

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 28, 2011

The Honorable Jeb Hensarling, Chairman
House Republican Conference
202A Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas, Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture
1301 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Camp, Chairman
House Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Super Committee Members and Chairman Lucas:

As you are well aware, the debate over dairy policy reform is well underway in Washington. This is good news for America's dairy farmers. In recent years dairy farmers have faced a myriad of challenges unlike any in recent memory. They need our help.

Existing dairy policy includes a number of antiquated, opaque, complicated, and manipulative federal government policies strung together over more than 70 years. These policies have failed our farmers and do not reflect our values. We came to Congress to make government more accountable, less costly, and more limited. We came because we believe in the power of free enterprise to create jobs and grow the economy.

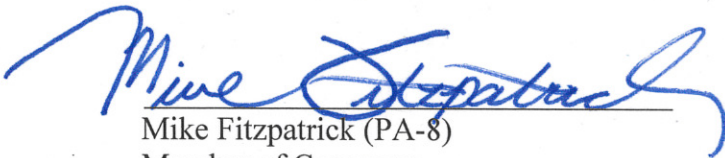
Within that context, we have concerns with the current trajectory of dairy policy discussions. Specifically, we do not support any proposal that would restrict or micro-manage dairy supply. Such policies would signal to the international community that the United States is not committed to supplying their dairy needs. It would handicap the dairy industry's ability to export its products. We are also opposed to any form of a production tax. A production tax would penalize farmers for expanding their dairy production and processing facilities. Capital investment in manufacturing plants and future growth in American dairy farms would be jeopardized. Thousands of jobs could be lost if such policies were implemented.

We look forward to working with you to promote our shared conservative values throughout the upcoming dairy policy debate. We strongly encourage you to seek ways to simplify and reduce the federal government's role in dairy. We will work with you to support market transparency, market discipline, and competition in the dairy industry that is

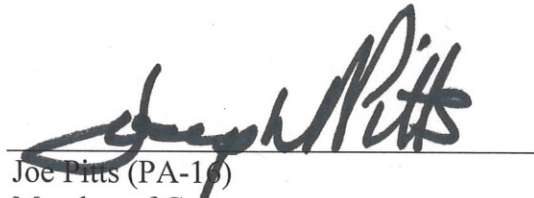
both robust and fair. We will support policies that encourage innovation and, we will work with you to promote our dairy industry around the world.

As Congress begins to reform dairy policy, we urge you to do so with our concerns in mind. Our dairy farmers can afford nothing less.

Sincerely,



Mike Fitzpatrick (PA-8)
Member of Congress



Joe Pitts (PA-16)
Member of Congress
