

March 28, 2023

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

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

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

On behalf of the undersigned organizations representing a broad spectrum of U.S. agriculture, we urge you to cosponsor and support the House and Senate Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolutions to disapprove of the Department of Labor's (DOL's) new and harmful H-2A regulation, entitled, "Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the United States."

The CRA resolutions will be introduced by Senators Tim Scott (R-SC) and Ted Budd (R-NC) in the Senate and Representative Ralph Norman (R-SC) and House Agriculture Committee Chairman G.T. Thompson (R-PA) in the House. Although the disapproval resolutions have not yet been introduced, the language of these resolutions will be straightforward and are prescribed under CRA procedures.

The DOL's regulation comes at a time when American farmers are reeling due to record high costs of production that have translated into thin and even negative margins, conditions the new regulation will greatly exacerbate. Moreover, the regulation further complicates an already complex program and creates legal uncertainty for farmers who comply with requirements in good faith. The Department of Labor has also managed to develop a regulation that it, too, will have great difficulty administering, making the program even more cumbersome for farmers, many of whom produce perishable goods whose handling cannot wait on a bureaucracy.

As you know, the H-2A program is vitally important to American agriculture. Yet, the regulation promulgated by the DOL will make it much harder for farmers to maintain an adequate workforce given the cost and complexity of the wage construct being proposed, putting U.S. farmers at an even greater disadvantage vis-à-vis foreign producers that have significantly lower environmental and labor standards and also often benefit from the predatory trade

practices of their governments, including high and rising subsidies, tariffs, and non-tariff trade barriers that harm U.S. farmers.

In recent years, U.S. farmers have been faced with a litany of serious challenges, including Chinese tariffs, the pandemic which is still disrupting supply chains and driving up costs, a string of severe natural disasters, and inflation that has fueled sharp increases in costs of production, costs that cannot necessarily be offset by greater returns on crop sales because farmers are price-takers for their crops in the marketplace and so returns are determined by the buyer.

Because of the H-2A program's critical importance to America's farmers, key reforms to the program that would make it work more effectively for farmers on the ground would be very beneficial. Unfortunately, the new regulation would take the program in the opposite direction, harming the farmers who depend on it.

One of the lessons the pandemic reminded us of is the importance of a domestic food supply that ensures our grocery shelves are stocked, that our food is affordable, and that it is safe. Yet, very troublingly, the United States just recently became a net importer of food. Unfortunately, the H-2A regulation promulgated by the DOL ignores the lesson and current conditions in agriculture and, as a result, its new regulation will only serve to increase our reliance on imported food.

Please cosponsor and support the disapproval resolutions.

Thank you for your consideration.

AWC Steering Committee

American Farm Bureau Federation
AmericanHort
Florida Fruit & 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

State/Regional/National Organizations

Alabama Nursery and Landscape Association Allegan County Ag Association Alleghany County Farm Bureau American Cotton Producers American Honey Producers Association

American Soybean Association

American Sugar Alliance

American Sugar Cane League

American Sugarbeet Association

Arizona Farm Bureau Federation

Arizona Nursery Association

Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation

California Apple Commission

California Association of Winegrape Growers

California Blueberry Association

California Blueberry Commission

California Canning Peach Association

California Cherry and Industry Association

California Pear Growers Association

California Seed Association

California State Beekeepers Association

California State Floral Association

California Strawberry Commission

California Sweet Potato Council

Carolinas Cotton Growers Cooperative, Inc.

Cherry Marketing Institute

Colorado Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association

Colorado Nursery & Greenhouse Association

Colorado Potato Administrative Committee

Colorado Potato Legislative Association

Corn Growers Association of North Carolina

Cotton Warehouse Association of America

Empire State Potato Growers (ESPG)

Farm Credit Council

Federation of Employers and Workers of America

Florida Citrus Mutual

Florida Farm Bureau Federation

Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association

Florida Strawberry Growers Association

Florida Tomato Exchange

Georgia Green Industry Association, Inc.

