

March 29, 2021

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo:

The undersigned agricultural organizations support the inclusion of broad-based funding mechanisms in any funding title associated with a surface transportation reauthorization bill. Large volumes of commodities and agricultural products are transported from mostly rural areas to numerous origin-destination pairs before these goods reach domestic consumers and export customers. Because of this, a well-maintained, efficient and safe freight transportation system is vitally important to U.S. agriculture.

As you work to advance a surface transportation reauthorization bill, our organizations urge you to create a legislative package that includes funding supported by all road users. We caution against the use of funding, such as a truck-only vehicle miles tax, that would place a disproportionate share of the burden on freight transportation. For our respective agricultural organizations, a truck-only vehicle miles tax would increase truck transportation costs, leading to lower farmgate prices and reduced market share for U.S. agriculture versus our foreign competitors.

We urge you to include broad-based funding mechanisms to ensure all who benefit from the transportation system contribute fairly to upgrading and maintaining America's roads and bridges.

Thank you for your efforts on funding a surface transportation reauthorization bill and we look forward to working with you as the legislation is crafted and moves toward enactment.

Sincerely,

**National Associations**

Agricultural and Food Transporters Conference  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
Agriculture Transportation Coalition  
American Bakers Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Feed Industry Association  
American Honey Producers Association  
American Seed Trade Association  
Americans for Modern Transportation  
Corn Refiners Association  
International Dairy Foods Association  
Meat Import Council of America, Inc.  
National Aquaculture Association  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Corn Growers Association

National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Grain and Feed Association  
National Industrial Transportation League  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Oilseed Processors Association  
National Pasta Association  
National Potato Council  
National Propane Gas Association  
National Sorghum Producers  
National Watermelon Association  
North American Millers' Association  
North American Renderers Association  
Pet Food Institute  
Produce Marketing Association  
The Fertilizer Institute  
Transportation Intermediaries Association  
United Fresh Produce Association  
United Potato Growers of America  
United States Cattlemen's Association  
USA Rice  
Western Growers

**State/Regional Associations**

Agribusiness Association of Iowa  
Agribusiness Council of Indiana  
Arizona Farm and Ranch Group  
Arizona Farm Bureau Federation  
Association of Virginia Potato and Vegetable Growers  
California Apple Commission  
California Blueberry Association  
California Blueberry Commission  
California Fresh Fruit Association  
California Grain and Feed Association  
Empire State Potato Growers  
Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Association  
Grain and Feed Association of Illinois  
Idaho Grower Shippers Association  
Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association  
Iowa Farm Bureau  
Iowa Institute for Cooperatives  
Iowa Seed Association  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Kansas Grain and Feed Association  
Maine Potato Board  
Michigan Agri-Business Association  
Michigan Potato Growers, Inc.  
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers  
Minnesota Grain and Feed Association

Missouri Agribusiness Association  
Montana Agricultural Business Association  
Montana Grain Elevator Association  
Nebraska Cattlemen  
Nebraska Farm Bureau  
Nebraska Grain and Feed Association  
Nevada Farm Bureau  
North Carolina Potato Association  
North Dakota Grain Dealers Association  
Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance  
Ohio AgriBusiness Association  
Oklahoma Grain and Feed Association  
Olive Growers Council of California  
Oregon Association of Nurseries  
Oregon Dairy Farmers Association  
Oregon Farm Bureau Federation  
Oregon Seed Association  
Oregon Women for Agriculture  
Pacific Northwest Grain & Feed Association  
PA Co-operative Potato Growers  
Palmetto Agribusiness Council  
Renew Kansas  
Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association  
SC Timber Producers Association  
South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
South Dakota Grain & Feed Association  
Texas Ag Industries Association  
Texas Citrus Mutual  
Texas Grain and Feed Association  
Texas International Produce Association  
Washington State Potato Commission  
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association  
Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association  
Wyoming Farm Bureau

CC: Members of the Senate Finance Committee  
Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Members of the House Committee on Ways and Means  
Members of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure