

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture 4350 North Fairfax Drive Suite 810 Arlington, VA 22203 Tel: 202-296-9680 www.nasda.org

December 19, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader U.S. Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-204, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader U.S. Senate S-230, The Capitol Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture supported the draft of H.R. 10445, the "Further Continuing Appropriations and Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2025" and sent a letter of support to the House of Representatives.

As you begin a new round of negotiations for a continuing resolution, NASDA asks you to maintain economic aid for farmers, disaster assistance for communities devastated by weather events and a one-year extension of the farm bill.

America's farmers and ranchers are facing an increasingly perilous agricultural economy. Real incomes are being throttled by persistently high input costs and depressed commodity prices while opportunities to invest in the future are hampered by prohibitive interest rates. Extreme natural disasters and global supply chain disruptions have further compounded the economic stress faced by America's producers of food, fuel, fiber, and shelter.

NASDA calls on you to find a resolution that provides the necessary economic aid and disaster assistance for the farmers and ranchers who work every day to provide food security to our country while also feeding the world.

Sincerely,

Jed & Michinney

Ted McKinney Chief Executive Officer NASDA

Enhance American food and agricultural communities through policy, partnerships and public engagement.