

KEVIN YODER

3RD DISTRICT, KANSAS

215 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2865

DISTRICT OFFICE:
7325 WEST 79TH STREET
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66204
(913) 621-0832

<http://yoder.house.gov>



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1603

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

VICE CHAIR, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT
STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS AND
RELATED PROGRAMS

July 2, 2013

Bill Vodehnal
201 East Florence Street
Bassett, NE 68714-5032

Dear Bill,

Thank you for taking the time to contact me about this issue related to the Farm Bill. I understand your concerns. As your Congressman, I am focused on giving Kansans a more efficient and effective agricultural policy that spends less and delivers more. Your communication is a vital part of this process.

As you may know, I am a 5th generation Kansan who grew up working on my family's grain and livestock farm in Reno County, so I believe that the Farm Bill is a lot more than subsidy formulas and sustainability initiatives: It is the crucial underpinning of the cost and availability of the healthy food you and I eat every day.

As we considered a Farm Bill these last several months, I remained focused on reforms that create a healthier environment for Kansas farms and businesses to hire and expand. I looked closely at all the changes to make sure that they will promote economic growth and government efficiency. The final voted was 195-234, including 24 Democrats voting for the bill. I'm disappointed the House did not advance this legislation because this bill contained much-needed reforms, including the elimination of direct payments to farmers, and rooted out fraud and abuse in the food stamp program - all told saving taxpayers tens of billions of dollars over the current law. Specific savings being:

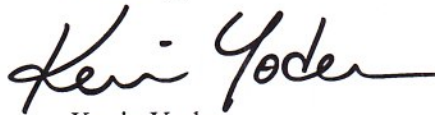
9. New restrictions on eligibility to combat food-stamp abuse and fraud, cutting \$20.5 billion compared to current policy.
10. Would cut most direct payments to farmers, saving about \$18.6 billion dollars over the next 10 years.
11. Increases crop insurance payments by nearly \$9 billion each year in case crops fail or prices decline, in order to cushion the blow from eliminated direct payments for farmers.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to come up with an alternative piece of legislation that will address overspending in the current law and focusing in on much needed reforms in order to save the American taxpayer from funding inefficient programs.

Again, I want to thank you for contacting me and sharing your thoughts. My staff and I are dedicated to providing outstanding services to the constituents of our district. To stay connected and follow my votes, please "Like" my page on Facebook

(facebook.com/congressmankevinyoder), follow me on Twitter (twitter.com/repkevinyoder), and visit my website (yoder.house.gov) to sign up for my weekly e-newsletter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Yoder". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress

ky/br