

June 30, 2026

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen,

The American Farm Bureau Federation (Farm Bureau), the nation's largest general farm organization with more than five million members in all 50 states and Puerto Rico, expresses its support for the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2026, which addresses critical needs of the nation's waterway infrastructure that farmers, ranchers, and rural America rely on for access to world markets, flood and storm protection, water supply, and drought mitigation.

Since 2014, Congress has passed a WRDA bill every two years, making the 2026 WRDA the seventh consecutive bipartisan WRDA bill that lawmakers will consider. Farm Bureau thanks the Chairman and Ranking Member for their leadership in crafting a bill that incorporates direct stakeholder input to deliver local, regional, and national benefits that keep American farmers and ranchers competitive in a global market.

The critical role stakeholder input played in shaping WRDA 2026 is evident throughout the legislation. Whether it is strengthening local input on levee systems; maintaining and prioritizing water supply and drought mitigation for impacted communities; streamlining a regulatory framework for port operation and maintenance; or, most importantly, maintaining and investing in our inland waterway system, particularly the locks and dams on the Snake and Columbia rivers, WRDA 2026 addresses priorities that are essential to rural communities and American agriculture. This legislation provides a tremendous foundation for future WRDAs. We urge Members to reject amendments that would jeopardize the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' ability to implement this legislation.

Farm Bureau appreciates the work the Committee has done on behalf of farmers, ranchers, and rural communities and we look forward to working with the Chairman and Ranking Member to see these investments become law.

Sincerely,



Dr. John Newton