

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 12, 2012

The Honorable Frank Lucas  
Chairman  
House Committee on Agriculture  
1301 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6016

The Honorable Collin Peterson  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Agriculture  
1305 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6016

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Peterson:

We write to call your attention to a unique problem facing the poultry industry. The high price for feed and the decreased demand for poultry products brought on by the economic downturn of the previous five years have created a difficult environment for the poultry industry.

These economic challenges have resulted in bankruptcies for poultry integrators that contract with growers throughout the country. This creates unique challenges for poultry growers who rely on ongoing integrator relationships that have been established over many years. When an integrator goes under, the growers that have contracted with that integrator are often left with no market for the chickens or turkeys that they are raising.

A bankruptcy of the integrator is brought on by no fault of the producer. A risk management tool is needed to allow poultry growers to insure against losses they would incur in the event of a business disruption.

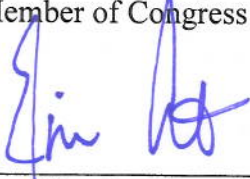
Currently, no product at the federal level exists to meet this need and the private market provides scattered coverage throughout the country. As we work to draft the coming Farm Bill, this letter respectfully requests that a study be commissioned to assess the feasibility of business interruption insurance for contract growers to help them survive integrator bankruptcies. Current risk mitigation tools may be difficult to adjust to accommodate the unique risks for business disruption faced by poultry producers, and further study is needed to consider a potential RMA policy to meet this currently unmet need by the market.

We appreciate your consideration of this important issue. If you or your staff have questions or require any additional information or assistance, please contact Jack Huerter in Congressman McIntyre's office at 202.225.1254 or [jack.huerter@mail.house.gov](mailto:jack.huerter@mail.house.gov) or Chris Jones in Congressman Crawford's office at 202.225.4076 or [chris.jones@mail.house.gov](mailto:chris.jones@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,



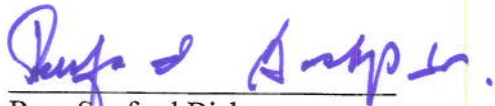
Rep. Mike McIntyre  
Member of Congress



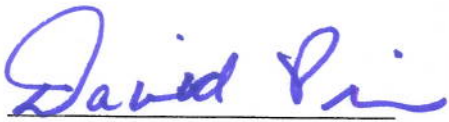
Rep. Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



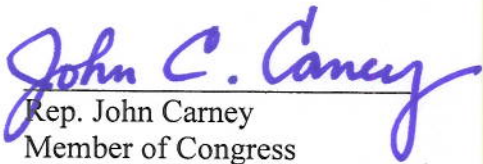
Rep. John Barrow  
Member of Congress



Rep. Sanford Bishop  
Member of Congress



Rep. David Price  
Member of Congress



Rep. John Carney  
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Rep. David Scott  
Member of Congress



Rep. Rick Crawford  
Member of Congress



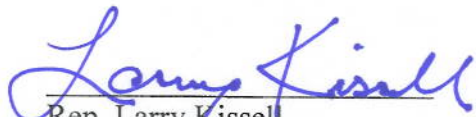
Rep. Renee Ellmers  
Member of Congress



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Rep. Larry Kissell  
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Rep. Marcy Kaptur  
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