

## United States Senate

July 31, 2015

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Washington, DC 20250

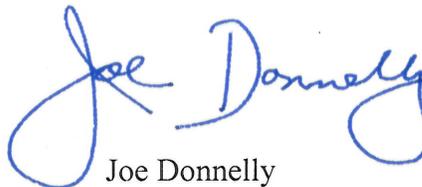
Dear Secretary Vilsack,

I am writing to express my strong support for the joint request from Indiana's Governor, Lt. Governor, and Executive Director of Indiana's Farm Service Agency for a disaster declaration for 53 of Indiana's 92 counties. Much of Indiana has experienced excessive and prolonged rainfall, beginning in May and continuing to fall at record-breaking rates through the present.

The extreme levels of rain have caused irreparable damage to planted fields and rendered others unplanted throughout the state. Tens of thousands of acres still have living plants, but will only produce a portion of the typical yield due to poor root development and interruptions to fertilizer and herbicide application patterns.

Thousands of farmers in Indiana are going to experience significant financial losses this year and this will be a particularly difficult time for young and limited resource farmers. I would appreciate your immediate and favorable consideration of a disaster declaration for these counties so that resources can be made available to help deal with these crops losses.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator