Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins Secretary of Agriculture United States Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins;

We are writing to respectfully urge the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that specialty crops are included in any forthcoming USDA economic aid package. Specialty crops—including fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, nursery crops, and floriculture—play a vital role in the U.S. agricultural economy, yet they have been overlooked in prior federal assistance packages.

Specialty crops are critical to America's food security, dietary health, and economic vitality. They represent a significant share of our agricultural output, provide job opportunities across rural communities, and support a robust export market. Beyond their economic impact, specialty crops sustain a strong nutritional foundation critical for improving public health and lowering long-term health care costs across the nation.

Producers of specialty crops continue to face unique challenges, including high labor costs, vulnerabilities to weather and supply chain disruption, and limited risk management options compared to other commodities. In times of market disruption or natural disaster, these producers are disproportionately at risk. Without adequate support, the financial health of our growers is jeopardized.

Including specialty crops in any future USDA economic aid package will help safeguard the livelihoods of growers and ensure continued access to affordable, nutritious foods for American families. It is essential that federal support reflects all American agriculture and recognizes the indispensable contributions of specialty crop producers.

Thank you for your leadership and for your continued commitment to strengthening U.S. agriculture. We strongly urge you to ensure that specialty crops remain a priority in USDA's ongoing economic aid and recovery efforts.

Sincerely,

John R. Moolenaar Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress

Nicholas A. Langworthy Member of Congress

Much h. Long

Kat Cammack Member of Congress

Ben Cline Member of Congress

Michael Baumgartner Member of Congress

Sabe Evans
Member of Congress

Austin Scott Member of Congress Wantfurlause

Dan Newhouse Member of Congress

John Joyce, M.D. Member of Congress

Kevin Kiley Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter Member of Congress

Earl I Bully Carte

David G. Valadao Member of Congress

Vince Fong
Member of Congress

Nick LaLota
Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress

Doug LaMalfa Member of Congress

Tim Walberg
Member of Congress

Jefferson Van Drew Member of Congress

Dan Meuser Member of Congress

Tom Barrett
Member of Congress

Monica De La Cruz Member of Congress Robert P. Bresnahan, Jr. Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Ryan Mackenzie Member of Congress

Mark B. Messmer Member of Congress

Michael K. Simpson
Member of Congress

Richard Hudson Member of Congress

Mike Bost Member of Congress David Rouzer

Member of Congress

Diana Harshbarger

Member of Congress

Congress

Member of Congress