

August 4, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Majority Leader  
United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives

Dear Leader Schumer and Speaker Pelosi,

The undersigned groups write in strong support of the more than \$21 billion investment in climate-smart agriculture and conservation technical assistance included in the Inflation Reduction Act. This would be the largest investment into agriculture conservation in decades and would be transformative for farmers, ranchers, and foresters across the country.

USDA's voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs enable producers to adopt practices that build soil health, sequester carbon, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while also improving surface and ground water quality, increasing water efficiency, creating habitat for fish and wildlife, and protecting agricultural lands for future generations. Farm Bill conservation programs are critically oversubscribed and meet only a fraction of the need for voluntary conservation on the landscape. Increasing funding for USDA's popular and effective Farm Bill conservation programs is one of the quickest and most practical ways to energize rural economies, improve climate resilience, and ensure that our nation's farmers, ranchers, and foresters are part of the solution to climate change.

Farmers, ranchers, and foresters are ready to adopt practices that sequester carbon and reduce emissions if they are provided the tools and resources to make that goal a reality. Increasing funding for the Farm Bill conservation programs and climate-smart agriculture and ramping up conservation technical assistance on the ground will enable landowners to mitigate the impacts of drought and flood, restore wildlife habitat, improve soil health and long-term food security, create new job opportunities for rural economies, and galvanize the agriculture sector to lead the charge in our fight against climate change.

Passing the Inflation Reduction Act represents the best opportunity in decades to meet farmer demand for conservation programs. The undersigned groups urge you to support the investments in the Inflation Reduction Act that support USDA agriculture conservation programs and conservation technical assistance.

Sincerely,

**National Groups and Companies:**

American Farmland Trust  
American Forest Foundation  
American Society of Agronomy  
American Sustainable Business Network  
Amy's Kitchen  
Bee Girl  
Bonterra Organic Estates

Carbon180  
Citizen's Climate Lobby  
Climate Positive Consulting  
Crop Science Society of America  
Danone North America, PBC  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Dr. Bronner's

Earthjustice  
Environmental Working Group  
Farm Aid  
Farmer Focus  
Food Animal Concerns Trust  
Hempstead Project Heart  
Indigo Ag  
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy  
International Certified Crop Advisors  
Izaak Walton League of America  
Johns Hopkins Center for a Liveable Future  
Land Trust Alliance  
League of Conservation Voters  
National Association of Conservation  
    Districts  
National Audubon Society  
National Center for Appropriate Technology  
National Deer Association  
National Latino Farmers and Ranchers  
National Mississippi River Museum &  
    Aquarium  
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition  
National Wildlife Federation  
National Young Farmers Coalition

Natural Resources Defense Council  
New Belgium Brewing  
North American Grouse Partnership  
Organic Farming Research Foundation  
Organic Valley / CROPP Cooperative  
Pesticide Action Network  
Pheasants Forever  
Plant Based Foods Association  
Pollinator Partnership  
Quail Forever  
River Network  
Rural Coalition  
Soil Science Society of America  
Stonyfield Organic  
The Breakthrough Institute  
The Conservation Fund  
The Nature Conservancy  
The Wildlife Society  
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
Trust for Public Land  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
Wallace Center at Winrock International  
Wild Farm Alliance  
World Wildlife Fund

**Regional, State, and Local Groups:**

AFGE Local 3354  
Alabama State Association of Cooperatives  
Association of IL Soil and Water  
    Conservation Districts  
Audubon of the Western Everglades  
California Climate & Agriculture Network  
California Farmers Union  
Capital Region Land Conservancy  
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association  
Center for Rural Affairs  
Chesapeake Bay Foundation  
Climate Land Leaders – Sharing Our Roots  
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.  
Community Alliance with Family Farmers  
Conservation Coalition of Oklahoma  
Conservation Federation of Missouri  
Darden’s Farm/Health Services  
Environmental Law & Policy Center

Florida Wildlife Federation  
Food in Neighborhoods Community Coalition  
Foodshed Capital  
Friends of the Mississippi River  
Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy  
Great Lakes Business Network  
Illinois Environmental Council  
Illinois Stewardship Alliance  
Indiana Sportsmen’s Roundtable  
Indiana Wildlife Federation  
Izaak Walton League of America – Bush Lake  
    Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America – Cypress  
    Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America – Damascus  
    Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America – Dwight  
    Lydell Chapter

Izaak Walton League of America – Florida  
Division  
Izaak Walton League of America – Florida  
Keys Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America – Fort  
Wayne Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America – Great  
Lakes Committee  
Izaak Walton League of America – Illinois  
Division  
Izaak Walton League of America – Mid-  
Shore Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America – Oregon  
Division  
Izaak Walton League of America – The Lois  
Green-Sligo Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America – Wildlife  
Achievement Chapter  
Kansas Wildlife Federation  
Lancaster Farmland Trust  
Land for Good  
Maine Farmland Trust  
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners  
Association  
Michigan Food & Farming Systems  
Michigan League of Conservation Voters  
Milwaukee Riverkeeper

Mississippi River Network  
Montana Wildlife Federation  
New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group  
North Dakota Wildlife Federation  
Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance  
Northeast Organic Farming Association of  
Vermont  
Northern Plains Resource Council (Soil Task  
Force)  
Oak Grove Presbyterian Green Committee  
Ohio Conservation Federation  
Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association  
Ohio Environmental Council  
Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts  
Oregon Agricultural Trust  
Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network  
Oregon Tilth  
Pasa Sustainable Agriculture  
PennFuture  
Prairie Rivers Network  
Savanna Institue  
Trostle Brothers, LLC  
Trout Unlimited – Illinois Council  
Vermont Land Trust  
Virginia Association for Biological Farming  
World Farmers Inc.

cc: The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States; The Honorable Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the Honorable David Scott, Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture