

December 18, 2018

The Honorable Pat Roberts  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and  
Forestry  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Conaway  
Chairman  
House Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and  
Forestry  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Collin Peterson  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear :

Our organizations appreciate and applaud your work on the 2018 Farm Bill and congratulate you on the broad bipartisan support by which the bill was adopted in the House and Senate. We look forward to working with you in the year ahead to implement this landmark bill. This important legislation goes to great lengths to address the uncertainty in the agriculture economy, however there is another outstanding issue also of importance to the agriculture community that we hope the Congress will address before adjournment of the 115<sup>th</sup>.

We write today to respectfully urge that Congress complete work on the Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act of 2018 (PRIA). The reauthorization of PRIA is essential in ensuring that growers and users of pesticides have timely access to products that help them produce the food, fuel, and fiber the world depends on.

We are grateful for the work Congress has undertaken to extend PRIA since it expired in 2017. These short-term extensions have prevented expiration of the program, but long-term authorization is needed to provide the assurance that EPA requires to hire and maintain staff to carry out its important mission within the Office of Pesticide Programs. Without the certainty that PRIA provides, the EPA faces staffing shortages which hamper the ability to bring innovative pest control solutions to our growers and other users and can hinder EPA's ability to meet important registration and reregistration deadlines.

While we greatly appreciated that Congress has extended PRIA 3 to prevent expiration of the program, stakeholders, including the EPA need a long-term solution. PRIA 4 provides important new provisions, increasing and clarifying categories of pesticide actions covered, increasing fees for both registration and registration review which reduce burdens on the taxpayer, and protects funds for grant programs, while increasing transparency and stakeholder engagement by ensuring grant programs meet measurable goals.

As our farmers and pesticide users look towards 2019 facing challenges from trade, low crop prices, and weather variability, we hope that Congress can remove other areas of uncertainty by passing a long-term reauthorization of PRIA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Agribusiness Association of Iowa

Agricultural Council of Arkansas

Agribusiness Council of Indiana

Agricultural Retailers Association

Alabama Agribusiness Council

Almond Alliance of California

American Mushroom Institute

American Pulse Association

American Seed Trade Association

American Soybean Association

American Sugarbeet Growers Association

AmericanHort

Arizona Agricultural Aviation Association

Aquatic Plant Management Society

Arkansas Agricultural Aviation Association

Association of Montana Aerial Applicators

Association of Washington Aerial Applicators

California Association of Pest Control Advisers

California Citrus Mutual

California Fresh Fruit Association

California Specialty Crops Council

Cherry Marketing Institute

Colorado Agricultural Aviation Association

Cranberry Institute

Delaware-Maryland Agribusiness Association

Delta Council

Far West Agribusiness Association

Florida Citrus Mutual  
Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association  
Florida Tomato Exchange  
Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Georgia Agricultural Aviation Association  
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America  
Grower-Shipper Association of Central California  
Hop Growers of America  
Illinois Agricultural Aviation Association  
Illinois Chemical and Fertilizer Association  
Illinois Corn Growers Association  
Illinois Soybean Association  
Indiana Corn Growers Association  
Indiana Soybean Alliance  
Iowa Agri-Business Association  
Iowa Corn Growers Association  
Iowa Soybean Association  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Kentucky Corn Growers  
Kentucky Small Grain Growers  
Louisiana Agricultural Aviation Association  
Michigan Agri-Business Association  
Michigan Agricultural Aviation Association  
Michigan Bean Shippers  
Midwest Food Products Association  
Minnesota Agricultural Aircraft Association  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association  
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers  
Minor Crop Farmer Alliance  
Mississippi Agricultural Aviation Association

Missouri Agribusiness Association  
Missouri Corn Growers Association  
Montana Agricultural Business Association  
National Agricultural Aviation Association  
National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants  
National Association of Landscape Professionals  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Barley Growers Association  
National Christmas Tree Association  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Farmers Union  
National Onion Association  
National Pest Management Association  
National Potato Council  
National Sorghum Producers  
National Sunflower Association  
New Mexico Agricultural Aviation Association  
New York State Agribusiness Association  
North Carolina Agribusiness Council  
North Dakota Agricultural Aviation Association  
North Dakota Grain Growers Association  
Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance  
Northwest Horticultural Council  
Ohio AgriBusiness Association  
Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association  
Oklahoma Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Oklahoma Agricultural Aviation Association  
Oregonians for Food and Shelter

Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association  
Pennsylvania Pest Management Association  
Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association  
Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association  
Society of American Florists  
South Carolina Agricultural Aviation Association  
South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
South Dakota Aviation Association  
South Dakota Corn Growers Association  
Tennessee Agricultural Aviation Association  
Texas Citrus Mutual  
United Fresh Produce Association  
USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council  
USA Rice  
U.S. Apple Association  
U.S. Canola Association  
U.S. Dry Bean Council  
U.S. Hop Industry Plant Protection Committee  
Washington Asparagus Commission  
Washington Blueberry Commission  
Washington Friends of Farms & Forests  
Washington State Hay Growers Association  
Washington State Potato Commission  
Western Growers  
Western Plant Health Association  
Weed Science Society of America  
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association  
Wisconsin Corn Growers Association  
Wyoming Ag Business Association  
Wyoming Wheat Marketing Commission