

January 10, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of American farmers, ranchers, producers, and meat and poultry packers and processors, we urge you to include the agricultural guestworker visa program, as proposed in House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte's *Agricultural Guestworker Act (Ag Act)*, in any legislative agreement addressing immigration and border security issues.

Workforce needs are a consistent and pressing priority for the industry, as many jobs remain unfilled. The agricultural guestworker visa program envisioned by the Ag Act would be an important first step in establishing a stable agricultural workforce that will help ensure continued growth in the meat and poultry industry, thereby helping to sustain rural communities.

Our members need access to a pool of legal, reliable workers, and we support the establishment of a visa program that would contribute to addressing the needs of the animal agriculture industry. As you negotiate proposals to address immigration and border security issues, please include the agricultural guestworker visa program in any final agreement.

Sincerely,

National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Chicken Council  
National Pork Producers Council  
National Turkey Federation  
North American Meat Institute