

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Sonny Perdue
Secretary of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Perdue:

We write to express our gratitude for your support for the much needed *Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019*, which was recently signed into law by President Trump. We look forward to working with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ensure that disaster aid is delivered in a timely and effective manner so that producers affected by Hurricane Michael have the opportunity to rebuild their farms and livelihoods.

As you write the regulations and implement the more than \$3 billion appropriated for the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program (WHIP), we hope that you will consider the following recommendations.

1. Issue WHIP payments in a timely manner and as a one-time payment.
2. Use individual versus county yields for both pecans and specialty crops.
3. Provide a Risk Management Agency (RMA) yield exclusion for the 2018-2019 pecan crop.
4. Use net crop insurance indemnities to determine WHIP payments.
5. Incorporate the cottonseed endorsement (and other endorsements/riders) into WHIP for producers who purchased the seed endorsement (or other riders) with their insurance coverage.
6. Work with the Georgia Department of Agriculture to administer a block grant funds to adequately address the needs of Georgia, including specialty crops and forestry.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David A. Perdue
United States Senator



Johnny Isakson
United States Senator

Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter

Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter (GA - 01)
Member of Congress

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA - 02)
Member of Congress

Austin Scott

Austin Scott (GA - 08)
Member of Congress

Rick W. Allen

Rick W. Allen (GA - 12)
Member of Congress

David Scott

David Scott (GA - 13)
Member of Congress