

October 22, 2013

SENT VIA EMAIL

The Honorable William Shuster
United States House of Representatives
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster:

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB), the state's largest agricultural organization with more than 58,000 farm and rural family members, supports H.R. 3080, the *Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA)* of 2013. We certainly thank you for introducing this important legislation and your leadership on this issue.

As you know, the nation's waterways efficiently and cost-effectively transport hundreds of commodities and products each day. Over 60 percent of America's grain exports move through our inland waterway system, including some western Pennsylvania grain, which moves by way of the Ohio River. Maintaining and improving our inland water infrastructure and ports is critical to ensuring that U.S. agriculture will be able to continue to compete in the international marketplace and provide affordable agricultural products for our nation.

Passage of WRRDA is a priority issue for Farm Bureau. By authorizing updates to the lock and dam infrastructure on the inland waterway system and making needed improvements to our ports, this bill will help ensure U.S. agriculture's competitiveness and the reliability of a key transportation network.

Again, thank you for your leadership and your support.

Sincerely,



Carl T. Shaffer
President