



June 23, 2021

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE

**Re: Support Final Passage of S. 1251 and Oppose Lee Amendment**

The Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance (FACA) strongly supports final passage of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021. This bipartisan legislation reduces technical entry barriers for producers and forest owners interested in participating in voluntary carbon markets. FACA consists of nearly 80 organizations representing farmers, ranchers, forest owners, agribusinesses, manufacturers, the food and innovation sector, state governments, sportsmen and environmental advocates. We commend Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), Ranking Member John Boozman (R-Ark.) and Senator Mike Braun (R-Ind.) for crafting overwhelmingly bipartisan legislation that supports our sectors' role in delivering innovative climate solutions.

One of FACA's guiding principles states that federal climate policy must be built upon voluntary, incentive-based programs and market-driven opportunities. By fostering the growth of voluntary markets, S. 1251 does just that.

Unfortunately, the amendment proposed by Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah) undercuts the central function of this bill by eliminating the scientific and good governance requirements that technical assistance providers and third-party verifiers would need to meet to become certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The certification program is critical to ensure that farmers are protected in the emerging marketplace and have access to reliable information.

For these reasons, we strongly urge you to vote **No** on the Lee amendment and **Yes** on final passage of S. 1251, the Growing Climate Solutions Act.

Sincerely,

Agriculture & Applied Economics Association

Agriculture Retailers Association

Alabama Farmers Federation

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

American Biogas Council

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Feed Industry Association

American Mushroom Institute

American Seed Trade Association



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|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| American Society of Animal Science                 | Indiana Farm Bureau                                         |
| American Soybean Association                       | Iowa Farm Bureau                                            |
| American Sugar Alliance                            | Kentucky Farm Bureau                                        |
| Arizona Farm Bureau Federation                     | Land Trust Alliance                                         |
| Association of Equipment Manufacturers             | Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation                            |
| Association of Public & Land Grant Universities    | Michigan Farm Bureau                                        |
| Biological Products Industry Alliance              | Minnesota Farm Bureau                                       |
| Biotechnology Innovation Organization              | National Alliance of Forest Owners                          |
| California Farm Bureau Federation                  | National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science  |
| Center for Rural Affairs                           | National Association of State Departments of Agriculture    |
| Colorado Farm Bureau                               | National Association of University Forest Resource Programs |
| Composite Panel Association                        | National Cattlemen's Beef Association                       |
| Corn Refiners Association                          | National Corn Growers Association                           |
| Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau              | National Cotton Council                                     |
| CroLife America                                    | National Council of Farmer Cooperatives                     |
| Ducks Unlimited                                    | National Farmers Union                                      |
| Environmental Defense Fund                         | National Grange                                             |
| Evangelical Environmental Network                  | National Milk Producers Federation                          |
| Farm Credit Council                                | National Pork Producers Council                             |
| Farm Journal Foundation                            | National Potato Council                                     |
| Florida Farm Bureau Federation                     | New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau                        |
| FMI – The Food Industry Association                | New York Farm Bureau                                        |
| Global Cold Chain Alliance                         | North American Meat Institute                               |
| Growth Energy                                      | North American Millers' Association                         |
| Illinois Farm Bureau                               | North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation                       |
| Indiana Agriculture Coalition for Renewable Energy |                                                             |



North Dakota Grain Growers Association

Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Oklahoma Farm Bureau

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever

Produce Marketing Association

Shellfish Growers Climate Coalition

Society of American Foresters

Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR)  
Foundation

The Federation of Southern Cooperatives

The Fertilizer Institute

The National Institute for Animal Agriculture

The Nature Conservancy

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Trout Unlimited

U.S. Durum Growers Association

USA Rice

Vermont Farm Bureau