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Chair
Tim Pawlenty
Minnesota

The Honorable Bill Frist
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Frist, Senator Reid, Speaker Hastert and Representative Pelosi:

As governors representing Midwestern States, we are writing on behalf of farmers and ranchers suffering drought and other natural disasters.

Farmers and ranchers throughout the United States and have been fighting drought and other severe weather conditions for the past two years. Current forecasts are predicting more dry weather, with little promise of relief. The situation is taking a terrible toll on livestock and crops. In order to continue to provide America with quality, affordable food under these conditions, disaster assistance legislation is imperative.

We, the undersigned governors, strongly encourage you to support disaster assistance for farmers and ranchers who have suffered severe losses due to these natural disasters.

Sincerely,

Tim Pawlenty
Governor of Minnesota, and
Chair of MGA

Rod Blagojevich
Governor of Illinois

Tom Vilsak
Governor of Iowa

Kathleen Sebelius
Governor of Kansas

Dave Heineman
Governor of Nebraska

John Hoeven
Governor of North Dakota

M. Michael Rounds
Governor of South Dakota

Jim Doyle
Governor of Wisconsin