

January 30, 2024

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chair  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member  
Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chair  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairs Smith and Wyden and Ranking Members Neal and Crapo:

The undersigned organizations, representing a broad swath of the American agriculture supply chain, urge you to pass a Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) as soon as possible this year. Choosing not to renew the MTB will lead to economic challenges for U.S. agriculture – from business to farmers and consumers.

The MTB temporarily reduces or eliminates tariffs on products that are not available in the United States. Unfortunately, the MTB has expired since December 2020, which means U.S. businesses and their customers have paid over \$1.5 billion in anti-competitive tariffs. The lack of a renewal is harming manufacturers of all domestic industries, significantly raising costs and impacting products and jobs and especially impacting small and medium-sized businesses as they pay more for product inputs. A renewed MTB would mean lower input prices and decreased price pressures for U.S. farmers, ranchers, and consumers.

For example, within the U.S. agriculture supply chain, for agricultural chemical companies the MTB reduces import duties on intermediate inputs that are not available or not available in sufficient quantities domestically which helps reduce domestic production costs of the final product. The MTB can save agricultural chemical companies a range of \$2 million to \$89 million per year when enacted – savings that now turn into costs that can have a ripple effect on farmers, businesses, and consumers. Without the savings from the MTB, it could lead to increased prices of final agricultural commodities, raising the cost of food and jeopardizing global competitiveness. Or it could lead to less use of inputs and, without the use of pesticides, farmers can lose up to 80% of their crops annually due to pests and disease. The U.S. agriculture chemical industry would also become less competitive as these savings are no longer being invested into strengthening U.S. manufacturing and research and development.

A renewed MTB means lower input prices and decreased price pressures for U.S. farmers, ranchers, and consumers. It is vital that the MTB passes this year to support American agriculture supply chain.

Sincerely,

Agribusiness Association of Iowa  
Agribusiness Council of Indiana  
Agricultural Council of Arkansas

Agricultural Retailers Association  
AmericanHort  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Seed Trade Association  
American Soybean Association  
Animal Health Institute  
California Specialty Crops Council  
Corn Refiners Association  
CropLife America  
Florida Fertilizer and Agrochemical Association  
Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Illinois Corn Growers Association  
Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association  
International Fresh Produce Association  
Minnesota Crop Production Retailers  
National Association of Landscape Professionals  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Corn Growers Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Pork Producers Council  
Nebraska Soybean Association  
North Carolina Farm Bureau  
North Dakota Grain Growers Association  
Ohio AgriBusiness Association  
RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment)  
Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association  
Society of American Florists  
South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
Southern Crop Production Association  
Texas Ag Industries Association  
USA Rice  
Washington State Potato Commission  
Western Growers  
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association