



United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

September 1, 2026

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Doug Burgum
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Rollins and Secretary Burgum,

I/We write to you today to request that you enlist and prioritize the tools that American beef producers need, as well as encourage your continued efforts, to work with ranchers over the last year to rebuild the smallest cattle herd in 75 years.¹ Through the rescission of the Biden-era Conservation and Landscape Health rule,² implementation of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) grazing Memorandum of Understanding,³ as well as additional measures carried out in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Plan to Fortify the American Beef Industry⁴ the Trump Administration has taken great strides to cut the red tape that has burdened American ranchers for decades, and reversed policies that were harmful to both our grazing lands and cattle herds.

The United States' beef industry is the greatest in the world and one of the brightest spots of American agriculture, making up nearly a quarter of U.S. agriculture receipts.⁵ The Federal government must remain laser-focused on partnering with the industry and state efforts for ranchers, expand grazing on public and private lands, and improve protein processing capacity.

Recent legislation such as the Working Families Tax Cuts Act has strengthened American agriculture and the producers who sustain it. We stand ready to build on that record through the 2026 Farm Bill and other upcoming legislation to support our ranchers and keep beef an affordable, nutritious choice for American families. Through regulatory and statutory reforms, together we can help to rebuild the herd.

On behalf of our hardworking livestock producers, we encourage you to expedite existing rulemakings that prioritize the production of American beef. This includes finalization of the BLM grazing rule and re-evaluation of other programs such as the Wild Horse and Burro

¹ <https://www.fb.org/intel/markets/smaller-cattle-herd-creates-market-volatility>

² <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2026/05/12/2026-09386/rescission-of-conservation-and-landscape-health-rule>

³ <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/forest-service-grazing-memo.pdf>

⁴ https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA%20Beef%20Industry%20Plan%20White%20Paper.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

⁵ <https://data.ers.usda.gov/reports.aspx?ID=4057>

program, the Endangered Species Act reform, and the Conservation Reserve Program, all of which impact cattle grazing capacity on public and private lands.

We also ask that USDA staff work with livestock producers to assess the efficacy of the Livestock Risk Protection program and opportunities to improve and expand the program to better support livestock owners as they make investments to expand their herds.

We hope you share our desire to support our livestock owners and prioritize implementation of these recommendations and collaborate with Congress on making necessary changes as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support for the cattle industry.

Sincerely,



Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator



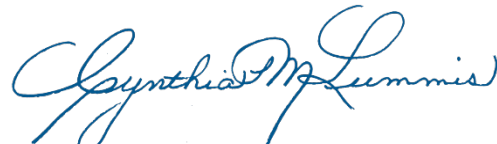
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United States Senator



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United States Senator



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