



June 15, 2017

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
2413 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman DeLauro:

I write to you on behalf of the 200,000 family farmer and rancher members of National Farmers Union (NFU) in support of your efforts to broaden the scope of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS).

Foreign investment in the U.S. has increased and stands to greatly impact NFU's members. In 2013, our members opposed the approval of the purchase of Smithfield Foods by China's Shuanghui International Holdings, Ltd. for the potential impact it would have on domestic food security, food safety, and sector consolidation. In 2015, China imported 97 percent of U.S. pork from Smithfield, representing a distinct trade advantage and highlighting the need for robust scrutiny of foreign investment in the U.S.

Most recently, the state-owned enterprise ChemChina has acquired Syngenta AG. Syngenta AG is one of the few remaining competitors in a very consolidated agriculture inputs market. ChemChina's acquisition of Syngenta will create the world's largest supplier of pesticides and agricultural chemicals. This acquisition along with those of Dow and DuPont, and Bayer and Monsanto, is poised to have significant impacts on U.S. agriculture.

The bill you have introduced, Foreign Investment and Economic Security Act of 2017, will help ensure that CFIUS examines both the impacts on national security as well as the overall net benefit for the U.S. In addition, NFU is grateful for your efforts to include the Secretary of Agriculture as a Committee member if the transaction may affect agriculture or food.

Food security is vital to national security. Given the changing environment due to an increasing global population and a rapidly changing climate, the role of CFIUS must reflect new concerns about national security.

Thank you for introducing this important bill. I look forward to working with you to ensure its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger Johnson".

Roger Johnson  
President