

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

June 11, 2019

The Honorable Sonny Perdue
United States Secretary of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250

Secretary Perdue:

We write to urge you to fully implement the pending National Organic Standards Board's policy recommendations. USDA-appointed NOSB members ensure that robust public input from stakeholders is considered in organic standard-setting. These NOSB recommendations are central to consumer confidence in the organic label and set the course for the ever-expanding organic industry.

It is the very least we can do to honor those recommendations. NOSB stakeholders come together and make recommendations that will give folks a fair shake in the marketplace. Disregarding NOSB recommendations does a disservice to organic farmers, and undermines their ability to farm.


Over the last ten years, the NOSB made more than twenty recommendations to improve the organic agriculture industry. These rules range from strengthening seed usage to livestock transitioning, and represent collaborative efforts between producers, processors, ecologists, and business owners. We have a shared desire to support organic farmers, and ensure that Montana's 190,000 organic acres are able to thrive.

We stand ready to work with you to support all of Montana's farmers. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester



Steve Daines



Greg Gianforte