

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 16, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our serious concern regarding record-high fertilizer prices impacting American farmers going into the spring planting season. Fertilizer is a primary input and major expense for producers across the country, and price increases will have a significant effect on farm profitability and the prices of food and consumer products.

Since January 2021, according to the most recent data from the United States Department of Agricultural Marketing Services, the prices of key fertilizer sources have substantially increased as follows: anhydrous ammonia (by 203%); Urea (by 141%); liquid nitrogen (162%); monoammonium phosphate (MAP) (by 74%); potash (by 125%); and farm diesel (by 95%).

Ongoing supply-chain bottlenecks and the rising cost of energy are among the factors sending fertilizer prices soaring, and disruptions stemming from Russia's invasion of Ukraine will only compound the problem. As a result, Americans will pay more at restaurants, grocery stores, and other places.

We are therefore urging your administration to review all available options to lower the cost of fertilizer, including but not limited to: eliminating the cross-border vaccine mandate for transporters of essential commerce; engaging stakeholders to prevent a Canadian Pacific Railway strike; urging the U.S. Department of Agriculture to use its existing authorities under the food supply chain and pandemic response resources to provide support for farmers facing financial difficulties; ensuring agricultural minerals like phosphate and potash are part of the Department of the Interior's critical mission; increasing U.S. gas production; and approving pending export permits at the Department of Energy for Liquefied Natural Gas.

Quickly undertaking such measures is the most immediate—and perhaps only—near-term opportunity to partially remedy the high costs of fertilizer impacting American farmers and ultimately American consumers. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Bill Hagerty
United States Senator



John Boozman
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator



John Hoeven
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator



John Barrasso
United States Senator



Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



Ted Cruz
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



Chuck Grassley
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator



Tom Cotton
United States Senator



Roger Marshall
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator

Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator

Richard Burr
United States Senator

John Kennedy
United States Senator

Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator

CC: Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo
Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland
U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai