

August 1, 2017

The Honorable Pat Roberts
Chairman
Senate Committee on Agriculture
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Roberts, Ranking Member Stabenow, and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee:

The undersigned organizations representing the broad spectrum of the diverse U.S. food and agriculture sector wholeheartedly endorse Ted McKinney to be the first USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs. Ted's current job experience in leading the Indiana Department of Agriculture is the most recent chapter of a long and stellar career dedicated to American agriculture. Beginning on his family's farm in Indiana (which he is still connected to today) through his experience and demonstrated commitment to the Future Farmers of America youth organization, and on to gaining an agricultural degree at Purdue University, Ted has a solid foundation in farming and agribusiness.

The arc of his career, including issues management experience in crop and animal agriculture in the United States and around the world for innovative agribusiness, means that Ted is the best candidate for this important role at USDA.

We respectfully request that you expeditiously consider his nomination and advance his confirmation to your colleagues on the floor of the US Senate.

Signed,

Agribusiness Association of Iowa
Agribusiness Council of Indiana
Agricultural Retailers Association
Alabama Farmers Cooperative
Almond Alliance of California
AMCOT
American Bakers Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Frozen Food Institute
American Olive Oil Producers Association
American Peanut Council
American Potato Trade Alliance
American Seed Trade Association
American Sheep Industry Association
American Soybean Association
American Sugar Alliance
California Citrus Mutual
California Fresh Fruit Association
California Grain and Feed Association
California Specialty Crop Council
Calorie Control Council
Cargill
Corn Refiners Association
CropLife America
Dairy Business Milk Marketing Cooperative

DuPont
Elanco Animal Health
The Fertilizer Institute
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Grain and Feed Association of Illinois
GROWMARK
Indiana Corn Growers Association
Indiana Soybean Alliance
International Dairy Foods Association
International Food Additives Council
JBS USA
Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Livestock Marketing Association
Mead Johnson Nutrition
Michigan Agri-Business Association
Michigan Agricultural Commodities
Michigan Bean Shippers
Minnesota Grain and Feed Association
National Agricultural Aviation Association
National Association of Egg Farmers
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
National Association of Wheat Growers
National Barley Growers Association
National Cattlemen's Beef Association
National Chicken Council
National Confectioners Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Cotton Council
National Council of Ag Employers
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Farmers Union
National Fisheries Institute
National Grain and Feed Association
National Milk Producers Federation
National Oilseed Processors Association
National Potato Council
National Pork Producers Council
National Renderers Association
National Sorghum Producers
National Sunflower Association
National Turkey Federation
North American Export Grain Association
North American Meat Institute
North American Millers Association
North Dakota Grain Dealers Association
Northwest Horticultural Council
Nutrition Council of America
Ohio AgriBusiness Association
Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers
Oklahoma Grain and Feed Association
Pilgrim's Pride
Produce Marketing Association
Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE)
Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association
SNAC International

South Dakota Grain and Feed Association
Southwest Council of Agribusiness
The Tea Association of the U.S.A.
U.S. Apple Association
U.S. Canola Association
U.S. Dry Bean Association
U.S. Rice Producers Association
USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council
USA Rice Federation
William James & Associates, LLC
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association
World Perspectives, Inc.