



Office of the President

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October 27, 2023

Southwest Climate Hub | USDA Climate Hubs
Chairwoman Stabenow
Chairman Thompson
Ranking Member Boozman
Ranking Member Scott

climatehubs@usda.gov

Dear Representatives:

As agricultural researchers and educators at many different institutions, we write to urge you to ensure robust support for research into sustainable and climate-friendly practices in the 2023 Farm Bill, and in particular the codification of the US Department of Agriculture Climate Hubs accompanied by consistent annual appropriations. Continued and expanded public agricultural research is critical to addressing the pressing challenges posed by climate change. Additional and assured research into climate-friendly practices will benefit farmers and ranchers across the nation, accelerate industry innovation, and strengthen food security.

The USDA Climate Hubs serve as non-partisan beacons of knowledge and expertise, fostering collaboration among scientists, producers, and stakeholders of all backgrounds. Climate Hubs directly impact the lives of farmers and ranchers, providing them with essential tools, resources, and knowledge to adapt to a rapidly changing climate. By offering guidance on crop selection, soil management, pest control, and water resource management, the Climate Hubs enable these vital stakeholders to make informed decisions, safeguard their livelihoods, and contribute to the nation's food security.

The Climate Hubs also empower universities to conduct cutting-edge studies, develop sustainable solutions, and train the next generation of climate-resilient agricultural professionals. They provide a wealth of data, research opportunities, and practical insights that enrich our understanding of climate change's effects on agriculture.

Finally, the Climate Hubs advance industry research and development, bridging the gap between scientific discovery and practical application. This fosters innovation and competitiveness within the agricultural sector while simultaneously addressing climate-related challenges.

We implore you to prioritize the codification of this program under the Farm Bill and ensure its consistent annual appropriations. By taking this action, you would help strengthen academic research, foster industry innovation, and empower farmers and ranchers to ensure a sustainable, secure future for our nation's agriculture.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working collaboratively to secure the future of the USDA Climate Hubs program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Gogue".

Jay Gogue
Interim President