



November 16, 2021

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,
and Forestry
United States Senate
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,
and Forestry
United States Senate
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Stabenow and Ranking Member Boozman,

We write to express our fervent support for Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, who has been nominated by President Biden to serve as Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics (REE) at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

As the Administrator for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Acting Deputy Under Secretary for REE, Acting USDA Chief Scientist, and former Acting Director for USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Dr. Jacobs-Young has the experience and scientific expertise to lead U.S. research, education, and economics into a new era of innovation.

Dr. Jacobs-Young understands the immense challenges facing research, education, and the Extension enterprise, the envy of the world. As the Under Secretary for the REE Mission Area, Dr. Jacobs-Young will bring exceptional qualifications, including strengthening ARS, where she led initiatives in bioenergy, agroecosystems, livestock and specialty crops, as well as climate and nutrition research. During her tenure at USDA, she has worked tirelessly to prioritize investments and optimize outcomes.

As a nationally recognized leader of agricultural research, education, Extension, and innovation, Dr. Jacobs-Young is the ideal nominee to lead the REE mission area. We wholly endorse her for Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.

Sincerely,

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

African Food Revolution

Agricultural & Applied Economics Association

Agricultural Retailers Association

American Association of Mycobacterial Diseases

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

American Farmland Trust

American Feed Industry Association

American Institute of Biological Sciences

American Malting Barley Association

American Mushroom Institute

American Pulse Association

American Phytopathological Society

American Seed Trade Association

American Society for Horticultural Science

American Society for Microbiology

American Society for Nutrition

American Society of Agronomy

American Society of Animal Science

American Society of Plant Biologists

American Soybean Association

AmericanHort

Animal Health Institute

Aquatic Plant Management Society

ASCC-ACNR (Land Grant Program)

Association of 1890 Research Directors

Association of Northeast Extension Directors

Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities Board on Agriculture Assembly

Biotechnology Innovation Organization

Corn Refiners Association

Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Council for Agricultural Science and Technology

Crop Science Society of America

CropLife America

Donald Danforth Plant Science Center

Ecological Society of America

Entomological Society of America

Eversole Associates

Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy

Farm Journal Foundation

Glenn Family Farm

International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium (IWGSC)

IR-4 Project

Johnson Farm

Michigan State University AgBioResearch

Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals – Multistate Initiative

National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science

National Association of Federal Veterinarians

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

National Association of Wheat Growers

National Barley Growers Association

National Barley Improvement Committee

National Bison Association

National Cattlemen's Beef Association

National Center for Appropriate Technology

National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research

National Cotton Council

National Grain and Feed Association

National Milk Producers Federation

National Pork Producers Council

National Sorghum Producers

National Sunflower Association

National Turfgrass Federation

NC State University

North American Meat Institute

North American Millers' Association

North Carolina A&T State University

Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

Oklahoma State University Agriculture

Oregon Cattlemen's Association

Organic Farming Research Foundation

Phytobiomes Alliance

Plant Based Products Council

Produce Marketing Association

Rochester Institute of Technology

Soil Science Society of America

South Dakota State University

Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR) Foundation

Tennessee State University

Texas A&M AgriLife

The University of Tennessee

Tufts University

U.S. Apple Association

U.S. Canola Association

Union of Concerned Scientists

United Fresh Produce Association

University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources

University of Florida

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council

USA Rice

Washington State University

Weed Science Society of America

Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

Western Growers