

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 16, 2023

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on
Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Stabenow and Ranking Member Boozman,

Thank you for your efforts to support our nation's farmers, foresters, and rural communities through your work leading the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee. As Senators representing Georgia and Alabama, we write to express support for the careful consideration of Southeastern agricultural priorities throughout the Farm Bill drafting process.

Agriculture is one of the leading industries in both Georgia and Alabama, contributing billions annually to our state's economies. From pecans and peanuts, to cotton, specialty crops, and forests, Southeastern agriculture plays a significant role in our nation's agricultural profile and should play a significant role in this year's Farm Bill reauthorization process.

We are already working in a bipartisan fashion to ensure our constituents' concerns are addressed through the introduction of several historic pieces of legislation. Specifically, we are seeking to extend and make permanent the Feral Swine Eradication and Control Pilot Program to reduce the threat feral swine pose to our farmers' land, livelihoods, and bottom lines. Additionally, through the recently introduced *Farm Board Act*, we aim to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation's Board of Directors to ensure it is representative of our nation's livestock and underserved producers. To aid our foresters, we partnered on the *Disaster Reforestation Act* to carve out a tax deduction for losses of uncut timber.

Other top priorities for the Southeastern states in this Farm Bill include protecting critical crop insurance and farm safety net programs, addressing disaster assistance programs, advocating for specialty crop producers, and deploying broadband in our rural communities. Considering the Farm Bill is often a regional negotiation more than a political one, we appreciate the opportunity to jointly advance the bipartisan priorities of our farmers, foresters, and producers across the Southeast.

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Thank you for your consideration of our important requests. Southeastern agriculture is vital to our nation's economy and food security, and we believe it is our duty to advocate on behalf of our producers. We look forward to working with members of the Committee to forge a Farm Bill that reflects our commitment to our states' producers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Warnock" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Raphael Warnock
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tommy Tuberville" in a cursive style.

Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator