

June 26, 2018

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Member of Congress:

On Wednesday, June 27, the House of Representatives is expected to consider H.R. 6136, the Border Security and Immigration Reform Act. Title VI – Agricultural Worker Reform of this legislation, known as the AG Act, authorizes a new agricultural guest worker program and takes several important steps toward fixing the biggest problem we face in agriculture: a shortage of agricultural labor that limits the ability of our farmers and ranchers to produce.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Goodlatte has diligently worked to make changes that clearly improve the AG Act for agricultural producers. Now that those changes have been incorporated into H.R. 6136, House members are being given yet another rare opportunity to support U.S. agriculture by providing a solution that helps solve our desperate need for agricultural labor.

We urge members to take this opportunity by voting in favor of the AG Act and H.R. 6136, and continue to work with the agricultural community in crafting a final bill that addresses all our needs, particularly those affecting our current workers.

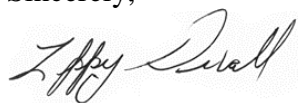
The American Farm Bureau Federation will continue working for improved provisions for those who are vital to sustaining our sector. While those workers should not be granted an unfair advantage over others, we must recognize the important contribution they make to sustaining farms and ranches across the country and provide the best possible path to legalization.

But these changes cannot be made if H.R. 6136 fails and the legislative process comes to a halt.

H.R. 6136 is broad legislation and includes many provisions related to border security and other matters related to immigration reform on which Farm Bureau does not take a position. Our members, however, desperately need a solution to our labor concerns. Again, this is the biggest limiting factor we face in agriculture today.

It is critical for the House to take a stand in support of U.S. agriculture and move this legislation forward for consideration in the Senate.

Sincerely,



Zippy Duvall  
President