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June 27, 2018

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Cornyn and Cruz:

On behalf of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce and the 1,900 member businesses we represent, we respectfully ask you to support the Farm Bill, but oppose certain amendments that would be harmful to many American farmers. The amendments we are asking you to oppose include the following:

- The Durbin-Grassley amendment that would impose a first ever AGI means test on crop insurance
- The Shaheen-Flake amendment that would impose a first ever pay limit on crop insurance
- The Shaheen-Toomey amendment that would gut U.S. sugar policy, a dangerous precedent for future farm policy
- The Grassley amendment that would impose unworkable pay limits and “actively-engaged” rules
- The Booker-Lee amendment that would undermine farmer-funded check off programs for farm and ranch organizations

The farming community is in need of a strong Farm Bill that will secure our country’s supply of food and fiber for years to come. Net farm income is down 52 percent while farm bankruptcies are up 39 percent. During these difficult times, it is even more important to ward off damaging amendments like the ones above.

As the largest business federation in the region, the Lubbock Chamber understands the value of agriculture on the overall business climate not just locally where it makes up one-third of our economy, but across Texas and the nation. For these reasons, we urge you to support a strong Farm Bill by opposing these harmful amendments.

Sincerely,

Eddie McBride  
President & CEO

