

November 8th, 2011

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-230 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressional Leaders:

The undersigned diverse group of business associations, hunger and development organizations, agricultural groups, environmental groups, budget hawks, grassroots groups and free marketers urge you to reject efforts to continue or expand federal support for corn ethanol in any appropriations, tax, or debt reduction package. In particular, we oppose:

- Altering the requirements of the Renewable Fuels Standard in a way that would open the definition of advanced biofuels to include corn-based fuels.
- Any expansion of the Alternative Fuels Tax Credit that would allow 85 percent ethanol blends (E85) to qualify for the credit.
- Funding for ethanol “blender pumps” or any other ethanol infrastructure projects.
- Any extension of the Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit.

Any combination of these policies would only serve to expand the market for fuels derived from corn, especially corn ethanol, and exacerbate the many challenges associated with those fuels. Again, we urge you to reject efforts to expand federal support for corn ethanol in any appropriations, tax, or debt reduction package.

Sincerely,

ActionAid USA
American Bakers Association
American Frozen Food Institute
Americans for Limited Government
American Meat Institute
Americans for Prosperity
Americans for Tax Reform
California Dairy Campaign
Clean Air Task Force
Clean Water Action
Competitive Enterprise Institute
Environmental Working Group
Freedom Action
Friends of the Earth
Greenpeace USA
Grocery Manufacturers Association
Milk Producers Council
National Black Chamber of Commerce
National Chicken Council
National Council of Chain Restaurants
National Meat Association
National Wildlife Federation
National Restaurant Association
National Taxpayers Union
National Turkey Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
Oxfam America
Snack Food Association
Southeast Milk Inc.
Taxpayers for Common Sense
Taxpayers Protection Alliance