

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 30, 2025

The Honorable Lee M. Zeldin
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Zeldin,

We thank the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for proposing record biomass-based diesel (BBD) volumes in the Set 2 proposal and for including a 50 percent reduction in Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) for imported renewable fuels and fuels made from foreign feedstocks (Import RIN reduction). The combination of the strong BBD volumes coupled with prioritizing U.S. feedstocks represents a commonsense approach that puts American farmers first, strengthens domestic biofuel markets, and delivers tangible economic benefits to rural communities.

Soybean oil may only represent 20 percent of the bean, but it accounts for more than half of its value in the U.S. market, and about half of that oil is used to make advanced biofuels such as biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel. That means roughly a quarter of every bushel's value processed here in the U.S. is directly tied to biofuel demand. At a time when many farmers are struggling to break even, all federal biofuels policies should prioritize domestic agriculture and biofuel production, not foreign fuels made from foreign feedstocks. Additionally, while farmers face the uncertainty of foreign market demand, the Import RIN reduction would provide essential support for the farm economy so farmers could sell more products domestically.


The EPA's own analysis highlights the positive impact of the Import RIN proposal: it will create jobs and generate economic growth in farming, transportation, and manufacturing, particularly in rural communities where oilseed processing facilities are located. This is exactly the outcome Congress intended when it created and expanded the Renewable Fuel Standard.

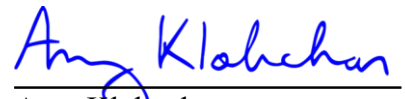
The Import RIN reduction also aligns with Congressional intent under the 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit, which prioritizes domestic feedstocks. Aligning EPA's policy with this standard helps level the playing field for domestic feedstock and biofuel producers with imported feedstocks, such as Brazilian tallow and so called "used cooking oil" from China, which would otherwise directly undercut U.S. energy, agriculture, and manufacturing.

For these reasons, we urge EPA to finalize the Import RIN reduction as proposed and to hold firm on the biomass-based diesel volumes in the rule. Finalizing the proposal would ensure the Renewable Fuel Standard delivers on its promises of strengthening U.S. energy security,

supporting American farmers and domestic renewable fuel producers, and keeping investment and jobs here at home.

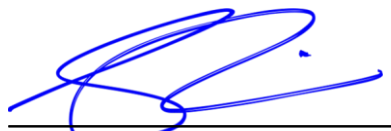
Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress

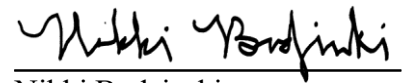

Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress

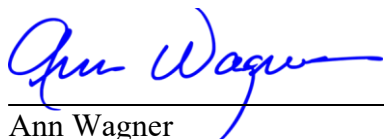

Dusty Johnson
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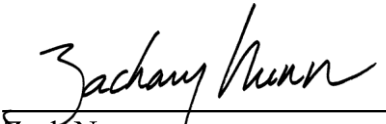
James Comer
Member of Congress




Mike Bost
Member of Congress



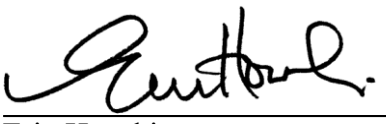
Randy Feenstra
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United States Senator



Erin Houchin
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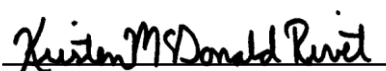

Mike Flood
Member of Congress



Derrick Van Orden
Member of Congress

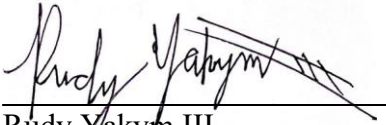

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Deb Fischer
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Kristen McDonald Rivet
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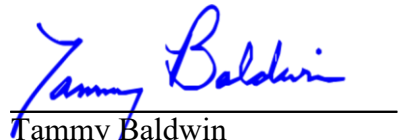
Tina Smith
United States Senator



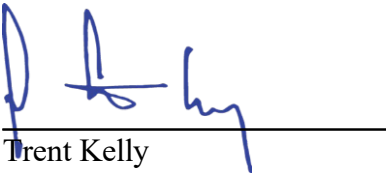
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Pete Ricketts
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



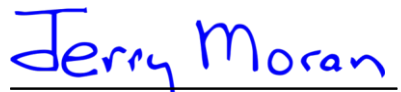
Trent Kelly
Member of Congress



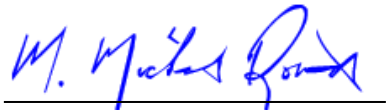
Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith
Member of Congress



Jerry Moran
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator