



November 13, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House, U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Support for Congressman Jim Costa as the Chair of the House Agriculture Committee**

Dear Madam Speaker:

On behalf of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, I write in enthusiastic support of Congressman Jim Costa for Chair of the House Agriculture Committee. A 16-year veteran of Congress and third-generation farmer, we believe Congressman Costa possesses the experience and leadership needed to carry the Committee and its important work forward.

As a lifelong resident of the nation's number one agricultural county, the Congressman innately understands agriculture and its relationship to the critical economic vitality of rural America. He knows the need to make sure nutrition and the environment remain some of our top priorities. He has walked the fields of thousands of farms throughout this nation which has provided him insights very few others will have in the new Congress. He represents many small towns that are emblematic of rural towns across America which face distinct challenges of their own.

The House Agriculture Committee not only plays a vital role in the needs of producers who grow our food but also how we maximize access to it. Congressman Costa understands the nation's nutrition programs and will be a champion for increasing access to areas that need the healthy food our farmers and ranchers produce.

Historically, agriculture has been one of the most bipartisan topics at the Federal level. Congressman Costa, at the helm of the House Agriculture Committee, would work with all to find the needed solutions to the food and nutrition issues affecting all corners of the country.

Congressman Costa is without hesitation the most qualified to take on the responsibilities of the chairmanship especially at a time when we have so many issues such as COVID-19, food security, immigration, trade and foreign policy impacting not just agriculture but our entire country. We have seen firsthand his dedication to all of his constituents and rural America, and the lasting impacts he has made to California agriculture at every level.

We strongly urge his appointment as chair. Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

  
Ryan Jacobsen  
CEO

CC: Congressman Jim Costa, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Kamala Harris, CDFA  
Secretary Karen Ross