

November 2, 2007

Dear Senator,

The nearly 170 undersigned organizations, representing hundreds of thousands of citizens, strongly urge you to include livestock market and contract poultry reforms in the Senate version of the Farm Bill. You can support entrepreneurial, innovative American farmers, ranchers and growers by opposing destructive price manipulation, unfair contracts and the decline of independent agriculture.

Next week the Senate will debate the Farm Bill approved by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. The bill that was reported out of Committee includes a Livestock Title with many significant reforms which we strongly support. Multiple amendments will be offered to add or remove various provisions on the Senate floor. Therefore, we have prepared the attached Voting Guide for your convenience. It provides the united positions of all signatory groups—both for and against—on potential Senate floor amendments related to livestock market and contract reform.

Your support can ensure the 2007 Senate Farm Bill will expand producer marketing opportunities and enhance producer protections. Livestock markets can be competitive instead of controlled. Agricultural contracts can be fair instead of oppressive. Price manipulation can be eliminated instead of encouraged. Independent agriculture can be strong instead of marginalized.

Our organizations place a high priority on these issues.

Sincerely,

Alternative Energy Resources Organization (AERO), MT	American Agriculture Movement	Executive Committee (IL)
Adams County Farmers Union (ND)	American Corn Growers Association	Bronx Greens (NY)
Ag. and Land Based Training Association (CA)	Appalachian Crafts/Ross' Creek Farm (KY)	Buckeye Quality Beef Association (OH)
Agricultural Missions Agriculture of the Middle	Association of Family Farms	California Black Farmers and Agriculturalists Association
Alabama Contract Poultry Growers Association	Berkshire Co-op Market (MA)	California Dairy Campaign
Alliance for a Sustainable Future (PA)	Big River Economic and Development Alliance (BREADA) (LA)	California Farmers Union
	Bird Conservation Network	California Institute for Rural Studies
		Californians for GE-Free Agriculture
		Campaign for Contract

Agriculture Reform Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment	Endangered Habitats League (CA)	Institute for Ag and Trade Policy
Catholic Archdiocese of Dubuque Rural Life & Community Development (IA)	Family Farm Defenders (WI)	Intertribal Agriculture Council
Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph Inc. (MO)	Family Farmer Organization, Inc. (MT)	Iowa Farmers Union
Catholic Charities of Louisville, Parish Social Ministry Dept. (KY)	Farm Aid	Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement
Cattle Producers of Washington	Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance	Just Food (NY)
Center for Food Safety	Farm Fresh Rhode Island	Justice and Peace Ministry
Center for Rural Affairs	FH King Students of Sustainable Agriculture at UW Madison (WI)	Catholic Charities – Chemung County (NY)
Center of Concern	Florida Certified Organic Growers & Consumers, Inc	Kansas Cattlemen's Association
Chemung County (NY)	Food Alliance (OR)	Kansas City Food Circle
Church Women United	Food and Water Watch	Kansas Farmers Union
Chemung County Council of Churches (NY)	Foodshed Alliance of the Ridge and Valley (NJ)	Kansas Rural Center
Church Women United of NYS	Friends of Rural Alabama	La C.A.S.A. de Llano (TX)
City Seed (CT)	Georgia Organics	Ladies of Charity of Chemung County (NY)
Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Assn.	Georgia Poultry Justice Alliance	Land Stewardship Project (MN)
Concerned Citizens of Central Ohio	Grassroots International	Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (ME)
Cornucopia Institute (WI)	Harvest Co-op Market (MA)	McKenzie County Energy and Taxation Association (North Dakota)
Corson County Farmers Union (SD)	Harding County Stockgrowers Association (SD)	Merced-Mariposa Cattlemen's Association (CA)
Court St Joseph #139	Heartland Center (IN)	Michigan Farmers Union
Catholic Daughters of the Americas Corning, NY	Hispanic Farmers and Ranchers of America	Mill Creek Farm (PA)
Cumberland Counties for Peace & Justice (TN)	Horseheads Grange #1118	Minnesota Farmers Union
Dakota Resource Council (ND)	Idaho Rural Council	Minnesota Project
Dakota Rural Action (SD)	Illinois Stewardship Alliance	Mississippi Contract Poultry Growers Assn.
Daughters of the Americas, Chemung and Steuben Counties (NY)	Independent Beef Association of North Dakota	Mississippi Livestock Markets Association
	Independent Cattlemen of Nebraska	Missouri Farmers Union
	Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas	Missouri Rural Crisis Center
	Wyoming	Montana Cattlemen Assn.
		Montana Farmers Union
		National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture
		National Catholic Rural

Life Conference	Society	Catholic Charities,
National Contract Poultry	Ohio Environmental	Diocese of Sioux City, IA
Growers Association	Council	South Dakota District VI
National Family Farm	Ohio Farmers Union	Farmers Union
Coalition (NFFC)	Oklahoma Black Historical	South Dakota
National Farmers	Research Project, Inc.	Stockgrowers Assn.
Organization	Oregon Livestock	
National Farmers Union	Producer Assn.	Southern Research &
National Hmong	Oregon Tilth	Development Corporation
American	Organic Consumers Assn.	(LA)
Farmers, Inc.	Organic Seed Alliance	Southern Sustainable
	Organization for	Agriculture. Working
National Latino Farmers	Competitive Markets	Group
& Ranchers Trade Assn.	Pennsylvania Assn. for	Spokane County
National Poultry Justice	Sustainable Agriculture	Cattlemen's Assn. (WA)
Alliance	Pennsylvania Farmers	St John the Baptist
National Women Involved	Union	Fraternity of the Secular
in Farm Economics	Pesticide Action Network	Franciscan Order,
Nebraska Farmers Union	North America Regional	Elmira NY
Nebraska Women	Center (PANNA)	Stevens County
Involved	Platte County Farm Bureau	Cattlemen's Assn. (WA)
in Farm Economics	(NE)	Sustainable Agriculture
Network for	Powder River Basin	Coalition
Environmental &	Resource Council (WY)	Texas Farmers Union
Economic	Puget Consumers Co-op	The Farm and Food Policy
Responsibility (TN)	Farmland Fund (WA)	Diversity Initiative
New England Small Farm	R-CALF USA	Tilth Producers of
Institute	Red Tomato (NY)	Washington
Nojoqui Ranch Produce	Regional Farm and Food	United Hmong Association
North Carolina Contract	Project, New York	United States Cattlemen's
Poultry Growers Assn.	Rochester Roots (NY)	Association
Northeast Organic Dairy	Rocky Mountain Farmers	Valley Stewardship
Producers Alliance	Union	Network (WI)
Northeast Organic	Rural Advancement	Virginia Association for
Farming	Foundation Int'l - USA	Biological Farming
Assoc. - New York	Rural Coalition/Coalición	Washington Heights CSA
Northeast Organic	Rural	(NY)
Farming	Rural Life Committee of	West Carroll Cattlemen's
Assoc., Vermont	the North Dakota	Association (LA)
Northern Plains	Conference of Churches	Western Organization of
Conference of the	Selene Whole Foods	Resource Councils
United Church of Christ	Co-op (PA)	(WORC)
Northern Plains Resource	Sevananda Natural Foods	Western Plains Action
Council	Market (NE)	Group (SD)
Northern Plains	Social Concerns Office,	Western Sustainable
Sustainable Agriculture	Rural Life Department,	Agriculture Working

Group
Willie C. Velasquez

Institute (TX)
Wisconsin Farmers Union