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December 9, 2021

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

Thank you for your proactive efforts addressing our supply chain challenges and your September announcement of 3 billion dollars in investments for drought resilience, animal disease prevention, and market disruption relief.

I am writing this personal letter to you to ask: if you would be kind enough to please use a portion of the 500 million dollars you have dedicated to providing relief from agricultural market disruptions, to provide critical financial assistance to help our merchandisers of U.S. cotton.

Mr. Secretary, our nation's cotton industry is experiencing unprecedented supply chain disruptions. And, our nation's cotton merchandisers are being significantly impacted by COVID-related demand erosion and by supply chain disruptions. And, this has now created unparalleled costs and losses impacting our merchandisers of U.S. cotton.

And, as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, I stand ready to work together with you, as a partner, in bringing this very much needed financial help to our merchandisers of U.S. cotton. And, Mr. Secretary, my request to you is very important to me and, most certainly, to the cotton industry because of the important role that our cotton merchandisers play in providing the liquidity and the risk management for all our U.S. cotton producers and farmers.

Secretary Vilsack, I deeply and personally appreciate your help with my request for you to use a portion of the \$500 million funding for agriculture market disruption to provide financial relief for our merchandisers of U.S. cotton. Thank you, and God bless you.

Your friend,


David Scott
Chairman, House Agriculture Committee