April 16, 2018

The Honorable Mike Conaway
Chairman
Committee on Agriculture
U. S. House of Representatives
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Collin C. Peterson
Ranking Member
Committee on Agriculture
U. S. House of Representatives
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Peterson:

The Council for Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching (CARET) is a national voluntary citizens' organization whose grassroots membership supports the agricultural research, extension, and teaching programs of the land-grant university system and is comprised of agricultural producers, commodity leaders, agribusiness leaders, state and local officials, homemakers, consumers, and members of agricultural advisory boards from each state and territory.

On behalf of the CARET membership, I write to express our support for the research, extension, and teaching provisions included in H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018. CARET also supports the expeditious consideration of the bill by the House Committee on Agriculture and the full U. S. House of Representatives.

CARET’s members certainly appreciate the Committee’s efforts to reauthorize the very important research, extension, and teaching programs within Title VII of the bill as well as continued funding for those programs which did not have a funding baseline beyond Fiscal Year 2018. These are the very programs that have enabled America’s farmers to provide the nation and beyond with an affordable, nutritious, and safe food supply. CARET also supports the expanded role that H. R. 2 envisions for Cooperative Extension at our land-grant institutions in the delivery of nutrition education through the SNAP-Ed program.

The CARET membership looks forward to working with you in securing the passage of H. R. 2. We can be contacted through our Executive Director, Eddie G. Gouge, at egouge@aplu.org or (202) 478-6028 whenever CARET can be of any assistance in this effort.

Sincerely,

Louise Beaman
Chairwoman

A VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION OF CITIZENS CooperATING WITH THE BOARD ON AGRICULTURE ASSEMBLY
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRA NT UNIVERSITIES