

Sample Letter to your Lawmaker

Dear (Senator or Representative) _____,

My name is _____, and I am from _____. I am writing to you because I'm concerned about how increasingly frequent and severe weather events are threatening farmers' livelihoods and global food security. This is a serious problem, but farmers are uniquely equipped to mitigate and adapt to climate change by sequestering carbon in the soil and producing renewable energy. Strong climate policy can help to make U.S. family farmers and ranchers more environmentally and economically sustainable. I would encourage (Senator or Representative) _____ to ensure that we have the resources and assistance we need to implement practices that achieve this goal.

Farmers want to implement conservation practices that sequester carbon, but those practices are often expensive, labor intensive, or technically difficult. To help us overcome these barriers, we need legislators to increase funding for **voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs** that prioritize **soil health**.

Farmers also want to contribute to a cleaner energy future through the production of wind and solar energy and the source materials for biofuels. Legislators should encourage these efforts by providing greater support for **on-farm energy production**.

We also need an **economy-wide carbon reduction mechanism** that recognizes and financially supports agriculture's critical role in sequestration and climate change adaptation and mitigation, in addition to other market-based solutions.

The success of farmers' efforts depends on **high-quality and unbiased research** that focuses on the development of outcome-based conservation practices and other land adaptation and mitigation tools. We need legislators to provide robust funding for this kind of research.

I will pay close attention to whether or not you support policy measures such as these that help farmers mitigate and adapt to climate change. Please keep me up to date on your efforts.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

_____ (Your name)