

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 29, 2014

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20250-0002

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

We are writing to ask for your continued assistance in a matter concerning Arkansas farmers who had contracts broken with the grain broker, Turner Grain Merchandising Inc. and have not received compensation for delivered grain.

Last fall, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) extended loan repayment dates for farmers impacted by the collapse of Turner Grain. This was greatly appreciated and provided affected farmers with temporary relief. Since then, Turner Grain has filed for bankruptcy and Arkansas farmers who have been waiting for payment from Turner Grain continue to wait. Unfortunately, the current CCC loan repayment extension is set to expire during the week of February 1, 2015. Without an additional loan repayment extension, farmers in Arkansas will face significant financial hardships.

Given that losses may reach as high as \$50 million, the situation has the potential to be devastating to Arkansas, where one out of every six jobs is tied to agriculture. For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Farm Service Agency (FSA) extend the CCC loan repayment date for those farmers awaiting payment from Turner Grain until bankruptcy proceedings are completed. Farmers in Arkansas are facing an unfortunate situation, and we appreciate your attention to this important matter.

We look forward to your response, and please contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Boozman  
United States Senator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Cotton  
United States Senator

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



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Rick Crawford  
Member of Congress



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French Hill  
Member of Congress



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Steve Womack  
Member of Congress



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Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress