

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 1, 2020

The Honorable Sonny Perdue
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Perdue,

We write to request swift assistance for cattle producers with the resources provided in the recently enacted Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stabilization (CARES) Act to facilitate the stabilization of farm and ranch income to producers who are facing market volatility in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic fallout.

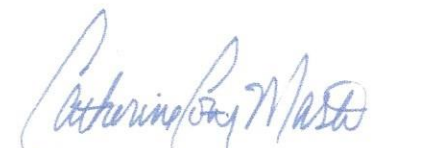
Recognizing the market volatility and financial hardships producers are facing because of COVID-19, the CARES Act provides \$14 billion toward replenishment of the Commodity Credit Corporation and an additional \$9.5 billion for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to assist farmers and ranchers in response to COVID-19. While we do not know what the full market impact will be for the various commodities produced in our states, we recognize that there is an immediate need for assistance for our cattle producers.

We request that USDA consider data and estimates available from the Office of the Chief Economist and implement a program that would directly respond to the negative effect on producers caused by COVID-19. This program should deliver targeted, temporary, equitable relief to cattle producers in a manner that limits market distortions and negative effects on price discovery.

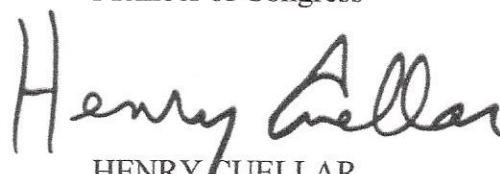
The COVID-19 outbreak has demonstrated the need for domestic food security. All farmers and ranchers are vital to our country's ability to keep food on the table in a future pandemic or related crisis, and many producers, including young producers, are often highly leveraged and cannot fall back on years of equity in a time of crisis. As such, we urge you to quickly deliver relief to producers as we work to lessen the economic impact of this pandemic.

Sincerely,


JOHN THUNE
United States Senator


CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
United States Senator


DUSTY JOHNSON
Member of Congress


HENRY CUELLAR
Member of Congress



PAT ROBERTS
United States Senator



COLLIN C. PETERSON
Member of Congress



K. MICHAEL CONAWAY
Member of Congress



CHARLES E. GRASSLEY
United States Senator



JAMES E. RISCH
United States Senator



JOHN BOOZMAN
United States Senator



DEB FISCHER
United States Senator



JOHN BARRASSO, M.D.
United States Senator



JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator



KEVIN CRAMER
United States Senator



MIKE CRAPO
United States Senator



JOHN HOEVEN
United States Senator



MIKE BRAUN
United States Senator

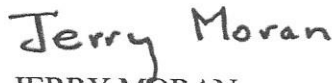
/s/ Cory Gardner
CORY GARDNER
United States Senator



STEVE DAINES
United States Senator



BEN SASSE
United States Senator

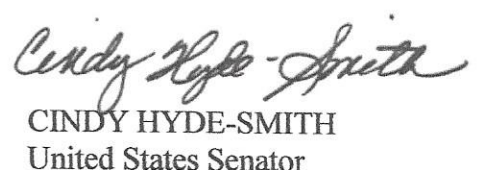

JERRY MORAN
United States Senator


MICHAEL B. ENZI
United States Senator

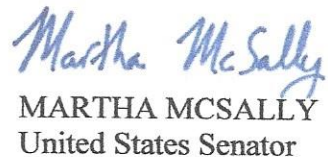

JAMES LANKFORD
United States Senator

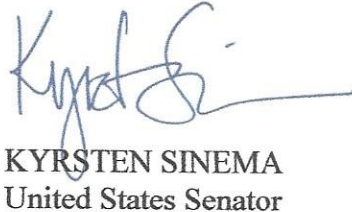

ROY BLUNT
United States Senator

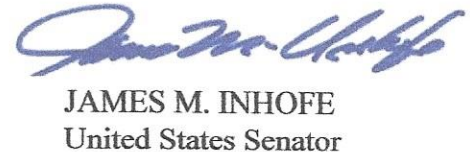

M. MICHAEL ROUNDS
United States Senator

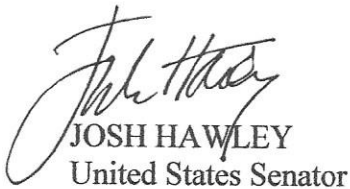

CINDY HYDE-SMITH
United States Senator

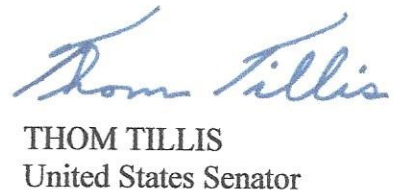

RON WYDEN
United States Senator



MARTHA MCSALLY
United States Senator

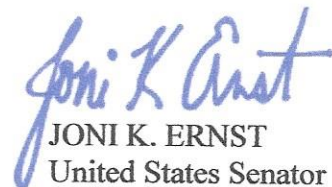

KYRSTEN SINEMA
United States Senator


JAMES M. INHOFE
United States Senator

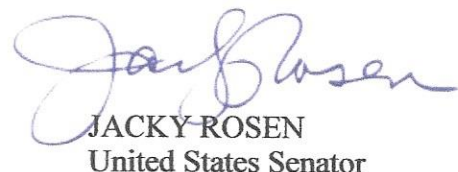

JOSH HAWLEY
United States Senator


THOM TILLIS
United States Senator


TODD YOUNG
United States Senator


JONI K. ERNST
United States Senator


RICHARD BURR
United States Senator


JACKY ROSEN
United States Senator



TOM COTTON
United States Senator



BILL CASSIDY, M.D.
United States Senator



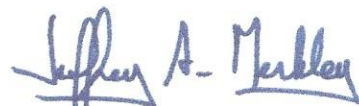
DOUG JONES
United States Senator



DAVID PERDUE
United States Senator



MARK R. WARNER
United States Senator



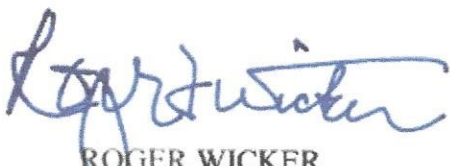
JEFFREY A. MERKLEY
United States Senator



TED CRUZ
United States Senator



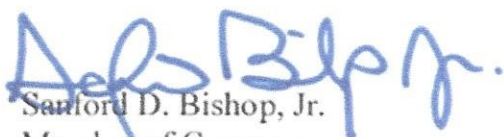
TIM KAINE
United States Senator



ROGER WICKER
United States Senator



KELLY LOEFFLER
United States Senator



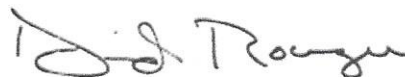
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



JEFF FORTENBERRY
Member of Congress



JIM COSTA
Member of Congress



DAVID ROUZER
Member of Congress



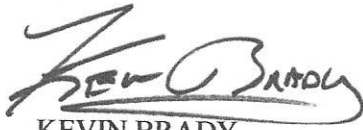
RICK CRAWFORD
Member of Congress



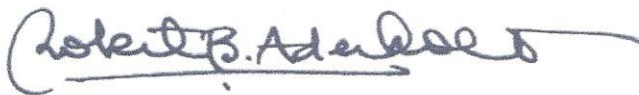
DON BACON
Member of Congress



ROGER MARSHALL, M.D.
Member of Congress



KEVIN BRADY
Member of Congress



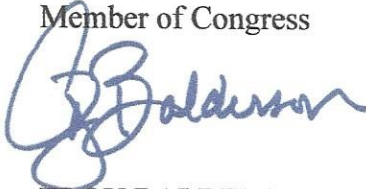
ROBERT B. ADERHOLT
Member of Congress



DOUG LAMALFA
Member of Congress



GREG GIANFORTE
Member of Congress



TROY BALDERSON
Member of Congress



WILL HURD
Member of Congress



JOHN ROSE
Member of Congress




TJ COX
Member of Congress



KELLY ARMSTRONG
Member of Congress



JAMES COMER
Member of Congress



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress



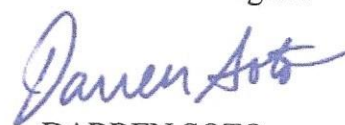
LIZ CHENEY
Member of Congress



BEN CLINE
Member of Congress



TOM EMMER
Member of Congress



DARREN SOTO
Member of Congress

VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress

/s/ GT Thompson
GT THOMPSON
Member of Congress

STEVE KING
Member of Congress

SAM GRAVES
Member of Congress

JASON SMITH
Member of Congress

ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress

TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress

RON ESTES
Member of Congress

MAC THORNBERRY
Member of Congress

BRUCE WESTERMAN
Member of Congress

FRENCH HILL
Member of Congress

BOB GIBBS
Member of Congress

MIKE ROGERS
Member of Congress

ANTHONY GONZALEZ
Member of Congress

VICENTE GONZALEZ
Member of Congress

FRANK LUCAS
Member of Congress



MARKWAYNE MULLIN
Member of Congress



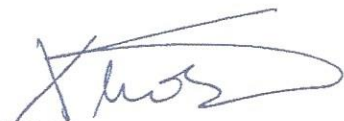
MIKE BOST
Member of Congress



LOUIE GOHMERT
Member of Congress



STEVE WOMACK
Member of Congress



XOCHITL TORRES SMALL
Member of Congress



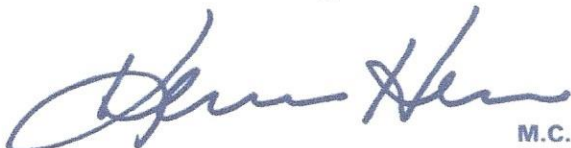
DAVID KUSTOFF
Member of Congress



CHRIS STEWART
Member of Congress



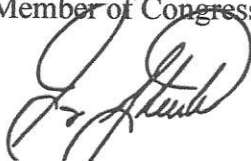
STEVE CHABOT
Member of Congress

 M.C.

