

May 25, 2021

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

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McCarthy, and Leader McConnell:

We the undersigned organizations are united both in our endorsement of the principles underlying the bicameral Agriculture Resilience Act (ARA; H.R. 2803/S. 1337) and the Climate Stewardship Act (CSA; H.R. 2534/S. 1072) and in our strong support for inclusion of key funding elements from those bills being included in the agriculture portion of the American Jobs Plan Act (AJPA) legislation.

More specifically, we endorse a robust AJPA investment in supporting agriculture to become more resilient and equitable and achieve the goal of negative emission farming. Such an investment, in our view, should be at least \$200 billion in size over the coming decade, should include farm bill conservation, research, renewable energy, energy efficiency, forestry, and regional food system and supply chain resilience programs, and should be in addition to the agriculture, forestry, and rural-related elements already contained in the President's American Jobs Plan.

We believe such an agriculture and climate package of at least \$200 billion would represent a fair share for agriculture, one that reflects both the urgent need for U.S. agriculture to adapt to a rapidly changing climate as well as the tremendous opportunity our farmers, ranchers, private forest owners, and rural small businesses have to contribute to climate change mitigation. It would enable at least a doubling of farm bill conservation program funding while also addressing other key underfunded areas in the urgent efforts needed to enhance agricultural resilience, improve soil health, sequester carbon in the soil, and reduce emissions from the agricultural sector.

We urge you to support such a robust agricultural investment as part of the infrastructure, climate and jobs legislation and encourage you to view the ARA and CSA as roadmaps for developing a comprehensive set of agricultural provisions for the AJPA. The two bills include proposed increases in funding, targeted to climate-smart agriculture, for a wide variety of highly successful existing programs.¹ These programs are oversubscribed and underfunded, seriously curtailing voluntary climate mitigation and adaptation opportunities for farms and ranches.

¹ Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, Conservation Innovation Grants, Climate Hubs, Community Food Projects, Community Forest and Open Space Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Conservation Technical Assistance, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Forest Stewardship Program, Foundation for Food and Agriculture

The bills also include significant funding for important new programs -- Assistance to States for Soil Health, Alternative Manure Management Program grants, long-term Grassland CRP enrollments, Soil Health Equipment Grants, and Meat and Poultry Processing Resilience grants -- recognizing gaps in current USDA programs that if implemented could significantly improve rural infrastructure and climate outcomes.

We believe all of these are worthy of inclusion in the AJPA as key building blocks for decarbonizing agriculture, building increased resilience, improving rural economies, and increasing job and farming opportunities.

Thank you for your ongoing bipartisan efforts to ensure that agriculture is part of the solution to climate change and part of the AJPA as it gets further developed by Congress. We hope you will support the inclusion of a comprehensive and robust farm conservation, agricultural research, renewable energy, forestry, and supply chain funding package as the legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

National Organizations and Businesses

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges	California Certified Organic Farmers
American College of Physicians	Carbon Cycle Institute
American Dairy Science Association	Carbon180
American Farmland Trust	Center For Food Safety
American Forests	Center for Regenerative Agriculture - CSUC
American Grassfed Association	Certified Naturally Grown
American Institute of Biological Sciences	Citizens Climate Lobby
American Sustainable Business Council	Climate Psychology Alliance North America
Amy's Kitchen	Compost for Good
Avocado Green Brands	CROPP Cooperative Organic Valley
Bagel+Slice	CSA Innovation Network
Bangasser & Associates	Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship
Ben & Jerry's	Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action
BioGenesis	Deep Roots Market
Blue Pacific Flavors, Inc.	Digital Green
Breakthrough Strategies & Solutions	Dirigo Food Safety

Research, Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative, Local Agriculture Marketing Program, Long-Term Agroecological Research Network, Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative, Organic Certification Cost-Share Program, National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service (ATTRA), Regional Conservation Partnership Program, Rural Energy for America Program, and Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program.

