

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

May 23, 2022

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

We write to strongly support the state of Minnesota's request for a Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator's Physical Loss Notice (APLN) and urge you to expedite your consideration of this request in order to provide vital support to farmers and communities in our state.

Weather conditions in our state this spring have been historically cold and wet. According to the University of Minnesota's preliminary climate summary for April 2022, average daily temperatures were six to eight degrees below normal and northwestern Minnesota experienced its wettest month of April dating back to 1895. Two separate storms in recent weeks produced heavy rains, straight-line winds, and tornados that damaged barns and silos.

These natural disaster events have delayed many farmers from getting into their fields. The most recent National Agricultural Statistics Service crop report for Minnesota indicated that completed plantings for corn (35 percent), soybeans (11 percent), wheat (5 percent), and sugarbeets (8 percent) have all lagged significantly behind last year and the 5-year average.

We urge you to expedite your consideration of the state's request for an APLN declaration to provide financial support for farmers and communities that are struggling with difficult weather conditions this spring.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Dean Phillips
Member of Congress