

August 28, 2018-via Email

The Hon. Pat Roberts  
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on  
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry  
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Mike Conaway  
Chairman, U.S. House Committee on  
Agriculture  
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Debbie Stabenow  
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on  
Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry  
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Collin Peterson  
Ranking Member, U.S. House Committee  
on Agriculture  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support for Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR)**

Dear Senators Roberts and Stabenow and Congressmen Conaway and Peterson:

The Senate-passed Farm Bill contains enhanced funding of \$200 million for the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR). The undersigned urge conferees to include this provision in the final conference report. With U.S. agriculture facing increasing uncertainty, we strongly support these efforts to bring more resources and private sector collaboration to the table to ensure that American agriculture has the tools and technology to maintain their comparative edge globally.

Public investments in food and agricultural research have made U.S. agriculture the most productive in the world and a bright spot in our economy, with exports reaching \$152 billion in 2014. Today, U.S. farmers are struggling with low food prices, pests and disease, trade concerns, poor weather, and growing competition from countries like China and Brazil. To ensure American farmers have the best technology available to adapt to these challenges, we urge Congress to support smart research models like FFAR and other mandatory funding for agricultural research in the Farm Bill.

Established in the 2014 Farm Bill with an initial investment of \$200 million, FFAR is a unique public-private model for agriculture research, which matches each public dollar with at least one dollar of non-federal funding. This means that the U.S. government's \$200 million investment in FFAR will deliver more than \$400 million in scientific programming to benefit farmers and our food system, providing significant value for American taxpayers. By partnering with companies, foundations, universities, trade associations, and philanthropies, FFAR collaborates to solve some of the most crucial issues facing food and agriculture, such as improving yield through photosynthesis efficiency, providing emergency response to emerging pests and pathogens, improving soil and pollinator health, seeking the potential of vertical farming and utilizing big data to improve farmer profitability.

Thank you for your consideration and for your leadership on food and agricultural research, extension and education.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics**  
**AeroFarms**  
**Agricenter International**  
**Agricultural Retailers Association**  
**Algae Biomass Organization**  
**American Angus Association**  
**American Association of Avian Pathologists**  
**American Association of Mycobacterial Diseases**  
**American Dairy Science Association**  
**American Feed Industry Association**  
**American Phytopathological Society**  
**American Public Gardens Association**  
**American Samoa Community College Land Grant Program**  
**American Seed Trade Association**  
**American Society for Horticultural Science**  
**American Society for Nutrition**  
**American Society of Agronomy**  
**American Society of Animal Science**  
**American Society of Animal Science**  
**American Society of Plant Biologists**  
**American Society of Plant Biologists**  
**Animal Digestible Food Packaging Initiative**  
**Aquatic Plant Management Society**  
**Association of 1890 Research Directors, Inc.**  
**Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges**  
**Auvermann Enterprises, Inc.**  
**Benson Hill Biosystems**  
**Biogemma**  
**Campbell Soup Company**  
**Cedar Basin Crop Consulting , Inc.**  
**Center for Environmental Farming Systems**  
**Cherry Marketing Insitute**  
**Chicken & Egg Association of Minnesota**  
**Colorado State University**  
**Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station**  
**Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**  
**Council for Agricultural Science and Technology**

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**Crop Science Society of America**  
**CropLife America**  
**Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute, University of Nebraska**  
**Edesia**  
**Elo Life Systems**  
**Entomological Society of America**  
**Fair Food Network**  
**Farm Journal Foundation**  
**FASS, Inc.**  
**Fats and Proteins Research Foundation**  
**Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association**  
**Food Marketing Institute**  
**Food Tank**  
**Georgia Tech Research Institute**  
**Global Cold Chain Alliance**  
**Global Harvest Initiative**  
**Greenway Farms**  
**Grow to Market**  
**Heuristic Management, LLC**  
**III Ag, LLC**  
**Illinois Pork Producers Association**  
**Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)**  
**Iowa Corn Growers Association**  
**Iowa Pork Producers Association**  
**Iowa Poultry Association**  
**Iowa State University**  
**Irrigation Association**  
**Kansas Wheat Commission**  
**Kirchner Food Fellowship**  
**Kirchner Group**  
**Limagrain**  
**Marrone Bio Innovations**  
**Michigan State University AgBioResearch**  
**Minnesota Pork Producers Association**  
**Minnesota Turkey Growers Association**  
**Mississippi State University**  
**Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals Multistate Initiative**  
**National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science**  
**National Association of State Departments of Agriculture**  
**National Chicken Council**

**National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR)**  
**National Corn Growers Association**  
**National Grange**  
**National Pork Producers Council**  
**National Renderers Association**  
**National Turfgrass Federation, Inc.**  
**New Mexico State University**  
**Noble Research Institute, LLC**  
**North American Millers' Association**  
**North Carolina State University**  
**Ohio Soybean Association**  
**Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences**  
**Pennsylvania State Grange**  
**PepsiCo**  
**Pollinator Partnership**  
**Purdue University**  
**Rijk Zwaan - USA**  
**Soil Health Institute**  
**Soil Science Society of America**  
**Sugar Association**  
**Sustainable Food Center**  
**Sustainable Phosphorus Alliance**  
**SyNRGE, LLC**  
**Texas Poultry Federation**  
**The Conservation Fund**  
**The Fertilizer Institute**  
**The National Grazing Lands Coalition**  
**The University of Florida**  
**The University of Georgia**  
**United Egg Producers**  
**University of California Davis**  
**University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR)**  
**University of California, Riverside**  
**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**  
**University of Minnesota**  
**University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture**  
**US Dairy Forage Research Center Stakeholder Committee**  
**US Poultry & Egg Association**  
**USPOULTRY Foundation**  
**Veterinarians Without Borders**  
**Villwock Farms**

**Wallace Center at Winrock International**  
**Washington State University**  
**Weed Science Society of America**  
**Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development**  
**Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture and the Environment**  
**World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association**

CC: Conferees