



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

May 14, 2008

To: All Members of Congress

Re: Farm Bill

Dear Member of Congress,

I write to you today on behalf of taxpayers everywhere in regards to the Farm Bill, HR 2419. **This bill would be disastrous, costing taxpayers more than \$300 million over 5 years and will continue economically damaging subsidies.**

As the United States is engaged in serious negotiations for enhancing trade around the world with the Doha Round, the increasing of subsidies for everything from sugar and wheat to soy beans runs serious risk of damaging U.S. credibility and hampering our perception as a serious and reliable trading partner. In the wake of the unprecedented actions taken earlier this year by Speaker Pelosi in gutting the promised fast track provision of the U.S. Colombia Free Trade Agreement, U.S. credibility on matters of trade should not be made to take another blow to score political points in an election year.

The benefits of the Doha Round would be enormous to the world economy, estimated to be a \$300 billion increase global welfare by the World Bank. The increase in subsidies included in the farm bill would further jeopardize Doha Round negotiations, harming not only the poor nations of the world, but our economy here at home, too. In a time of economic slowdown any measure that would harm future economic expansion should be avoided. Subsidies not only pervert the market and harm poorer nations, they cost Americans more at the grocery store, too. This is why **ATR is Key Voting final passage of the farm bill in our annual Congressional ratings.**

ATR urges you to oppose the farm bill. It is the fiscally conservative, fiscally responsible way to vote.

Sincerely,

Grover Norquist
President,
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