

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

September 22, 2016

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

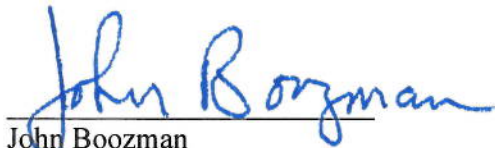
We write to you in strong support of Governor Asa Hutchinson's request for a disaster declaration for Carroll, Clay, Craighead, Independence, Jackson, Lawrence, Lincoln, Madison, Prairie, Randolph, White, and Woodruff counties.

As you know, flooding in counties in Northeast Arkansas has caused significant damage and has been devastating to many communities. The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture estimates that the total damage to Arkansas crops is in the range of \$45.6 million to \$50 million.

Agriculture is Arkansas's largest industry, and this disaster, in combination with low commodity prices, is a significant hardship for many producers in Arkansas.

We thank you for your attention to this critical issue and urge your swift consideration and approval of the state's request. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



John Boozman
U.S. Senator



Tom Cotton
U.S. Senator



Rick Crawford
U.S. Representative



French Hill
U.S. Representative



Steve Womack
U.S. Representative



Bruce Westerman
U.S. Representative