E2 (Environmental Entrepreneurs)	Izaak Walton League of America
Earthjustice	Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future
Echo78	Jungle Project
ecoartspace	Karen Karp & Partners (KK&P)
ECOfashion Corp	Kiss the Ground
Entomological Society of America	Land and Leadership Initiative
Environmental Law & Policy Center	Land Core
Environmental Working Group	Laurie M. Tisch Center for Food, Education & Policy, Teachers College, Columbia University
Family Farm Action	LeBel Marketing
Farm Aid	Life Pivot
Farm Journal Foundation	Locus Fermentation Solutions, LLC
Farmers Market Coalition	Made of Myth, LLC
FarmRaise	MegaFood
FASS	Mothers Out Front
Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)	National Center for Appropriate Technology
Food Democracy Now!	National Farmers Union
Food Law and Policy Clinic, Harvard Law School	National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association
Food Roots Consulting	National Organic Coalition
FoodCorps	National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
Found Simple, LLC	National Wildlife Federation
Funders for Regenerative Agriculture	National Young Farmers Coalition
Gone West Global	Natreve
Great Plains Regeneration	Natural Capitalism Solutions
Green America	Natural Resources Defense Council
Grow with Hemp	Naturepedic Organic Mattresses
Guayaki Yerba Mate	Next Chapter AG
HavenBMedia	Non-Toxic Neighborhoods(TM)
Hazon	North American Grouse Partnership
Health Care Without Harm	Ocean River Institute
Hunger Free America	Okina
Hunt Green, LLC	Open Rivers Consulting Associates
Indigo Agriculture	OpenTEAM (Open Technology Ecosystem for Agricultural Management)
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy	Optimistic Orchard
Interfaith Power & Light	

Oregon Tilth	Source Organic
Organic Consumers Association	Stonyfield
Organic Farmers Agency for Relationship Marketing (OFARM)	Sunrise Movement
Organic Farmers Association	Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR) Foundation
Organic Farming Research Foundation	Sustainable Agriculture and Food System Funders
Organic Seed Alliance	Sustainable Harvest International
Organic Trade Association	Syndesi Wellness
OrganiLock, Inc	The Fair Carbon Exchange
Pesticide Action Network	The Food Trust
Planetary C.A.R.E.	The Foodocracy Group
Propagate Ventures	The Good Home Company
Pure Strategies	The Great Healing, LLC
R K Invest Law, PBC	The Optimist Daily
Regenerative Organic Alliance	The Organic & Non-GMO Report
Regenerative Rising	The Wallace Center
Rodale Institute	TomKat Ranch
Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA (RAFI-USA)	Toodaloo Superfoods
Scarabée Regenerative	Trailhead Capital
Schneider	Union of Concerned Scientists
Sierra Club	US Composting Council
Slice of Kaake Consulting	Walk Your Talk Productions
Slow Food USA	Web of Life Products
Slow Food Youth Network	Wellness in the Schools, Inc.
Socially Responsible Agriculture Project	Wild Farm Alliance
Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior	Wolf & Associates
Soil and Water Conservation Society	World Wildlife Fund
Soil Centric	Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation
Soil4Climate	Young Entertainment Activists
SOLI	Zero Foodprint
	Zoom Out Mycology, LLC

State, Local and Regional Organizations and Businesses

350 Seattle	Washington	Advocates for Clean & Clear Waterways	Florida
-------------	------------	---------------------------------------	---------

