



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

FEB 27 2015

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom J. Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

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Washington, D.C. 20250

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:

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.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom J. Vilsack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure



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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:

Section 1613 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (the 2002 Farm Bill) requires that the Secretary of Agriculture submit a 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.

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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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