

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1503

December 7, 2015

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan:

We write to express our support for a strong Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) as Congress completes the first session of the 114th Congress.

Congress established the RFS in 2005 to reduce the United States' growing dependency on foreign oil, promote cleaner air, provide consumers with more fuel options, create good-paying jobs, and foster rural economic growth. As with any new industry, it takes time to become self-sustaining. Yet, RFS is working as intended and the renewable fuels industry is continuing to develop. In 2014, Iowa produced nearly 3.9 billion of ethanol and 227 million gallons of biodiesel. Additionally, Iowa has three cellulosic ethanol facilities producing the next generation of renewable fuels. Altogether, the industry has contributed over \$19 billion annually to the Iowa economy and supported over 70,000 high-paying jobs.

Unfortunately, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is creating uncertainty in the renewable fuels sector by releasing Renewable Volume Obligations lower than the Congressional requirement contained in law. This constrains investment in renewable fuels, reduces consumer choice at the pump, and hurts farmers in rural America. Congress should not contribute to this uncertainty or depress an industry which diversifies the employment opportunities in states like Iowa. Instead, we should bolster this viable, domestic industry by keeping the promises made in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Specifically, we urge you to reject any efforts to modify the RFS on must-pass appropriations bills.

Thank you for your consideration.

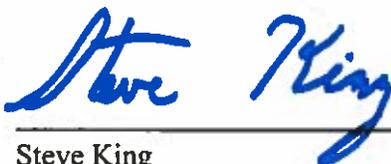
Sincerely,



David Young
Member of Congress



Rod Blum
Member of Congress



Steve King
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress