



National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition

July 2, 2013

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

On behalf of the forty farm and rural organizations we represent, we urge you to work together to bring the Farm Bill back to the floor as soon as possible. This is critical legislation that should not be allowed to continue to drift further into uncertainty. Nor should it be split up into narrower component parts, a move that doom its completion.

To the contrary, in our view the only workable path forward is to expand and unite the constituencies served by the bill. Key ingredients of such an approach would include increasing the degree of crop subsidy reform in the bill, removing radical changes to SNAP, and further enhancing policies and investments in the bill that advance the broad public and bipartisan interest in local food systems, organic farming, rural development, conservation, renewable energy, and beginning, veteran, and minority farmers.

This approach, in contrast with dividing the bill into parts, would allow the House to bring together a broad coalition of lawmakers from both sides of the aisle to move forward on a new farm bill. We urge you to work together to pass a comprehensive, balanced, and reform-oriented farm bill later this month.

Thank you for considering our view.

Sincerely,

Ferd Hoefner
NSAC Policy Director