



## **Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.**

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June 7, 2012

The Honorable Mary Landrieu  
431 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510-1804

Senator Landrieu:

The Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation appreciates your efforts to improve the 2012 Farm Bill. As proposed, S. 3240 does not provide an adequate safety net for many southern agricultural producers. As a general farm organization, we place a high priority on ensuring the Farm Bill benefits all agricultural commodity sectors in a balanced and coordinated manner.

Louisiana agriculture is very diverse and the various commodity interests face very different marketing and production challenges. Producers of various commodities need to have programs to choose from that effectively address their unique perils. A necessary part of providing a real choice is to ensure that each option, revenue-based or priced-based, provides effective protection in the event of price declines, particularly in multiyear low price scenarios. Options must be relevant to today's and future costs and crop price environments, plain and bankable to lenders, and tailored to producer's risks. We also oppose any changes to the current payment limitation and eligibility provisions.

We appreciate the work that you have done to advocate for all of Louisiana's agricultural producers, and we support your efforts in working with other Senators to obtain provisions more favorable to our growers. We support your efforts to proceed with consideration of the Farm Bill, and hopefully your efforts will provide enough leverage to gain some of the most needed concessions. We understand that if the required votes needed to evoke cloture are obtained, you will have to look at different strategies to achieve the goal of improving the Farm Bill so that it eventually meets the needs of Louisiana's agricultural interests. If the motion to proceed passes, hopefully there will be additional opportunities to make adjustments and refinements to improve this legislation. We understand that you will have to make some strategic decisions so that you will be in the best position to achieve changes throughout the entire process that will address Louisiana agriculture's needs.

Again, we appreciate all of your efforts to improve the Senate's version of the Farm Bill so that it adequately addresses the needs of all producers.

Sincerely,

Ronald Anderson  
LFBF President