United States Senate

January 22, 2026

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins:

Thank you for your recent work to expand access and reduce burdens within crop insurance, including many provisions in the recently published rule by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation on November 28, 2025, titled "*Expanding Access to Risk Protection (EARP).*"[1] However, Section VI has caused great concern amongst our growers. Eliminating the option for producers to purchase additional buy-up coverage for prevented planting is troubling, especially at a time when our farmers need access to all risk management tools available to them.

While Congress has provided ad hoc disaster assistance for producers who experienced prevented planting losses in the past, this type of assistance is never guaranteed nor able to be relied upon, which is why Congress made it clear that "*[b]eginning with the 1995 crop year, the Corporation shall offer to producers additional prevented planting coverage…*" 7 U.S.C. §1508(h)(6). According to the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) data, removal of this critical tool impacts over 67 million acres across all 50 states and all covered commodities in 2025 alone.

As we work closely with USDA to get producers through this challenging time, we respectfully ask that USDA reverse this decision and allow producers access to the additional prevented plant coverage for 2027 and beyond to help provide a layer of certainty when disasters beyond their control render them unable to plant a crop.

Sincerely,

John Boozman
Chairman
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry

Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry

John Hoeven
United States Senator

Tina Smith
United States Senator

[1] Expanding Access to Risk Protection (EARP), 90 Fed. Reg. 54523, 54529 (Nov. 28, 2025) (to be codified at C.F.R. pts. 400, 407, 457).

John Thune
United States Senator

Michael Bennet
United States Senator

Mitch McConnell
United States Senator

Peter Welch
United States Senator

Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator

Adam Schiff
United States Senator

Cindy Hyde-Smith
United States Senator

Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator

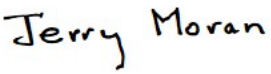
Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator

Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator

Jim Justice
United States Senator

Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator

Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Jerry Moran
United States Senator

Mike Rounds
United States Senator

Cc:
Farm Production and Conservation Under Secretary Richard Fordyce
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Board Chairman, USDA Chief Economist Dr. Justin Benavidez
Risk Management Agency Administrator Patricia Swanson