

Testimony of Agriculture Committee
Ranking Republican Frank Lucas
House Administration Hearing on Committee Budgets
January 27, 2010

Chairman Brady, Ranking Member Lungren, and members of the committee, I am pleased to be here today to satisfy the requirements of House Resolution 279. As you just heard from Chairman Peterson, our committee has enjoyed a long history of bipartisanship, and we have continued that cooperation through the first session of the 111th Congress.

As we testified last year, the Committee continues to oversee the implementation of the Farm Bill and monitor the effects of the economic downturn on rural America. I am encouraged by and support Chairman Peterson's interest in starting our traditional series of farm bill field hearings early in the implementation process. Given the challenges of living in rural America, it's often easier to take Congress to the countryside than it is to bring the country to this city.

In addition to bipartisanship, the Agriculture Committee has a strong history of fiscal responsibility. The travel proposed by Chairman Peterson will cost money, but it is my intention to work with Chairman Peterson and the members of the committee to ensure proper stewardship of taxpayer money.

I thank the Chair and the Ranking Member for this opportunity to testify.

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