



January 20, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Congratulations on your inauguration as the 46th President of the United States. Corn growers across the country stand ready to work with you and your Administration on achieving our shared policy goals and strengthen the U.S. agricultural sector. We further appreciate the emphasis your team has placed to Build Back Better in rural America and look forward to partnering with you.

We applaud your selection of the Honorable Tom Vilsack as Secretary of Agriculture. The Biden-Harris Administration will be well-served by a proven leader who is ready to immediately tackle the issues facing the food and agriculture system, which have been heightened by the pandemic. We have confidence that you will appoint a full complement of individuals to join Secretary Vilsack at the Department who share his commitment to agriculture and rural America.

In looking out over the coming four years, corn growers see great opportunity ahead. As you know, farmers are optimistic by nature. Each year we plant seeds in the ground, rely on a combination of mother nature and innovation, and we are hopeful that those seeds will generate a profitable commodity. In that same regard, we are optimistic about the opportunity for farmers to play an innovative role in combating climate change and expanding our overseas markets.

By making addressing climate change one of your top priorities, the Biden-Harris Administration has sent a strong signal both domestically and internationally. Agriculture has a tremendous opportunity to lead by example with impactful, common-sense climate solutions. Farmers are vital partners in stabilizing the climate and increasing resilience to climate impacts. Through a collaborative effort we are confident we can go even further by making it easier for producers to adopt climate-smart practices and navigate carbon markets through incentivizing carbon sequestration.

We believe corn ethanol is also uniquely positioned to mitigate the environmental impacts from our nation's fuel supply. According to USDA, corn ethanol currently reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 43 percent when compared to conventional gasoline and holds the potential for greater reductions with continued improvements in farming practices and ethanol production. Higher-octane fuels, most effectively achieved by blending more low carbon ethanol, would unlock increased gains in vehicle efficiency, equating to more miles per gallon, and an even further reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. We look forward to working closely with your Administration and Congress to begin the transition of the nation's fuel supply to a higher-octane, low carbon fuel.

[WWW.NCGA.COM](http://WWW.NCGA.COM)

NATIONAL OFFICE  
632 Cepi Drive  
Chesterfield, MO 63005  
(636) 733-9004

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE  
20 F Street NW, Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 628-7001

The Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) has played a significant role in building our domestic ethanol industry. The ethanol industry, in turn, has played an important role in promoting energy independence and a robust rural economy while also providing environmental benefits. You have previously stated that the RFS “marks our bond with our farmers and our commitment to a thriving rural economy.” We are grateful for the pledge you have made to protect the integrity of the RFS and look forward to working with your Administration to make full use of the potential of the RFS to maximize the benefits of this policy.

With 96 percent of consumers living outside the United States, the future of American agriculture largely relies on our ability to sell to foreign markets. U.S. corn farmers are consistently able to offer our customers a reliable, high quality and safe product at a competitive price. We are hopeful that in the near-term the United States will be able to forge new trade agreements with strategic partners that offer growth opportunities for U.S. corn and corn product exports. Southeast Asia is a region that demands U.S. attention and re-engagement is one of our top priorities. We are confident your vast experience in the foreign policy arena will serve the United States well in our ability to expand upon our global competitiveness.

With some 90 million acres of corn planted in 2019 and a value of \$53 billion, corn is America’s number one crop. Collectively, our organizations are confident that the agricultural industry has a bright future and we look forward to serving as a resource to your Administration. Congratulations to you again.

Sincerely,



John Linder, President  
National Corn Growers Association



Randy DeSutter, President  
Illinois Corn Growers Association



Jeremy Wilson, President  
Alabama Soybean and Corn Association



Mike Beard, President  
Indiana Corn Growers Association

**Dave Cure**

Dave Cure, President  
Colorado Corn Growers Association



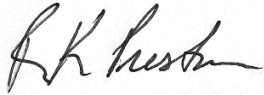
Carl Jardon, President  
Iowa Corn Growers Association



Rodney Harrell, President  
Georgia Corn Growers Association



Brent Rogers, President  
Kansas Corn Growers Association



Richard Preston, President  
Kentucky Corn Growers Association



Kelly Harsh, President  
Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association



Lenny Evan Miles, Jr., President  
Maryland Grain Producers Association



Justin Rivers, President  
South Carolina Corn & Soybean Association



Matt Frostic, President  
Michigan Corn Growers Association



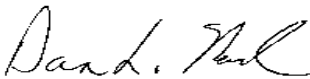
Scott Stahl, President  
South Dakota Corn Growers Association



Tim Waibel, President  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association



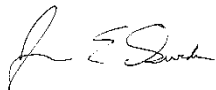
John Townsend, President  
Tennessee Corn Growers Association



Dan Nerud, President  
Nebraska Corn Growers Association



Charles Ring, President  
Texas Corn Producers Association



Jason Swede, President  
New York Corn and Soybean Growers  
Association



Joey Barlow, President  
Virginia Grain Producers Association



Rob Hanson, President  
North Dakota Corn Growers Association



Doug Rebut, President  
Wisconsin Corn Growers Association

CC: The Honorable Tom Vilsack