

July 20, 2017

The Honorable Pat Roberts
Chairman
Senate Committee on Agriculture
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Agriculture
328A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Roberts, Ranking Member Stabenow, and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee:

The undersigned members of the production agriculture community wholeheartedly endorse Ted McKinney to be the next USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agriculture Affairs. Ted's current job experience in leading the Indiana Department of Agriculture is the most recent chapter of a long and stellar career dedicated to American agriculture. Beginning on his family's farm in Indiana (which he is still connected to today) through his experience and demonstrated commitment to the Future Farmers of America youth organization, and on to gaining an agricultural degree at Purdue University, Ted has a solid foundation in farming and agribusiness.

The arc of his career, including issues management experience in crop and animal agriculture in the United States and around the world for innovative agribusiness, means that Ted is the penultimate candidate for this important role at USDA.

We respectfully request that you expeditiously consider his nomination and advance his confirmation to your colleagues on the floor of the US Senate.

Signed,