



October 3, 2017

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
Chair, House Judiciary Committee
US House of Representatives
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Goodlatte,

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) applauds the committee for focusing on the critical need for labor facing U.S. agriculture. We encourage the Judiciary Committee to advance the AG Act as a crucial step forward in addressing this labor crisis. The agriculture industry needs workable solutions that allow for a secure, legal workforce right now, and in the future. NASDA looks forward to working throughout the legislative process to further improve the bill and address agriculture's needs. We call on all members of the Judiciary Committee to vote the AG Act out of committee as the first step in the legislative process.

NASDA represents the Commissioners, Secretaries, and Directors of the state departments of agriculture in all fifty states and four U.S. territories. State departments of agriculture are responsible for a range of programs including food safety, combating the spread of disease, and fostering the economic vitality of our rural communities. Promoting their state's agriculture producers and processors is a key responsibility for NASDA members.

Passing the AG Act out of the Judiciary Committee is a needed step towards finding a solution for agriculture producers and processors throughout the country. We look forward to continuing to work with the chairman, the committee, and across party lines to address the agriculture labor crisis. If you have any questions, please contact Britt Aasmundstad (britt@nasda.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara P. Glenn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara P. Glenn, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer