

February XX, 2023

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman, U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Glenn “GT” Thompson
Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Scott
Ranking Member, House Committee on Agriculture
1010 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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

We are writing to express our strong support for including in the 2023 Farm Bill reauthorization language under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) codifying state oversight of pesticides at the state level. 46 states have adopted some form of pesticide preemption and are working cooperatively with local officials to enforce robust oversight of state pesticide laws.

Ensuring that pesticides are properly regulated is imperative for all our health and safety. Since the 1970s, State lead agencies have worked with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through cooperative agreements to administer and enforce FIFRA laws and support the development of scientifically based pesticide labels. State level pesticide control officials are career employees with extensive scientific training and are therefore best situated to prevent pesticides from having adverse effects to the environment.

This targeted fix will ensure that those with expertise at state lead agencies and EPA are the ones to determine pesticide usage and protect the status quo of 46 States where robust oversight of pesticides is already occurring, including Arkansas, California, Georgia, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

There is precedent for including similar language a Farm Bill, as demonstrated in H.R. 2 the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 where the House included such language in its initial 2018 Farm Bill. However, it was ultimately not included in the final conferenced version signed into

law on December 20th, 2018. It is therefore important the language be included, and remain in, the final 2023 Farm Bill.

On behalf of the organizations signed below, please consider supporting such language in the 2023 Farm Bill.

Sincerely,