

Sample Letter to your Lawmaker

Dear (Senator or Representative) _____.

My name is _____, and I am from _____. I am writing you because I'm very concerned about how climate change is threatening farmers' livelihoods and global food security. This is a serious problem, but between sequestering carbon in the soil, reducing on-farm greenhouse gas emissions, and producing renewable energy, farmers can play an important role in mitigation and adaptation – and strong climate policy can help fully realize that potential.

I would encourage you to ensure that farmers like me have the tools and resources we need to implement climate-smart practices. While those practices offer many environmental and financial benefits, they often require a great deal of time, upfront investment, and expertise. To help us overcome these barriers, we need legislators to develop **voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs and market initiatives** that work for operations of all types and sizes.

There are several bills that will help achieve this goal, including the **Growing Climate Solution Act**. Currently, there is no uniformity among carbon markets, which can make it confusing to figure out which one to pick. By establishing a certification program for third-party verifiers and technical service providers that help farmers earn carbon credits, this bill would clear up that confusion and make it easier to participate in carbon markets.

Another bill I urge you to support is the **Agriculture Resilience Act**, which would help move the agriculture sector to net-zero carbon emissions by 2040. To do this, the legislation would strengthen climate research and outreach, invest in on-farm energy production, reduce food waste, and promote climate-smart farming practices.

The only way these and other initiatives can be successful is if there's enough funding and personnel behind them. In this year's appropriations process, I ask that you ensure there are sufficient NRCS field staff to provide technical assistance to farmers and ranchers by providing at least **\$1.1 billion for Conservation Technical Assistance**. Additionally, you should provide assistance to livestock producers seeking to implement climate smart practices on their land by funding **the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) at the authorized level of \$60 million**.

I will pay close attention to whether or not you support policy measures 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)