

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 1, 2010

The Honorable Collin Peterson
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
1301 Longworth
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
1305 Longworth
Washington, DC 20515

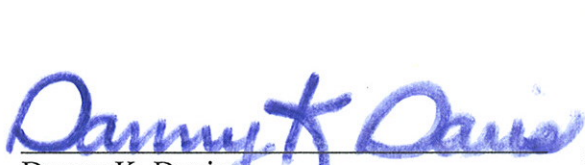
Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member:

As you consider the next farm bill, we urge you to consider the interests of consumers and other users of sugar in developing a new sugar program that provides an adequate supply of sugar for the domestic market at reasonable prices. A more balanced program will help avoid the on-going situation of record-low sugar stocks and consumer prices that have set an all-time high this year.

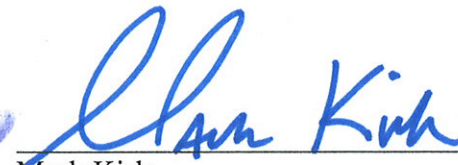
Markets are so tight that food and beverage companies are actually importing outside of the import quota by paying what were designed to be prohibitive tariffs just to get enough sugar for their products. U.S. sugar prices are so far above world prices that sugar buyers are now paying the world price of sugar, the transportation costs to bring the sugar to the U.S., and the prohibitive tariff of about 16 cents per pound on top of these costs, since this is still cheaper than buying sugar domestically, assuming it is even available in the domestic market.

Congress can help ease the continuing tight supply situation by providing the U.S. Department of Agriculture with the tools to adequately supply the U.S. sugar market. We would appreciate the opportunity to work with your committee to ensure that the sugar provisions of the next farm bill give consumers a fair shake and do not artificially undercut the availability of sugar stocks in the U.S. market.

Sincerely,



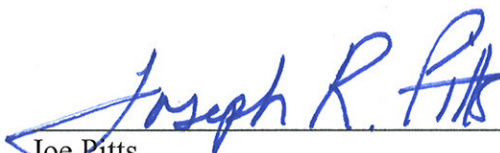
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Mark Kirk
Member of Congress



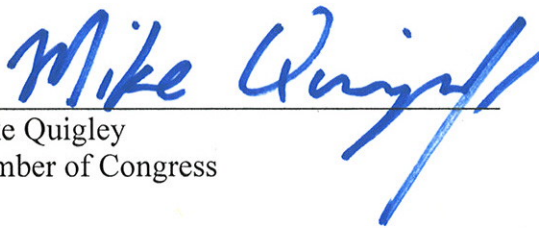
Ron Kind
Member of Congress



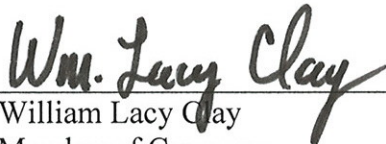
Joe Pitts
Member of Congress



Jesse Jackson Jr.
Member of Congress



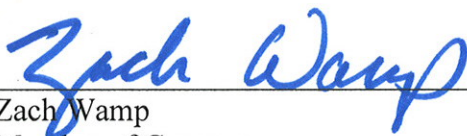
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



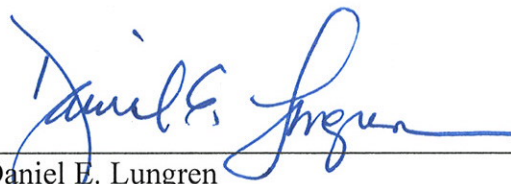
William Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Ron Paul
Member of Congress



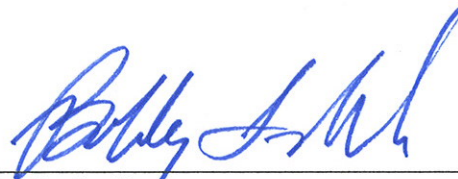
Zach Wamp
Member of Congress



Daniel E. Lungren
Member of Congress



Jim Moran
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress