

January 2024

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
Chairwoman  
Senate Committee on Agriculture  
731 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Agriculture  
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Glenn Thompson  
Chairman  
House Committee on Agriculture  
400 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Scott  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Agriculture  
468 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Stabenow, Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Boozman, and Ranking Member Scott,

As agricultural researchers and educators at many different institutions, we write to urge you to ensure robust support for research into sustainable and climate-friendly practices in the 2024 Farm Bill, and in particular the codification of the US Department of Agriculture Climate Hubs accompanied by consistent annual appropriations. Continued and expanded public agricultural research is critical to addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change. Additional and assured research into climate-friendly practices will benefit farmers and ranchers across the nation, accelerate industry innovation, and strengthen food security.

The USDA Climate Hubs serve as non-partisan beacons of knowledge and expertise, fostering collaboration among scientists, producers, and stakeholders of all backgrounds. Climate Hubs directly impact the lives of farmers and ranchers, providing them with essential tools, resources, and knowledge to adapt to a rapidly changing climate. By offering guidance on crop selection, soil management, pest control, and water resource management, the Climate Hubs enable these vital stakeholders to make informed decisions, safeguard their livelihoods, and contribute to the nation's food security.

The Climate Hubs also empower universities to conduct cutting-edge studies, develop sustainable solutions, and train the next generation of climate-resilient agricultural professionals. They provide a wealth of data, research opportunities, and practical insights that enrich our understanding of climate change's effects on agriculture.

Finally, the Climate Hubs advance industry research and development, bridging the gap between scientific discovery and practical application. This fosters innovation and competitiveness within the agricultural sector while simultaneously addressing climate-related challenges.

**We, the 130 undersigned academics and researchers, implore you to prioritize the codification of this program under the Farm Bill and ensure its consistent annual appropriations.\*** By taking this action, you would help strengthen academic research, foster industry innovation, and empower farmers and ranchers to ensure a sustainable, secure future for our nation's agriculture. We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working collaboratively to secure the future of the USDA Climate Hubs program.

\*Affiliations are for identification purposes only, and should not be construed to reflect the opinion of institutions or employers.

Sincerely,

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American Society of Agronomy

Dr. Bhuwan Thapa, Appalachian State University

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Dr. Mark Friedl, Boston University

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Dr. Tyler Anthony, California Department of Water Resources

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Dr. Jennifer Pett-Ridge, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Carbon180

Dr. Gretchen Kroh, Carbon180

Center for Food Safety

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Pamela Tate, Climate Reality Project Chicago

Climate Reality Project Regenerative Agriculture Coalition

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Dr. Michael G. Ryan, Colorado State University

Professor Peter Lehner, Columbia Law School

Coming Clean

Dr. Greeshma Gadikota, Cornell University

Dr. William Philpot, Cornell University

Zoe Barr, Cornell University

Creekside Science

Crop Science Society of America

Aimee Delach, Defenders of Wildlife

Professor Michelle B. Nowlin, Duke University School of Law

Earthjustice

Dr. Kim Mattson, Ecosystems Northwest

Dr. Ann Blake, Environmental & Public Health Consulting

Environmental Defense Fund

Dr. Yolanda Whyte, Ethical And Respectful Treatment of Humans

Dr. Melissa Lane, Fibernetics LLC

Emily Skibinski, Georgia Institute of Technology

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Dr. Josh Fisher, Hydrosat

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Dr. Erika Roesler, Sandia National Laboratories

Dr. Thomas Wassmer, Siena Heights University

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