Georgia Peach Council

Georgia Urban Ag Council

Idaho Apple Commission

Idaho Dairymen's Association

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

Idaho Grower Shippers Association

Idaho Hop Growers Association

Idaho Potato Commission

Idaho-Oregon Fruit and Vegetable Association

Illinois Farm Bureau

Illinois Green Industry Association

Illinois Landscape Contractors Association

Indiana Farm Bureau

Kansas Farm Bureau

Kansas Nursery & Landscape Association

Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation

Louisiana Cotton & Grain Association

Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation

Louisiana Irrigation Association

Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association

Maine Farm Bureau Association

Maine Landscape and Nursery Association

Maine Potato Board

Malheur County Onion Growers Association

Maryland Farm Bureau

Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association, Inc.

Michigan Apple Association

Michigan Blueberry Growers Association

Michigan Farm Bureau

Michigan Greenhouse Growers Council

Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association

Michigan Processing Apple Growers

Michigan Processing Asparagus Growers

Michigan Vegetable Council

Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation

Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association

Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation

Montana Farm Bureau Federation

National All-Jersey

National Asparagus Council

National Christmas Tree Association

National Cotton Council

National Cotton Ginners Association

National Onion Association

National Peach Council

National Sorghum Producers

National Sweet Potato

National Watermelon Association

NC Ag Partnership, Inc.

Nebraska Cooperative Council

Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation

New England Apple Council

New Jersey Farm Bureau

New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association

New York Apple Association

New York Apple Growers

New York Farm Bureau

New York State Flower Industries

New York State Horticultural Society

New York State Vegetable Growers Association

NM Farm and Livestock Bureau

North American Blueberry Council

North Carolina Christmas Tree Association

North Carolina Egg Association

North Carolina Farm Bureau

North Carolina Growers Association

North Carolina Horse Council

North Carolina Potato Association

North Carolina Small Grains Growers Association

North Carolina Soybean Producers Association

North Carolina State Grange

North Carolina Strawberry Association

North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission

North Carolina Tomato Growers Association

North Dakota Grain Growers Association

Northland Potato Growers Association

Northwest Horticultural Council

Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Ohio Green Industry Association

Oklahoma Farm Bureau

Oklahoma Nursery and Landscape Association

Olive Growers Council of California

Oregon Association of Nurseries

Pacific Seed Association

Panhandle Peanut Growers Association

Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Pennsylvania Landscape & Nursery Association

Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association

Plant California Alliance

Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.

Snake River Farmers' Association

Snake River Sugarbeet Growers Association

Society of American Florists

South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation

South Carolina Peach Council

South East Dairy Farmers Association

Southeastern Cotton Ginners Association

Southwest Council of Agribusiness

Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation

Tennessee Nursery & Landscape Association, Inc

Texas Corn Producers

Texas Farm Bureau

Texas International Produce Association

Texas Nursery & Landscape Association

Texas Vegetable Association

The Consolidated Central Valley Table Grape Pest and Disease Control District

The Midwest Council on Agriculture

Tobacco Growers Association of NC

U.S. Beet Sugar Association

U.S. Durum Growers Association

U.S. Tobacco Cooperative Inc.

United Potato Growers of America

US Custom Harvesters, Inc.

US Sweet Potato Council

USA Rice

Ventura County Agricultural Association

Virginia Agribusiness Council

Virginia Agricultural Growers Association

Virginia Cattlemen's Association

Virginia Farm Bureau

Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association

Washington Growers League

Washington State Potato Commission

Washington State Tree Fruit Association

Washington Winegrowers Association

West Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association

Western Peanut Growers Association

Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association

Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation

Yuma Fresh Vegetable Association

<u>Agribusinesses</u>

3J Ranch, LLC

A & B Costanza Farms LLC

A. Verdell Olson Ranch

A. Vern Woolstenhulme

Aaron Ball Farms, Inc.

Ag Installers, Inc.

Ag Valley Cooperative

Agrico Labor LLC

Agri-Placement Services, Inc.

