



September 16, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Leader Thune and Leader Schumer:

As the leaders of the nation's state and national corn grower organizations, we write to you during one of the biggest economic crises in decades to urge you to quickly pass the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act of 2025, which would provide a badly needed domestic market for U.S. corn farmers by increasing demand for corn ethanol gas pumps across the country.

Without your help, American corn farmers are facing a grim market outlook—producing more corn than ever before, yet with no domestic market growth to absorb the surplus, driving prices to the lowest levels in recent history.

We are sure it comes as no surprise to you that corn growers across the country have been dealt a very difficult hand of late with input costs near record highs as corn prices fall to unsustainable lows. A recent report released by the Department of Agriculture suggests that corn growers are on course to produce a massive yield that is expected to be the largest on record, an outgrowth of exceptionally efficient and continually improving management practices. But additional corn on the market will only drive prices even lower.

The most durable way to help farmers through these troubling times is by creating more demand for corn and corn products. The most immediate path to begin to address this issue is by increasing consumer access to higher blends of corn ethanol.

Ethanol sales are the lifeblood of corn growers and play an important role in the lives of millions of Americans. Higher blends of ethanol in gasoline can save consumers money at the gas pump, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prevent an over-dependence on foreign oil.

Yet, corn grower advocates have been fighting for over a decade to remove an outdated regulation that prevents drivers from accessing fuels with a 15% ethanol blend, referred to as E15, during the summer months. We have run out of the luxury of time and patience.

The Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act of 2025 would eliminate the barrier to accessing higher ethanol blends. And if Congress were to pass it and the president were to sign it into law, it would immediately boost corn demand. This solution comes at no cost to taxpayers and has the potential to generate significant new demand for corn [once fully scaled](#).

Beyond the bushels that expanded ethanol production would absorb, in some areas farmers receive as much as 20¢ more per bushel when selling to an ethanol processor compared to other markets. A 15% ethanol blend in retail fuel not only creates new markets for American-grown corn but also puts more money directly into the pockets of American farmers.

We are visiting Capitol Hill this week to convey to members of Congress the importance of this legislation and the need to act as soon as possible. We urge you to do everything in your power to find a way to move this solution forward.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lesly McNitt, the Vice President of Public Policy at the National Corn Growers Association, at McNitt@ncga.com. We would be happy to meet with you and discuss this matter in more detail.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Hartman Jr.
President
National Corn Growers Association

Matt Lambert
President
Missouri Corn Growers Association

Mark Bunselmeyer
Vice President
Illinois Corn Growers Association

Michael Dibbern
President
Nebraska Corn Growers Association

Chris Cherry
President
Indiana Corn Growers Association

Tom Corcoran
President
New York Corn & Soybean Association

Mark Mueller
President
Iowa Corn Growers Association

Brian Leier
President
North Dakota Corn Growers Association

JD Hanna
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Kansas Corn Growers Association

Tyler Drewes
President
Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association

Josh Lancaster
President
Kentucky Corn Growers Association

Rob Holman
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Tennessee Corn Growers Association

Justin Brendel
President
Maryland Grain Producers Association

Hagen Hunt
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Texas Corn Producers Association

John Delmotte
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James Giese
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Tyler Oliver
President
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