

June 13, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise
Majority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker, Majority Leader McCarthy, and Majority Whip Scalise:

For America's farmers, ranchers, producers, and meat and poultry packers and processors, access to legal and reliable workers is a consistent and pressing need. We urge you to include the agricultural guestworker visa program, as envisioned in House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte's *Securing America's Future Act of 2018* (H.R. 4760), in all legislative packages addressing immigration and border security issues that will be considered by the House of Representatives next week.

Our members need access to a pool of workers who are legal and available to work throughout the year. In light of worker shortages across the animal agriculture industry, coupled with low unemployment rates in the country overall, the agricultural guestworker visa program would be an important first step in establishing a stable agricultural workforce that will help ensure continued growth in the agriculture industry, thereby helping to sustain rural communities.

Given the importance of the agricultural guestworker proposal to the economic health of the animal agriculture sector, we urge you to include the agricultural guestworker visa program in any legislative agreements considered by the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

National Cattlemen's Beef Association
National Chicken Council
National Pork Producers Council
National Turkey Federation
North American Meat Institute