African Alliance of Rhode Island	Rhode Island	Central Mass Grown	Massachusetts
AGA Stropes RSK Farm	Missouri	CHA CHA Clean Healthy Altadena	California
Alliance for the Great Lakes	Illinois	Chesapeake Bay Foundation	District of Columbia (DC)
Alabama Interfaith Power & Light	Alabama	Chisholm Trail Beef Cooperative	Texas
Antelope Springs Ranch	Montana	Civic Works	Maryland
Appalachian Sustainable Development	Virginia	Clean Wisconsin	Wisconsin
Apricot Lane Farms	California	Climate Land Leaders	Minnesota
Arizona Food Systems Network	Arizona	Coastal Enterprises, Inc.	Maine
Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council	North Carolina	Colorado Farm and Food Alliance	Colorado
Backyardfarmschool	North Carolina	Columbia Land Conservancy	New York
Baird Creek Preservation Foundation	Wisconsin	Common Roots Farm	California
Barney Creek Livestock	Montana	Community Alliance with Family Farmers	California
Berkshire Grown, Inc.	Massachusetts	Community Farm Alliance	Kentucky
BHC Studio	Georgia	Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA)	Massachusetts
Blackbird Meadows Farm, LLC	Ohio	Compañeras Campesinas	North Carolina
Boise State University	Idaho	Conrad Hill Farm	New York
Boone County Public Health and Human Services	Missouri	Conservation Law Foundation	Massachusetts
Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program	New Mexico	Cornucopia Community Advocates	Arizona
Boulder Lamb dab Buckner Family Ranch	Colorado	Coulee Creek Ranch	Montana
Bread Riot	North Carolina	Cousins Compost, LLC	Indiana
Brighter Day Natural Foods Market	Georgia	Crawford Stewardship Project	Wisconsin
California Climate Action Corps	California	CUESA (Center for Urban Education about Sustainable Agriculture)	California
California Climate and Agriculture Network	California	Cultivate Charlottesville	Virginia
California Compost Coalition	California	Dakota Rural Action	South Dakota
Carbon Sink Farms	California	Dancing TreePeople Farm	California
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association	North Carolina	Dawson Family Farms	Kansas
Catskill Mountainkeeper	New York	Deelstra Dairy	Idaho
Cedar Trails Longhorns LLC	Oklahoma	Denver Urban Gardens	Colorado
Center for Health Innovation	New Mexico	Dogwood Farm Natural Grassfed Beef	Kentucky
Center for Land-Based Learning	California	Douglas Farms	Washington
		Drawing Conclusions LLC	New York

Driftless Area Land Conservancy	Wisconsin	Foodshed Capital	Virginia
Dubuque County Food Policy Council	Iowa	Foraged & Sown Organic Farm	Ohio
Eames Institute	California	Fossil Free Tompkins	New York
Earth First Gardening	Illinois	Franklin County Local Food Council	Ohio
Earth Heart Farms	Ohio	Freshlist	North Carolina
Egly Land & Cattle LLC	Michigan	Friends of Family Farmers	Oregon
End Hunger Durham	North Carolina	Fruitful Earth Farms	Florida
Endangered Habitats League	California	Fundamental Farms, LLP	Colorado
Environmental Consulting for Agriculture	California	Garden City Grown	New Jersey
Erin DeMarco's Ranch	Arizona	Gardens for Humanity	Arizona
Fair Farms	Maryland	Garnetts Red Prairie Farm	Oregon
Fair Shares	Missouri	Grassburger	Colorado
FairShare CSA Coalition	Wisconsin	Grassworks	Wisconsin
Falkner Farms	Mississippi	Green Dubuque	Iowa
Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance	Texas	Green State Solutions	Iowa
Farm to Table - New Mexico	New Mexico	Green Valley Farm + Mill	California
Farmers Market Management Services	North Carolina	Grow Food Northampton	Massachusetts
Farmworker Association of Florida	Florida	GROW North Texas	Texas
Feast Down East, Inc	North Carolina	Habitat Works	California
FEED Kitchens	Wisconsin	Harmony Hills Farm	Missouri
Fibershed	California	Harpeth Conservancy	Tennessee
Florida Division of the Izaak Walton League of America	Florida	Harrison County, Indiana Cattlemen's Association	Indiana
Florida Food Policy Council	Florida	Hawaii Farmers Union United	Hawaii
Florida Keys Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America	Florida	Healthy Food For All of Dane County	Wisconsin
Fondy Food Center	Wisconsin	Healthy Gulf	Louisiana
Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC	North Carolina	Healthy Way Market	Wisconsin
Food Bank of Wilmington North Carolina	North Carolina	Here We Are Farm	New York
Food Climate Strategies	California	High Desert Food and Farm Alliance	Oregon
Food Shift	California	Hillside Solutions	Nebraska
Food Works	Illinois	Illinois Division Izaak Walton League	Illinois
FoodShare South Carolina	South Carolina	Illinois Stewardship Alliance	Illinois
		Indian Ridge Farm LLC	Colorado

