



April 12, 2018

The Honorable Pat Roberts
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and
Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, D.C., 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and
Forestry
United States Senate
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Stabenow,

We are writing to express our support for S. 2487, the [Agriculture Data Act of 2018](#). This bipartisan bill was introduced by Senators John Thune (R-SD) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and will lay the groundwork for better utilizing the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) vast data resources for the benefit of American farmers.

The Agriculture Data Act of 2018 will increase our understanding about how on-farm conservation practices impact farm and ranch profitability, soil health, water quality, crop yields, and risk. This timely legislation will also direct USDA to work across its many agencies to effectively utilize data to answer important questions about which conservation practices improve producers' profitability and decrease risk, while protecting producer privacy.

We are united in support of innovative policies like S. 2487 that remove roadblocks and increase adoption of practices that enhance soil health, wildlife habitat, and secure cost-savings for American farmers through federal crop insurance and conservation programs.

We urge you and your Committee to support S. 2487 in the 2018 Farm Bill, which will enhance our federal risk management programs and secure multiple benefits for soil health, and farm and ranch profitability.

Sincerely,

American Farmland Trust
American Soybean Association
Applied GeoSolutions, LLC
Robert Blair | Three Canyon Farms
Cargill
DanoneWave
Kristin Weeks Duncanson | Duncanson
Growers
Environmental Defense Fund

Dave Gagner | National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation
Illinois Corn Growers Association
Bruce Knight | Strategic Conservation
Solutions
Doug Lawrence | Blackwoods Group, LLC
Carl Mattson | George Mattson Farms
Stephanie Mercier | Farm Journal Foundation
Minnesota AgriGrowth Council

Minnesota Corn Growers Association
Jim Moseley | AGree Co-Chair
National Corn Growers Association
National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
National Wildlife Federation
The Nature Conservancy
Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association

Laurie Ristino | Vermont Law School
Rural Advancement Foundation International
Soil Health Institute
Unilever
Josh Woodard | Cornell University
Fred Yoder | Solutions from the Land, Yoder
Ag Services

cc: U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar
U.S. Senator John Thune
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry members