

October 9, 2018

The Honorable
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Full Senate:

As the Senate begins consideration of S. 3021, America's Water Infrastructure Act, I am writing to express the American Farm Bureau Federation's support for this important bill. Farm Bureau believes having an efficient and reliable inland waterway system linked to competitive ports is vital to America's ability to provide affordable agricultural products domestically and to compete internationally.

The nation's inland waterways are a strategic, economic and military resource given their ability to move large amounts of cargo. Over 60 percent of America's grain exports and many other important commodities such as fuel, coal and agricultural inputs also move through our inland waterway system. Due to this importance, Farm Bureau policy explicitly supports the maintenance and improvement of our transportation infrastructure including the locks and dams system and other waterway infrastructure.

Construction, dredging and repairs to our vital marine transportation system will help ensure the reliability of the most affordable, energy efficient and environmentally-sustainable mode of transporting agricultural products. Farm Bureau urges you to vote in support of S. 3021. Doing so will put America's inland waterways and port infrastructure on a solid and sustainable foundation to contribute to U.S. economic growth, jobs and global competitiveness for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Zippy Duvall
President