

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 5, 2020

Richard Fordyce  
Administrator, Farm Service Agency  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20250-0522

Dear Administrator Fordyce,

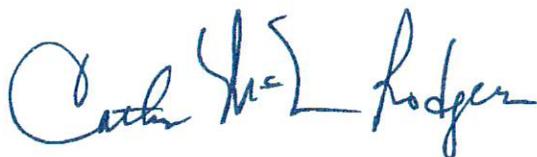
We write you today to express our support for the inclusion of Soft White, Hard Red Winter, and Soft Red Winter wheat classes for coverage under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). These classes of wheat, like so many other commodities, have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and need assistance under this program.

As Washington Association of Wheat Growers (WAWG) President Ryan Poe has said, “All classes of wheat have experienced price drops during the first quarter of 2020—a critical marketing time for wheat producers. So while cash prices were less than futures prices during the designated timeframe, many wheat growers were greatly impacted but do not qualify for CFAP (Coronavirus Food Assistance Program). Producers of all classes of wheat should be eligible for assistance under CFAP.”

The COVID-19 pandemic has created price volatility during the January to April timeframe, and Central and Eastern Washington wheat growers have been negatively impacted. From January to April, the market for soft white wheat dropped more than 8.5%. The futures contract for Soft Red Winter wheat on the Chicago Board of Trade ranged from a high of \$5.77 per bushel in January to a low of \$4.98 per bushel in March. During the same timeframe, Hard Red Winter wheat ranged from \$5.07 per bushel in January to \$4.23 per bushel in March on the Kansas City Board of Trade.

This market volatility caused by COVID-19 is putting wheat growers in our districts under increased pressure after years of already dire conditions in the wheat market. Support is badly needed. As the Farm Service Agency (FSA) is currently taking comment on the addition of commodities for coverage under CFAP, we respectfully ask for the inclusion of Soft White, Hard Red Winter, and Soft Red Winter wheat classes.

Sincerely,



Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress