The Honorable Collin Peterson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1010 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Peterson:

Section 1613 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the 2002 Farm Bill) requires that the Secretary of Agriculture submit an Equitable Relief Report by February 1 of each year to the House Committee on Agriculture and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. The 2014 Equitable Relief Report provides the number of requests for equitable relief filed with the Department of Agriculture (USDA) by participants in USDA programs pursuant to sections 1613(b) and (e) of the 2002 Farm Bill and section 278(d) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 during the previous calendar year and the disposition of those requests.

The enclosed report shows that program participants requested equitable relief in 845 cases filed with USDA and that USDA granted 763 of these requests and denied 72. An additional 10 requests were neither granted nor denied because they were mooted by USDA granting other forms of relief to the program participants. The enclosed report provides a detailed breakdown of these numbers.

If you have any further questions, please have a member of your staff contact Steven C. Silverman, Director of the National Appeals Division, at (703) 305-2708. A similar letter is being sent to Congressman Mike Conaway, Senator Pat Roberts, and Senator Debbie Stabenow.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure
The Honorable Mike Conaway  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1301 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C.  20515  

Dear Mr. Chairman:  

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary  

Enclosure
FEB 27 2015

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
United States Senate
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Stabenow:

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Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
United States Senate  
328A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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Enclosure