

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 31, 2024

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

Re: Poultry Grower Payment Systems and Capital Improvement Systems; Proposed Rule; RIN 0581-AE18; 89 Fed. Reg. 49002 (June 10, 2024); Fair and Competitive Livestock and Poultry Markets; Proposed Rule.

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

As members with an interest in the affordability, availability, and quality of meat and poultry products, we respectfully request that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) grant a 90-day extension of the respective comment periods for the above-referenced proposed rules.

The breadth of these proposed rules warrants careful analysis and the opportunity for continued submission of comprehensive comments. The industry re-adjusted thousands of contracts with growers over the Christmas holiday, and these additional regulations would impact how integrators and contract growers do business.

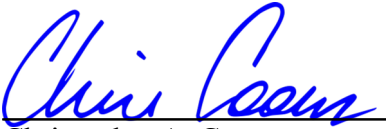
We respectfully ask that the comment period for the proposed rule, entitled "Poultry Grower Payment Systems and Capital Improvement Systems," be extended by 90 days so that it closes on November 7, 2024. We also request that the comment period for the proposed rule, entitled "Fair and Competitive Livestock and Poultry Markets," be extended so that it closes on November 25, 2024. Noting that the USDA has extended the comment period on this rule for an additional 15 days, we continue to request that the comment period be extended by 90 days from the original published date. It is appropriate and necessary that additional time be allotted to the affected integrators and growers to provide the most informed and substantive comments possible.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance.

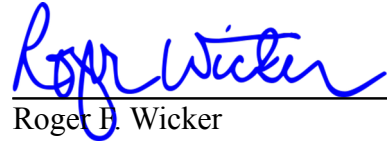
Sincerely,

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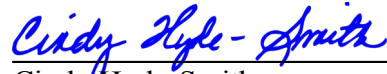
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Roger B. Wicker
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



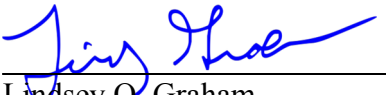
Cindy Hyde-Smith
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



Ted Budd
United States Senator



Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator



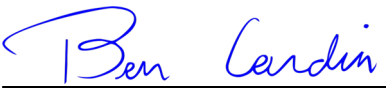
James Lankford
United States Senator



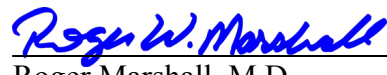
Tom Cotton
United States Senator



Markwayne Mullin
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



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United States Senator



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