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ACTION ALERT #4 May 14, 2007

**HOUSE AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMITTEE TO VOTE ON
FARM BILL CONSERVATION TITLE WEEK OF MAY 21**

**SETS THE STAGE FOR THE FATE OF THE
CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM IN THE 2007 FARM BILL!!**

Phone calls or faxed letters are needed **immediately**, directed to Rep. Jerry Moran and Rep. Nancy Boyda, Kansas members of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Rural Development, and Research. Urge them to retain the Conservation Security Program (CSP) as the centerpiece of the Conservation Title, to restore past funding cuts to the program, and to oppose any amendments to further cut CSP funding in the 2007 Farm Bill.

The CSP is an innovative program that helps sustainable and organic farmers, drives new conservation investments, and supports farmers for the environmental benefits they foster rather than the production of particular crops.

Members of the Subcommittee will be presented with a farm bill proposal, including conservation, from full Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-MN) on May 17 or 18, and will then meet the following week to consider amendments and ultimately to vote to approve a new conservation title.

With no new funding being made available for the 2007 Farm Bill, at least not so far, we could see proposals to add funds to other parts of the Conservation Title by cutting funding from CSP. We must not allow this to happen. The CSP has already been cut by \$4.3 billion in previous congressional action, and we need that funding restored, with no further cuts, if we are to make significant advances in supporting sustainable farmers and ranchers who are protecting and enhancing natural resources and the environment.

PLEASE CALL OR FAX TODAY

Second District Rep. Nancy Boyda

Phone: 202-225-6601 FAX: 202-225-7986

First District Rep. Jerry Moran

Phone 202-225-2715 FAX 202-225-5124

Phone calls or faxed letters are the preferred contact method.

The message is simple:

I am a resident of Kansas (or the district) and I am calling to ask Representative Moran or Boyda to use his/her position on the House Agriculture Committee to:

1. Ensure that the Conservation Security Program remains a centerpiece of the Farm Bill Conservation Title.
2. Oppose any measures that would cut CSP funding.
3. Seek opportunities to restore the \$4.3 billion that has been cut from the program in the past.

It's easy to call or write. Please call the numbers above. Ask the receptionist to be connected with the staff person who covers agriculture. If the agriculture aid is unavailable, leave your name, phone number and the message above on the aid's voice mail or, if necessary, with the receptionist.

If you prefer to write, fax a brief letter with the same points above, along with your name, address, and contact information (fax numbers above too)

Background:

The Conservation Security Program is an innovative and proactive stewardship incentives program first authorized in the 2002 Farm Bill. The CSP provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers who develop and maintain conservation systems that solve critical natural resource and environmental concerns, rewarding them for investments of labor, management, and capital aimed at fostering healthy, productive, and non-eroding soils, clear air and clean water, energy savings, and wildlife habitat.

Despite its wide popularity with farmers and ranchers, the intent and scope of CSP have been stunted by repeated cuts to its funding levels. The 2007 Farm Bill is the vehicle for improving the CSP, strengthening its environmental criteria, ensuring that it serves sustainable and organic farmers, and getting its funding back to a level where the program can be made available to farmers on a regular, nationwide basis. The first step in that process is making sure the House Subcommittee begins the process by endorsing the program and maintaining its current funding base. Hopefully as the farm bill process proceeds, new funding will be made available so that earlier cuts to the program can be fully restored.

Thank you for your time. If possible, please let us know that you responded to this alert with a call or faxed letter, by sending us a quick e-mail back.

Below are the members of the House Ag Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Rural Development and Research:

Democrats

Member (State-Congressional District)	Phone	Fax
Tim Holden – Chairman (PA-17)	202-225-5546	202-226-0996
Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, (SD - at large)	202-225-2801	202-225-5823
Henry Cuellar (TX-28)	202-225-1640	202-225-1641
Jim Costa (CA-20)	202-225-3341	202-225-9308
Brad Ellsworth (IN-8)	202-225-4636	202-225-3284
Zachary Space (OH-18)	202-225-6265	202-225-3394
Timothy Walz (MN-1)	202-225-2472	202-225-3433
David Scott (GA-13)	202-225-2939	202-225-4628
John Salazar (CO-3)	202-225-4761	202-226-9669
Nancy Boyda (KS-2)	202-225-6601	202-225-7986
Kirsten Gillibrand (NY-20)	202-225-5614	202-225-1168
Dennis Cardoza (CA-18)	202-225-6131	202-225-0819
Steve Kagen (WI-8)	202-225-5665	202-225-5729
Joe Donnelly (IN-2)	202-225-3915	202-225-6798

Republicans

Member (State-Congressional District)	Phone	Fax
Frank Lucas - Ranking Member (OK-3)	202-225-5565	202-225-8698
Mike Rogers (AL-3)	202-225-3261	202-226-8485
Steve King (IA-5)	202-225-4426	202-225-3193
Jeff Fortenberry (NE-1)	202-225-4806	202-225-5686

Jean Schmidt (OH-2)	202-225-3164	202-225-1992
Timothy Walberg (MI-7)	202-225-6276	202-225-6281
Terry Everett (AL-2)	202-225-2901	202-225-8913
Jerry Moran (KS-1)	202-225-2715	202-225-5124
Robin Hayes (NC-8)	202-225-3715	202-225-4036
Sam Graves (MO-6)	202-225-7041	202-225-8221
Jo Bonner (AL-1)	202-225-4931	202-225-0562
Marilyn Musgrave (CO-4)	202-225-4676	202-225-5870

For Further Information, or to sign up for KRC Action Alerts, contact:

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5/14/07 Action Alert #4