



July 31, 2017

The Honorable Mike Bost
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bost:

The Community Bankers Association (CBAI) is proud to represent approximately 330 members, many of which are located in agricultural areas across the state of Illinois. CBAI urges you, particularly as a member of the House Agriculture Committee, to support the adoption of a new multi-year farm bill which incorporates several broad principals to prevent a future farm credit crisis.

CBAI believes following these principals will provide needed continuity and enable agricultural producers and their lenders to engage in multi-year planning and business decision making. In general any new farm bill should:

- provide producers ample funds for commodities, crop insurance and credit programs to help them weather a potential farm income or farm credit crisis;
- direct agencies to reduce regulatory burdens and prohibit regulations not based on statutory language or that add unnecessary regulatory burdens;
- require federal rules to treat all categories of program participants fairly; and
- require direct loan programs to compliment, not undercut, private sector lending.

CBAI is dedicated to exclusively representing the interests of Illinois community banks and thrifts through effective advocacy, outstanding education, and high quality products. CBAI's 330 members hold more than \$70 billion in assets, operate 860 locations statewide, and lend to consumers, small businesses, and agriculture. For more information, please visit www.cbai.com.

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The passage of a long-term and robust farm bill will be a key component of the farm safety net, help prevent the next farm credit crisis and prevent an exodus of producers from the agricultural sector.

Thank you for considering our position on this important issue. Please contact me if you have any questions at (847) 909-8341 or davids@cbai.com.

Sincerely,

/s/

David G. Schroeder
Vice President Federal Governmental Relations

*Community Bankers Association of Illinois * 901 Community Drive * Springfield, Illinois 62703-5184*



July 31, 2017

The Honorable Rodney L. Davis
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Davis:

The Community Bankers Association (CBAI) is proud to represent approximately 330 members, many of which are located in agricultural areas across the state of Illinois. CBAI urges you, particularly as a member of the House Agriculture Committee, to support the adoption of a new multi-year farm bill which incorporates several broad principals to prevent a future farm credit crisis.

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David G. Schroeder
Vice President Federal Governmental Relations

*Community Bankers Association of Illinois * 901 Community Drive * Springfield, Illinois 62703-5184*



July 31, 2017

The Honorable Cheri L. Bustos
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Bustos:

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