

October 19, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-230 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204 The Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Congressional Leaders:

The undersigned organizations oppose fiscally irresponsible proposals that would significantly expand federal support for corn ethanol at the expense of truly sustainable advanced biofuels, the environment, consumer food prices, and taxpayer dollars.

Last week, corn ethanol organizations proposed to extend existing corn ethanol subsidies, extend trade barriers, create new corn ethanol subsidies, increase the federal corn ethanol mandate from 15 to 21 billion gallons, and to ignore sound science. If enacted, this proposal would cost taxpayers \$6 billion next year alone, divert more than half of the U.S. corn supply from food and feed to fuel, increasing food prices, and eliminate critical environmental protections included in the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act.

We urge the Administration and Congress to reject this fiscally irresponsible proposal and to instead support fiscally responsible policies which promote sustainable, fungible fuels that do not pit our energy security needs against the needs of consumers and the environment.

Sincerely,

American Bakers Association
American Frozen Food Institute
American Meat Institute
Earth Day Network
Environmental Working Group
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Friends of the Earth
Grocery Manufacturers Association
International Dairy Foods Association

National Chicken Council
National Council of Chain Restaurants
National Meat Association
National Turkey Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
Public Citizen
Snack Food Association
Taxpayers for Common Sense