ALCIVIA

Allen Noble Farms, Inc

Amcot

Anderson Farms

Andrew Johnson

Ann Margaret Pointer

Arcadia Ag

Area Custom Farming, LLC

Aristocrat Farms

Aycock Legacy Farms, LP

B&J Lehman Farms Inc

Bachman Land and Livestock LLC

Baker Farms

Baker Ranches, Inc.

Barrie Farms, LLC

Bartel Farm

Bartley Farms

BCF Farms, Inc.

Beadz Brothers Farms

Beard Farms

Beaverhead 7-Up Ranch, Inc.

Beckley Harvesting Inc

Bennett Ag Research Group

Bergh Farms, LLC

Berning Farms

Beutler Farms, LLC.

Big D Farms, LLC

Big Grassy Farms, LLC

Big Sky Seed, LLC

Bill Geyer

Bill Jensen & Son, Inc.

Birch Creek Farm Services Inc

BKS Farms, LLC

Blaine Larsen Farms, Inc.

Blincoe Farms, Inc

Blue Cascade Orchards Company

Blustone Vineyards

Bobrick Custom Hay, Inc

Bollmeyer Inc

Bonnie Plants

Bosen Land & Livestock, LLC

BR Ricks Farms

Brandon Bertch Farm and Ranch Inc.

Brandon Run GP

Brent Hillman

Brent Lott Farms, Partnership

Bret Robins Farms

Brogan D Farms

Broken Circle Ranch

Broksle Ranch

Brown and Brown of MT, Inc.

Brown Harvesting LLC

Bruce Bean Farms, INC

Burmah Triangle, LLC

Burns Ranch

Burusco Farms

Bussa Orchards

Buyan Ranch, Inc.

C E Jackson Farms, Inc.

Calcot

Carl Ochs LTD

Carney Farms

Carolinas Cotton Growers Cooperative

CC Tree Farms, LLC

Cedar Family Farms

Cenarrusa Farms, Inc.

Central Valley Ag Cooperative

Challis Creek Cattle Company, LLC

Checkerboard Cattle Company, LLC

Christensen Family Farms, LLC

Cindys Red Wagon

Circle C Ranch, LLP

Civano Nursery, Inc.

CL Hansen Farms, Inc.

Claar Farms, Inc.

CLF, Inc.

Cluck Harvesting

Co-Alliance Cooperative, Inc

Cody Bingham Farms, Inc.

CoMa Farms, LLC

Cone's Folly Blueberries, Inc.

Cornie Land and Livestock, Inc.

Curtis Giles

CY Ranchs, LLC

D&B Ag, Inc

D. Yam Farms, LLC

Darrow Farms, Inc.

Dave Ward Farms

David Allen Primrose

David Ehlers

David Hults Farms, LLC

David Neibaur

David Patrick Farming, LLC

Dean Snarr & Son, LLC

DeBruycker Charolais

Dennis Walen

Derek Reed Farms, LLC

Derrick Maier Farms, LLC

Desert Ridge Farms

Desert View Ranch, LLC

Diamond i, Inc.

Direct Staffing Agency, LLC

Dixon Land & Cattle, LLC

DLR Farms LLC

Double C. Farms, Inc.

Double D Farms

Double G, LLC.

Double S Farms, LLC

Doug Hartley Farms Inc.

Driscoll Brothers Partnership

Dry Creek Farms, LLC

Dwight R. Bingham

E&M Farms, Inc

Eames Acres, Inc.

Edwards Ranch, LLC

EME Custom Farming, LLC

Erickson Grain

Evan Wood Farms, LLC

Farmers Cooperative

Farmers Daughters

Fellowship Farms, Inc.

Fessenden Custom Farming

Fike Farms

Folsom Cattle Management Services

Folson Farms

Foster Farms

Four B Farms

Four Leaf Farms, LLC

Fowers, Inc.

Fowler Farms

Fred Hirschy

Fresh Harvest

Friske Orchards, Inc

Frontier Farms

Frontline Ag Solutions, LLC

G+ Ranches, Inc.

Gallagher Vineyard & Winery

Gavin Orchard

Gibbs Farms, LLC

Gibson Family Inc.

Giem Ranches, Inc.

