



July 23, 2025

The Honorable Glenn Thompson
Chairman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Angie Craig
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Austin Scott
Vice Chair
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Shontel Brown
Vice Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Craig, Vice Chair Scott, and Vice Ranking Member Brown:

We write to express our support for legislation to address California's Proposition 12, clarifying that one state cannot regulate livestock production beyond its own borders. Livestock producers in our states should not have to comply with regulations determined by another state's electorate.

For decades, our livestock producers have implemented science-based practices and adopted production technologies that have allowed our nation's food supply to be one of the safest and most sustainable in the world. The United States is producing high-quality protein as affordably and humanely as possible. However, through Proposition 12, California has set arbitrary requirements for how producers should operate their farming businesses. Out of touch and removed from the realities of agriculture, California activists now claim to know what's best for the producers who have raised livestock from generation to generation.

Livestock production in the United States is inherently interstate in its design. In the pork industry, nearly 100 percent of the nation's sow population is raised outside of California. Although California does not raise hogs, the state does account for 15 percent of the national pork market. Despite California's lack of hog herd, interstate commerce allows its consumers to purchase pork products, meeting the state's market

demand for this protein. By imposing unnecessary and unscientific regulations, Proposition 12 increases the price for consumers in California and for producers in pork-supplying states.

We support the right of individuals to choose which animal products they purchase and consume. If consumers in the marketplace create a demand for products to be raised in a certain way, producers may be incentivized to change their practices to meet this new demand. We also support the right of each state to lawfully regulate livestock production within their own borders. But when one state decides to regulate another, federal legislation is appropriate and necessary. We ask that Congress make clear that each state may regulate livestock production within its own borders, but not the production of livestock in other states.

Sincerely,



Governor Kim Reynolds
State of Iowa



Governor Jim Pillen
State of Nebraska



Governor Kevin Stitt
State of Oklahoma



Governor Tate Reeves
State of Mississippi



Governor Mike Kehoe
State of Missouri



Governor Glenn Youngkin
Commonwealth of Virginia



Governor Mike Braun
State of Indiana



Governor Joe Lombardo
State of Nevada