Indiana Division - Izaak Walton League of America	Indiana	Michael Fields Agricultural Institute	Wisconsin
Inheritance Farms	North Carolina	Michigan Food & Farming Systems	Michigan
Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative, A Project of Multiplier	California	Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance	Michigan
Iowa Environmental Council	Iowa	Michigan Student Power	Michigan
Iowa Interfaith Power & Light	Iowa	Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service	Wisconsin
Iowa Organic Association	Iowa	Milk Maid Meadows	Tennessee
Island Grown Initiative	Massachusetts	Mind Body & Soil	Wisconsin
JA Swanson PLLC	Texas	Mindful Waste	Illinois
JPR Acres	Minnesota	Mississippi River Collaborative	Tennessee
Kaolin Beauty	Massachusetts	Missouri Coalition for the Environment	Missouri
Kewaunee CARES	Wisconsin	Montana Organic Association	Montana
Kitchen Confidence	North Carolina	Montgomery County Food Council	Maryland
Land For Good	New Hampshire	Nebraska Interfaith Power & Light	Nebraska
Land Stewardship Project	Minnesota	New England Farmers Union	New Hampshire
Lightning S Cattle	Texas	New Entry Sustainable Farming Project	Massachusetts
Linear City Development, LLC	California	New Mexico Agriculture Policy Council	New Mexico
Living Systems Design, LLC	Alaska	New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group	New Mexico
Local Food Hub	Virginia	New Roots Charter School	New York
Local Matters	Ohio	New York Wine & Grape Foundation	New York
Locke Ranch	California	North Texas School Garden Network	Texas
Loma Mar Store	California	Northeast Fasteners Co., Inc.	Massachusetts
Lone Willow Ranch	California	Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance	Massachusetts
Lydia B Stokes Foundation	Vermont	Northeast Organic Farmers Association of Rhode Island	Rhode Island
Maine Conservation Voters	Maine	Northeast Organic Farming Association of Massachusetts	Massachusetts
Maine Farmland Trust	Maine	Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire	New Hampshire
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association	Maine	Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York	New York
Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Society	Massachusetts	Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont	Vermont
Massachusetts Food System Collaborative	Massachusetts		
Maui Bees, Inc.	Hawaii		
Men and Women United for Youth & Families, CDC	North Carolina		
Mentoring Positives, Inc.	Wisconsin		

