

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 15, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Republican Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Senator McConnell, Representative McCarthy, and Senator Schumer,

The coronavirus health crisis has presented our nation with challenges unlike any we have seen in our lifetime. During this crisis, our frontline farmworkers are laboring every day to put food on America's dinner table and maintain the world food supply. As this virus threatens the resiliency of our food supply chains, it has never been more important to ensure the well-being of our agricultural producers and workforce. Future legislation in response to the coronavirus pandemic must include protections for these vital members of our communities.

Our nation's food security depends on the ability of farmworkers to continue to work safely to produce our nation's food. We have key recommendations for policies to support farmworkers and contain the spread of COVID-19 in agricultural communities:

- Until the bipartisan Farm Workforce Modernization Act (H.R.5038) can become law, provide our essential agricultural workforce with legal protections from deportation.
- Direct financial assistance to agricultural employers to: provide farmworkers with job security, pandemic premium pay (in line with pay for other frontline workers in our country's critical infrastructure), sick pay, and family leave; and disseminate and implement CDC recommendations on sanitation and social distancing in work sites, employer provided housing and transportation.
- Ensure that farmworker families can feed themselves by working with recipients of federal nutrition funding to have dedicated efforts that specifically target farmworker communities.
- Support the childcare needs of farmworkers by expanding the eligibility for childcare programs, along with additional funding and flexibility for the Migrant and Seasonal Head Start program.
- Additional support for community health centers, in particular those in rural, agricultural communities.

Farmworkers need our support. They should not live in fear. As this crisis evolves and Congress continues to explore response packages, we stand ready to work with you to ensure these protections are made available. Hardworking farmworkers deserve and require our action. Their wellbeing and the stabilization of our food supply depend on these actions.

Sincerely,

Jim Costa  
Member of Congress

Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress

Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress

Ben Ray Luján  
Member of Congress

Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress

Darren Soto  
Member of Congress

Debbie Mucarsel-Powell  
Member of Congress

Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

Gregorio Kilili Camacho  
Sablan  
Member of Congress

Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress

Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress

José E. Serrano  
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress

Lou Correa  
Member of Congress

Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Member of Congress

Michael F.Q. San Nicolas  
Member of Congress

Mike Levin  
Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress

Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress

Raúl Grijalva  
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress

Tony Cardenas  
Member of Congress

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

Xochitl Torres Small  
Member of Congress

A. Donald McEachin Member of Congress	Adam Smith Member of Congress	Al Green Member of Congress
Alan Lowenthal Member of Congress	Alcee L. Hastings Member of Congress	Alma S. Adams, Ph.D. Member of Congress
Ami Bera, M.D. Member of Congress	Andy Levin Member of Congress	Ann Kirkpatrick Member of Congress
Ann McLane Kuster Member of Congress	Anna G. Eshoo Member of Congress	Anthony G. Brown Member of Congress
Ayanna Pressley Member of Congress	Barbara Lee Member of Congress	Bennie Thompson Member of Congress
Betty McCollum Member of Congress	Bill Foster Member of Congress	Bobby L. Rush Member of Congress
Bonnie Watson Coleman Member of Congress	Brad Sherman Member of Congress	Brenda L. Lawrence Member of Congress
Carolyn B. Maloney Member of Congress	Charlie Crist Member of Congress	Chellie Pingree Member of Congress
Cheri Bustos Member of Congress	Chrissy Houlahan Member of Congress	Daniel T. Kildee Member of Congress
Danny K. Davis Member of Congress	David N. Cicilline Member of Congress	David Price Member of Congress
David Trone Member of Congress	Deb Haaland Member of Congress	Debbie Dingell Member of Congress
Debbie Wasserman Schultz Member of Congress	Derek Kilmer Member of Congress	Diana DeGette Member of Congress
Dina Titus Member of Congress	Donna E. Shalala Member of Congress	Earl Blumenauer Member of Congress
Eddie Bernice Johnson Member of Congress	Eleanor Holmes Norton Member of Congress	Emanuel Cleaver, II Member of Congress
G. K. Butterfield Member of Congress	Grace Meng Member of Congress	Gwen Moore Member of Congress
Ilhan Omar Member of Congress	Jahana Hayes Member of Congress	James P. McGovern Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress

Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress

Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress

Mark Takano  
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress

Val B. Demings  
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress

John Garamendi  
Member of Congress

Josh Harder  
Member of Congress

Karen Bass  
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress

Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress

Sanford D Bishop  
Member of Congress

Suzan DelBene  
Member of Congress

Ted Lieu  
Member of Congress

TJ Cox  
Member of Congress

William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress

Peter Welch  
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

Sean Casten  
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress

Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress