

June 29, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 202510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-309, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Thune and Minority Leader Schumer:

The undersigned groups, representing the full range of American agriculture, strongly oppose any amendment to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) that would weaken the producer safety net, including an amendment we anticipate will be offered by Senator Grassley.

The Grassley amendment eliminates all the positive improvements made in the OBBBA regarding payment limits and the expansion of access to disaster assistance and conservation programs for producers with 75 percent or more of their average gross income derived from farming, ranching, or forestry. In addition, the amendment imposes new restrictions on producers by mandating one payment limit per farming operation and substantially changing the definition of what it means for a producer to be actively engaged in farming.

Collectively, these changes to the OBBBA made by the Grassley amendment will impose massive additional penalties on farmers across the country even as they struggle to efficiently manage their operations while contending with a host of challenges ranging from high input costs to volatile market prices and erratic weather. Since passage of the 2018 farm bill, grower production costs alone have increased by 25 to 30 percent.

The OBBBA as currently drafted provides the enhancements necessary for growers to better weather the current economic environment. A strong farmer safety net is designed to provide a lifeline – not a handout – when conditions are otherwise unsustainable. Without this assurance, many producers will be unable to make the necessary investments to keep their operations viable, and some will abandon farming altogether.

We cannot allow either outcome. For these and other reasons, we again express our **strong opposition to any amendment attacking the producer safety net, including the amendment being offered by Senator Grassley**, and respectfully ask you to urge your colleagues **to vote no on any such amendment that may come before the Senate.**

Sincerely,

Amcot
American Association of Crop Insurers
American Cotton Producers
American Cotton Shippers Association
American Farm Bureau Federation

American Pistachio Growers
American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers
American Soybean Association
American Sugar Alliance
AmericanHort
The Conservation Fund
Cotton Growers Warehouse Association
Cotton Warehouse Association of America
Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau
Crop Insurance Professionals Association
Ducks Unlimited
Farm Credit Council
Forest Landowners Association
Independent Community Bankers of America
International Fresh Produce Association
Land Trust Alliance
Midwest Dry Bean Coalition
National Association of Conservation Districts
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Growers Association
National Cattleman's Beef Association
National Citrus Council
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Milk Producers Federation
National Pecan Federation
National Potato Council
National Sorghum Producers
National Sunflower Association
National Watermelon Association
The Nature Conservancy
Pheasants Forever
Quail Forever
Society of American Florists
Southwest Council of Agribusiness
Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance
US Apple Association
US Canola Association
US Peanut Federation
US Rice Producers Association
USA Pulses
USA Rice
Western Peanut Growers Association