

June 29, 2017

The Vice President
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20501

Dear Mr. Vice President:

America's farmers and ranchers appreciate the commitments that you and President Trump have made to rebuilding our farm economy and rural America. We are grateful for the actions taken so far to reduce the regulatory burden and to fuel economic growth.

We know that you are well aware, however, that these are challenging times in agriculture. Farm income is forecast to drop again this year as record supplies continue to depress commodity prices below the cost of production. To restore profitability to the farm sector, we need greater access to critical international markets. In the absence of rapid market growth, our members need a strong farm program that can serve as a bridge until we return to profitability. We would like to meet with you to discuss the Trump Administration's commitment to these two objectives.

We are concerned that President Trump's decisions to withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership and re-negotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement may undermine future market access rather than assist in building new markets for agriculture. Likewise, proposed budget cuts in the Farm Bill, including the proposed elimination of market development funds, threaten our farm programs and our opportunity to build markets that can ensure future prosperity within rural America.

Our three organizations are seeking a meeting between you and the farmer-leaders and staff of our organizations. We are hoping that we could schedule a meeting as soon as the week of July 10th, but we understand the demands upon your schedule, so we are happy to work with your staff to find the first available opportunity.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests. We look forward to meeting with you and continuing this important dialogue.

Sincerely,



Wesley Spurlock, President
National Corn
Growers Association



Ron Moore, President
American Soybean
Association

David Schemm, President
National Association of
Wheat Growers

cc: Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-ND)