

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 27, 2023

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, & Forestry
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, & Forestry
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Glenn Thompson
Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture,
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable David Scott
Ranking Member
House Committee on Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Stabenow, Ranking Member Boozman, Chair Thompson, and Ranking Member Scott,

As you consider the 2023 Farm Bill, we write to express our support for the inclusion of measures that address PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) contamination, particularly in rural communities. Including these provisions is critical to the health and economic prosperity of the agricultural sector.

The use of PFAS chemicals in various industrial and commercial applications has led to widespread contamination, posing a significant threat to our environment, public health, and agricultural systems. Farmers and rural communities, in particular, bear the brunt of this contamination, as it affects their drinking water, soil quality, and livestock health. It is imperative that we take decisive action to provide assistance and relief to those affected by PFAS. We therefore urge the Senate Agriculture Committee to include the following bipartisan legislation in the 2023 Farm Bill:

1. **The Healthy H2O Act:** This legislation aims to address PFAS contamination in water supplies by providing funding for water testing, treatment, and remediation. By allocating resources to support the implementation of effective PFAS filtration systems, we can ensure that farmers and rural communities have access to clean and safe water, protecting both human health and agricultural productivity.
2. **The Relief for Farmers Hit with PFAS Act:** This bill seeks to provide financial assistance and support to farmers affected by PFAS contamination. By establishing a comprehensive assistance program, we can help farmers mitigate the economic burdens resulting from PFAS-related disruptions and implement necessary remediation efforts. Additionally, this act can support research and education initiatives to enhance farmers' awareness and understanding of PFAS risks and best management practices.

By including the Healthy H2O Act and the Relief for Farmers Hit With PFAS Act in the Farm Bill, Congress can demonstrate our commitment to the well-being of our agricultural sector and rural communities. These provisions will not only offer crucial assistance to farmers affected by

PFAS contamination, but also contribute to the long-term sustainability of our water and food production systems and safeguard public health.

Together, we can work towards protecting our farmers, our rural communities, and our natural resources from the devastating impacts of PFAS contamination. Thank you for your attention to this matter and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



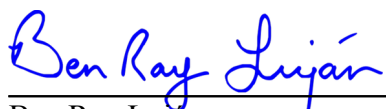
Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Jared Golden
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator