



February 16, 2017

The Honorable John Hoeven, Chairman
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Hoeven and Ranking Member Merkley:

On behalf of the institutions of the Farm Credit System (System) and the farmers, ranchers, agribusiness and rural infrastructure providers they serve, I am writing today to urge that the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies provide adequate funding for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Facility (CF) Guaranteed Loan Program.

As you know, CF guarantees to provide critically important credit enhancement for private lenders, helping mitigate risk through public-private partnerships and spread capital when investments are made in rural communities. Indeed, this program encourages partnering between Farm Credit System institutions and commercial banks to work together with USDA for the betterment of our nation's rural communities.

The System has used the program to make investments that support such important community facilities as assisted living homes, nursing homes and critical access hospitals. The use of CF guarantees allow lenders to leverage more funds when making investments in rural communities; thus, creating more jobs, meeting the needs of more communities, increasing the economic benefit of the investment and further strengthening rural America.

We thank you for your past support of this important program and we would encourage the Subcommittee to continue to support this important program as you consider the 2018 fiscal year appropriations for USDA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Van Hoose".

Todd Van Hoose
President and CEO

CC: Members of the House Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies



February 16, 2017

The Honorable Robert Aderholt, Chairman
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sanford Bishop, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member Bishop:

On behalf of the institutions of the Farm Credit System (System) and the farmers, ranchers, agribusiness and rural infrastructure providers they serve, I am writing today to urge that the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies provide adequate funding for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Facility (CF) Guaranteed Loan Program.

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We thank you for your past support of this important program and we would encourage the Subcommittee to continue to support this important program as you consider the 2018 fiscal year appropriations for USDA.

Sincerely,

Todd Van Hoose
President and CEO

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