KEVIN HERN
Member of Congress



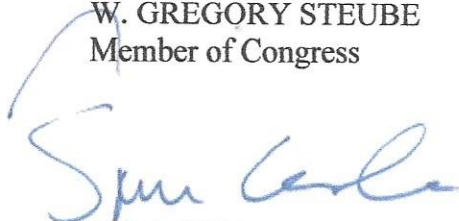
BILLY LONG
Member of Congress



W. GREGORY STEUBE
Member of Congress



BRETT GUTHRIE
Member of Congress



TOM COLE
Member of Congress



DAVE LOEBSACK
Member of Congress



CINDY AXNE
Member of Congress



RON WRIGHT
Member of Congress



WARREN DAVIDSON
Member of Congress



JOHN MOOLENAAR
Member of Congress



DAN BISHOP
Member of Congress



NEAL P. DUNN, M.D.
Member of Congress



DAVID PRICE
Member of Congress



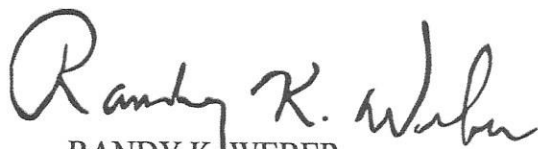
DAN NEWHOUSE
Member of Congress



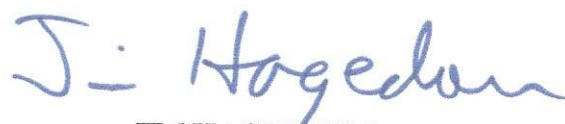
KENDRA S. HORN
Member of Congress



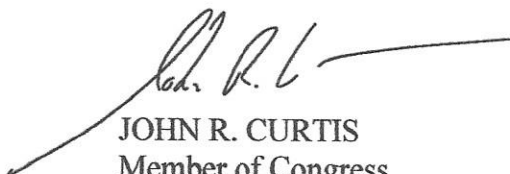
JODEY ARRINGTON
Member of Congress



RANDY K. WEBER
Member of Congress



JIM HAGEDORN
Member of Congress



JOHN R. CURTIS
Member of Congress



BILL FLORES
Member of Congress



RICHARD HUDSON
Member of Congress



AUSTIN SCOTT
Member of Congress





RON KIND
Member of Congress

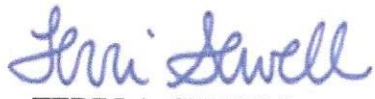


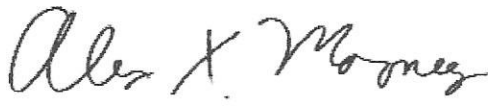
MICHAEL CLOUD
Member of Congress


/s/ Ted S. Yoho
TED S. YOHO, D.V.M.
Member of Congress



MICHAEL GUEST
Member of Congress



STEVE STIVERS
Member of Congress


TERRI A. SEWELL
Member of Congress



ALEX X. MOONEY
Member of Congress

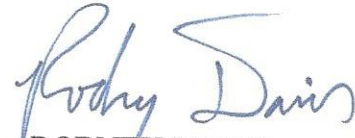

ROGER WILLIAMS
Member of Congress


ABBY FINKENAUER
Member of Congress



MARTHA ROBY
Member of Congress



H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
Member of Congress

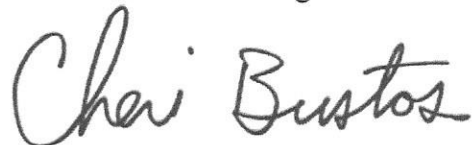

ANDY HARRIS, M.D.
Member of Congress



RODNEY DAVIS
Member of Congress

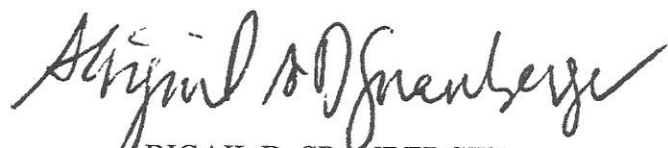

FILEMON VELA
Member of Congress


JEFF DUNCAN
Member of Congress

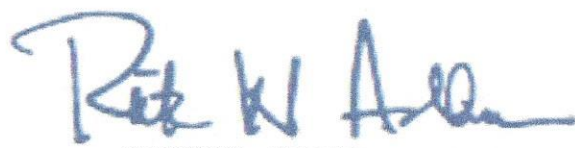

DARIN LaHOOD
Member of Congress


CHERI BUSTOS
Member of Congress


ANTHONY BRINDISI
Member of Congress



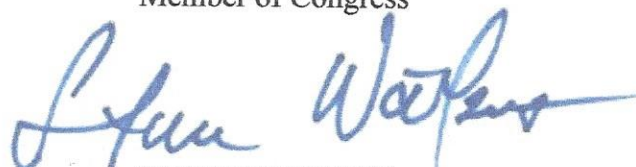
ABIGAIL D. SPANBERGER
Member of Congress



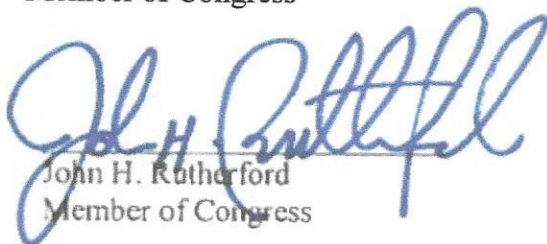
RICK W. ALLEN
Member of Congress



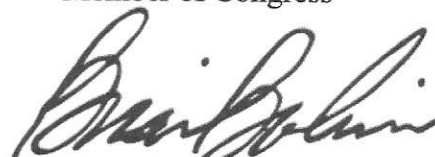
PETE STAUBER
Member of Congress



STEVE WATKINS
Member of Congress



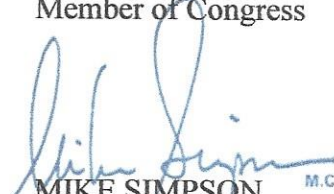
John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress



BRIAN BABIN, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

/s/ Rob Bishop

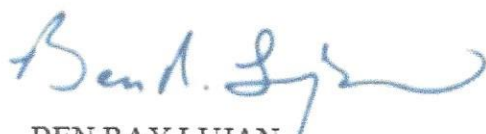
ROB BISHOP
Member of Congress



MIKE SIMPSON M.C.
Member of Congress



BRYAN STEIL
Member of Congress



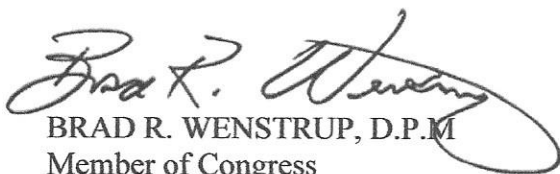
BEN RAY LUJAN
Member of Congress



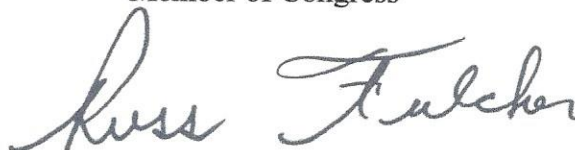
JOHN SHIMKUS
Member of Congress



DENVER RIGGLEMAN
Member of Congress



BRAD R. WENSTRUP, D.P.M.
Member of Congress



RUSS FULCHER
Member of Congress



ROBERT E. LATTA
Member of Congress