



February 5, 2018

The Honorable Thad Cochran
U.S. Senate
133 Dirksen House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
United States Senate
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
U.S. House of Representatives
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
United States Senate
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Cochran, Senator Leahy, Representative Frelinghuysen, and Representative Lowey:

As you prepare to draft the FY 2018 Continuing Resolution (CR), we request that you provide language within the anomalies package concerning the Farm Service Agency's (FSA) farm loan programs.

As you know, the demand for farm loans is not linear. The FSA has greater demand for their loan programs earlier in the year than later, given the planting season. Typically January, February, March and April are the busiest months. In the FY 2017 CR the Congress included additional flexibility in the anomaly package for FSA and we respectfully ask that you do so again for this and any subsequent CRs that pass.

Thank you for your consideration and hard work on behalf of rural America.

Sincerely yours,

Ben Herink, Legislative Chair, National Association of Credit Specialists

Thomas Moser, FSA Committee Chairman, National Rural Lenders Association



Greg Fogel, Policy Director, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition



Todd Van Hoose, President and CEO, The Farm Credit Council



Edwin Elfmann, Vice President Congressional Relations, American Bankers Association



Mark Scanlan, Senior Vice President, Independent Community Bankers of America