthened rural economy, and enhanced domestic and international food security.

Embracing modern agriculture is the right thing to do for our country, which has a rich history of nurturing science, research, and innovation in all areas of the economy, including farming. The United States is strong and prosperous because American leaders embrace the responsible use of technology and set forth public policies to move the nation forward in this regard.

We ask that Congress help advance the American tradition of innovation by opposing legislative actions to restrict agricultural technology development, to hinder farmers' access to modern agricultural tools, or to malign advancements in plant and animal agricultural applications that are helping to meet current and future food production challenges.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association

American Agri-Woman

American Association of Bovine Practitioners

American Dairy Science Association

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Feed Industry Association
American Phytopathological Society
American Seed Trade Association
American Society of Agronomy
American Society of Animal Science
American Society of Plant Biologists
American Society of Sugar Beet Technicians
American Soybean Association
American Sugarbeet Growers Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
Animal Health Institute
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Beet Sugar Development Foundation
Biotechnology Industry Organization
Board of Agriculture Assembly, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Congressional Hunger Center
Crop Protection Association -- North Carolina
Crop Science Society of America
CropLife America
CropLife International
Florida Fertilizer and Agrichemical Association
Georgia Agribusiness Council
Georgia Urban Ag Council
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Global Harvest Initiative
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association

Infant Nutrition Council of America
International Association of Refrigerated Warehouses
Iowa State University
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
Kansas State University
Missouri Agribusiness Association
Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station
Montana Agricultural Business Association
National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Growers Association
National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Milk Producers Federation
National Potato Council
National Renderers Association
Nebraska Agri-business Association
Nebraska Corn Growers Association
New York State Agribusiness
North Carolina State University
North Dakota State University
Ohio Agribusiness Association
Penn State University College of Agricultural Sciences
Poultry Science Association

Purdue University College of Agriculture
Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association
Soil Science Society of America
South Dakota Agri-Business Association
South Dakota Association of Cooperatives
South Dakota Pork Producers Council
South Dakota State University
South Dakota Wheat, Inc.
South Texas Cotton and Grain Association
Southern Crop Production Association
Tennessee Agricultural Production Association
Texas Grain and Feed Association
Texas Pecan Growers Association
Texas Poultry Federation
Texas Seed Trade Association
The Association of 1890 Research Directors
U.S. Beet Sugar Association
U.S. Canola Association
U.S. Poultry and Egg Association
University of Delaware College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
University of Missouri
University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
University of Nebraska