Northeast Organic Farming Association-Interstate Council	New Jersey	Red Leg Farms	Michigan
Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group	New York	REGENERATE OKLAHOMA	Oklahoma
Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides	Oregon	Regenerative Ecology, Inc.	California
Northwest Farmers Union	Oregon	Resilient Biosystems, LLC	South Carolina
OHBA	Texas	Restoration Farm	Indiana
Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association	Ohio	RI Nursery and Landscape Association	Rhode Island
oil to soil	Delaware	River Country RC&D, Inc.	Wisconsin
Ojai Valley Green Coalition	California	Rochester Institute of Technology	New York
OneVet OneVoice	California	Roots, Fruits and Shoots, LLC	Ohio
Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network	Oregon	Rowan Farm and Food Network	North Carolina
Oregon Organic Coalition	Oregon	Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition	Oregon
Organic Association of Kentucky	Kentucky	Rustic Canyon Family of Restaurants	California
Organicxx Matters	California	Sacramento Food Policy Council	California
Oshala Farm	Oregon	San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc.	California
Otter Creek Farm	New York	Santa Barbara Blueberries	California
Our Family Farms	Oregon	Savanna Institute	Illinois
Pasa Sustainable Agriculture	Pennsylvania	Scenic Hudson	New York
PCC Community Markets	Washington	Sebastopol Farmers Market	California
Peconic Land Trust	New York	SGM Livestock, LLC	California
Pennsylvania Council of Churches	Pennsylvania	Sierra Harvest	California
People for Protecting Peace River	Florida	Singing Earth Foundation	Utah
Pettit Pastures, LLC	Minnesota	Slow Food Atlanta	Georgia
Pima County Food Alliance	Arizona	Slow Food Boulder County	Colorado
Pinnacle Prevention	Arizona	Slow Food California	California
Pittsburgh Food Policy Council	Pennsylvania	Slow Food Chicago	Illinois
Postmus Dairy, LLC	Texas	Slow Food Denver	Colorado
Potomac Vegetable Farms	Virginia	Slow Food East Bay	California
Potrero Nuevo Farm	California	Slow Food Florida	Florida
Provender Alliance	Oregon	Slow Food Gold and Treasure Coast	Florida
PTB Farm	North Carolina	Slow Food Indianapolis	Indiana
Q Farms	Connecticut	Slow Food Russian River	California
Récolte Energy	California	Slow Food Sonoma County North	California

Slow Food Upstate	South Carolina	The Trustees of Reservations	Massachusetts
Slow Food Vegas	Nevada	TINLA	Rhode Island
Slow Food WiSE	Wisconsin	The People's Justice Council	Alabama
Snowville Creamery	Ohio	Top Leaf Farms	California
Snug Haven Farm, LLC	Wisconsin	Town of Camp Verde Economic Development Department	Arizona
Soil Carbon Partners, LLC	New Jersey	Toxic Free North Carolina	North Carolina
Sow A Heart Farm	California	True Places Permaculture & Travel	Texas
Speak Out Loud, Inc.	Ohio	Turtle Creek Gardens, LLC	Wisconsin
St Stephen's Food Bank Branch of Riverbend	Iowa	University of Illinois Champaign Urbana College of Medicine	Illinois
Stafford Hills Equitation	Oregon	Urban Harvest STL	Missouri
Starry Nights Farm	Wisconsin	Valley Vision	California
Straus Family Creamery	California	Virginia Association for Biological Farming	Virginia
Students for Environmental Action	Oregon	Warnecke Ranch and Vineyards	California
Stuenkel Farms	Kansas	Western Organic Dairy Producers	California
Suncoast Sierra Club	Florida	Wildlife Mississippi	Mississippi
Sunny Day Farms	Kansas	Wind Dance Farm & Earth Education Center	West Virginia
Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts	Massachusetts	Windy Oaks Grassfed	Texas
Sustainable Food Center	Texas	Wisconsin Farmers Union	Wisconsin
Sustainable Nantucket	Massachusetts	Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association	Wisconsin
Sustainable Technologies	California	Woodland Farms	Massachusetts
Sustainable Westerville	Ohio	Woodshed gardens	California
SustainFloyd Foundation	Virginia	Working Landscapes	North Carolina
Tennessee Clean Water Network	Tennessee	World Farmers	Massachusetts
Terra Advocati	Texas	Wynbrandt Farms	California
The Berry Center	Kentucky	Yellow Barn Farm Foundation	Colorado
The Land Connection	Illinois		
The Nurtury	Virginia		
The Savanna Institute	Wisconsin		

cc: The Honorable Debbie Stabenow, Chairwoman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
The Honorable John Boozman, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
The Honorable David Scott, Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture
The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson, Ranking Member, House Committee on Agriculture

The Honorable Bernie Sanders, Chairman, Senate Committee on the Budget
The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on the Budget
The Honorable John Yarmuth, Chairman, House Committee on the Budget
The Honorable Jason Smith, Ranking Member, House Committee on the Budget