Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 20, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader, U.S. Senate 317 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Charles Schumer Minority Leader, U.S. Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McConnell and Senator Schumer:

As you take up the nomination of Governor Sonny Perdue as the next Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the undersigned members of the Georgia Delegation would like to express our strong support for his confirmation.

Governor Perdue was born and raised on a farm and spent his youth in a farming community. After graduating from the University of Georgia and serving in the United States Air Force, Governor Perdue continued in the agricultural community as a practicing veterinarian as well as founding and managing a successful agribusiness operation.

Governor Perdue took his passion and knowledge of the agricultural industry to the State Capitol, where he championed agriculture policy for eleven years in the Georgia State Senate. In 2002, he was elected as Georgia's 81st Governor. During his eight years as Governor, Sonny Perdue turned around Georgia's debt, built a large surplus, created thousands of jobs, and brought an unprecedented level of new business to Georgia.

With his clear skills in governing, we believe he would be a tremendous asset to the nationwide farming community, bringing sound economic principles, farming knowledge, and the ability to manage multiple interests exceptionally well. Lastly, Governor Perdue is a man of impeccable character, with a strong sense of compassion for others, who would serve the agriculture community well.

Governor Perdue is well qualified to serve as the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and we look forward to working with him as part of the administration.

Sincerely,

Barry Loudermilk

Member of Congress

David Scott

Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress

A. Drew Ferguson IV DMD
Member of Congress

Doug Collins
Member of Congress

Jody Hice
Member of Congress

Austri Seatt

Austin Scott

Member of Congress

Tom Graves
Member of Congress

Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

Rob Woodall
Rob Woodall
Member of Congress