Gingerich Farms

Gleue Harvesting LLC

Golden Plain Farms, Inc.

Golden Ridge Farms

Golden Sun Farms

Grandview Farm Limited Partnership

Grant 4-D Farms, LLC

Grant Neibaur & Sons Farms

GreenStone Farm Credit

Greg Smith Farms LLC

H-2 Tax, LLC

Hamer Farms, LC

Harbor Hill Fruit Farms

Hart Cattle & Grain Farm

Hartung Brothers Inc

Harvest Moon Inc

Hawkeye Farms, LLC

Hawley Land & Livestock

Hayhook Farms, Inc.

Heeringa Concrete, LLC

Helle Livestock

Heritage Family Farms

High Desert Turf

Hillside Ranch

Hirsch Fruit Farm

Historic Weston Orchard & Vineyard

Hoover's Hatchery Co LLC

Horse Creek Hay & Cattle, LLC

Hults Farms

Hunewill Land & Livestock Co., Inc.

Huntsman Ranch Company

HW Burns Family, LLC

Idaho Fresh Farms, LLC

J & K Farms, Inc.

J & W Farms LLC

J and M Farms

J&H Fleming Farms Inc.

J&W Walker Farms

Jack Hirschy Livestock, Inc

Jacobs Silver K Farms, Inc.

Jaindl Farms, LLC

Jason E. Harper

Jay Ray Sageser Farms

JDG Farms Inc.

JEL Trucking LLC

Jentzsch Kearl Farms

Jeppesen Brothers Ranch

JK Family Farms, LLC

Josh Gibbs

JS Farms Inc

JTS Inc

Justin Christensen Farms, LLC

Justin Price Farms, LLC

K Farms Inc

K.W. Huskinson & Sons, Inc.

Kadrmas Farms

Keeley Farms

Kenneth E. Jr. & Jacqueline A. Wheeler Farm

Kevin Huffman Farms LLC

KG Farms, LLC

Kim Wahlen Farms, GP

King Orchards

Kirk Jacobs Farms

Kraus Farms, LLC

KTDC, LTD

Kuchenbecker Excavating Inc

Kuehnle Farms LLC

L1 Cattle, LLC

Labor Consultants International

Labor Inbound

Labor Services International, LLC

Ladd Wahlen Farms

Lake Ag, LLC

Lake Michigan Produce, LLC

Lawrence & Associates of MN Inc., dba Rocket Turf

Lazy AS Farms

LC McIntyre Farms, LLC

Leitz Farms

Lemhi Frontier, LLC

Linse Ranch, LLC

Little Valley Mutual Irrigation Company

Littlefield Ranch, LLC

Lone Wolf Farms

Louis Scatena Ranch

Lovell & Cook Ag

Low Country Labor Company

LS Carson Mink Ranch, LLC

Luhrs Certified Seed, LLC

Lynn Hirschy

Lynn Whittig

Malecha Enterprises Inc

Manzana LLC

Marsh Creek Farms

Marshall Farms, LLC

Marvin Altendorf Farm

másLabor

Mason Cattle Company, LLC

Matt Nail Farms, LLC.

McCoy Family Apiaries LLC

Meinke Custom Combining LLC

Melvin Lee Peterson, LLC

Mercer Ranches

Metzler Inc

Michael J. Miller

Mid-Kansas Cooperative

Mike Lewis

Milton McKee

Mitch Neibaur Farms

Mix Miller Farms, LLP.

Moiese Valley Ranch, LLC

Monica Ware

Monson Fruit Co., LLC

Morgan Meyers

Moyer's Hatchery LLC

N & M Farms

Neil Hoffmann Harvesting

Nelson Angus Ranch, LLC

Neumiller Farms Inc

Never Sweat Ranch

Noo Sun Dairy, LLC

NorVue Farms

Oak Hill Farms

Otto Ag Investments LLC

Owyhee Rangeland Management, LLC

Pahl Farms, LLC

Park Ranch, LLC

Park River Split Ranch, LLC

Parker Trucking & Harvesting

Peak Season Labor, Inc

Penfold Farms

Peters Family Farms, GP

Peterson Farms

PGC Farms

Picabo Livestock Company, Inc.

Plains Cotton Cooperative Association

Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

Polatis Brothers Farms

Pratt Creek Ranch

Precision Pumping LLC

Preston L. Koehn

Quality Ag Services

Quality Nutrient Spreading

Quality Pak Farms, LLC

Quick Farms

R & D Gould Farms, LLC

R&R Farms LLC

R.B. Family Farms

Raile Farms

Ralph Johnson Farm Partnership

Rebish/Konen Livestock

Red Hen Turf Farm

Reynolds Brothers, LLP

Reynolds Farms, Inc.

Reynolds Livestock

RGB Farms, LLC

Rinkes Custom LLC

Rives Ranches, LLC

RL Brown Farms, LLC

Robben Ranch

Robert J. Meyers Farms, Inc.

Robertson Spraying LLC

Robison Farms, Inc.

Rod Rohde Custom Farming LLC

Rodney Hansen AG, LLC.

Rogers' Ranch, LLC

Ronald Esplin Farms, LP

Roossinck Orchards, Inc.

Roost Potato Co., Inc.

Roth Farms, General Partnership

Rounds Farms

Ruby Valley Pressure Wood Treatment and Post Co.

Ruth Farms LLC

Ryan Farms Partnership

Ryan Johnson Farms, LLC.

Sabala Farms, Inc.

Salmon Falls Land & Livestock Co.

Samantha Anderson

Sandy Bay Mink Ranch LLC

Sandy Bay Pet Food LLC

Santa Margarita Ranch, LLC

Santa Rosa Spring Ranch, L.P.

Schaeffer Farms, GP

Schilling Family Farms

Schultz Fruitridge Farms

Searle Land and Cattle, LLC

Shamrock Ranch, LLC

Shaw Land and Livestock

Shawn Wentzel DBA Alaska Ranch and DBA Spring Creek Seeds

Shoesole Farms, Inc

Shuter Sunset Farms Inc

Silver Oak Farms

Simmons Farms Partnership LLC

Skyline Agricultural Services, Inc.

Smith Cattle LLC

Snake River Daires, LLC

Southern Impact

Southside Farming, LLC

Specialty Crop Farm Labor Contractors, LLC

Spring Valley Associates, LLC

Stanley Isaac

Staplcotn

Stastny Canyon View Farms, Inc.

Stecklein Farms

Steiner Farms LLC

Strickland Farms

Sunrise Organic Dairy, LLC

Sunsweet Growers Inc.

SVF, Inc.

T L K Farms, Inc.

T&C Schlenner LLC

Taylor Smith Farms, LLC

Tellys Greenhouse

Templeton Family Farms

Terry Johnson

Teton Trees

The Turf Corporation

Third Day Orchard Company, LLC

Thomas Tilleman

Thompson Farms

Thompson Seed Potato, LLC

Thouvenel Harvesting

Titan Farms

Titmus Family Farms, LLC

Travis Christensen Farms, LLC

TRC Farms

TriAg GP

Triple B Farms, LLC

Twin Bee Orchards LLC

Uffelman Farms, Inc.

US-2 Farms, LLC

Val Wahlen Farms Vandervegt Dairy, LLC Vanisko Ranches Vernon H. Pecht Vista Orchards LLC

W R Cleverly

wafla

Walters & Walters, a Joint Venture

Walters Osgood Farms, LLC

Wayne Tinkler

Wes Beutler

Western Farms, Inc.

Westside General Partnership

Westview Orchards and Winery

Will Rowe Farm

Willbrandt Enterprises Inc.

William T. Sherbine

Windy Ridge Orchards LLC

Witt's End Farms

Wittenbach Orchards, LLC

Wolfe Brothers, Inc.

Wood Family Farms

Wood Family Partnership

Wooden Shoe Farms, LLC

WTR Martin Farms Partnership

Young's Riverfront Ranch, LP

Zach Beaudry Farm

Zito Farms, LLC

cc: U.S. Senate

cc: U.S. House of Representatives