

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 5, 2024

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Secretary
Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Raimondo:

On May 17, 2024, the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) reached affirmative preliminary determinations of injury in the antidumping and countervailing investigations regarding 2,4-D imports from China and India. As Members of Congress representing agricultural producers, we urge the Department of Commerce (DOC) to carefully review the facts as it calculates any preliminary duties during this investigation. We are concerned that tariffs on 2,4-D imports could compromise reliable, affordable access to agricultural inputs.

The nature of agricultural production requires planning well in advance of a crop year, requiring careful calculations and management decisions to remain globally competitive. Herbicides containing the major ingredient 2,4-D are critical management tools for farmers across the United States of various crops including barley, corn, durum, sorghum, soybeans and wheat. These herbicides, which prevent damaging weeds from impeding the growth of healthy crops, are also used by everyday Americans to care for lawns and gardens. Reliable and affordable access to 2,4-D herbicides allows producers to use innovative conservation practices, reducing tillage and supporting soil health.

Agricultural producers already face record high input costs while competing in a volatile market and prices for all crops are forecasted to decline over the next several years. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), net farm income is expected to decrease by 25% from 2023 to 2024¹. Without careful consideration of the facts during these preliminary investigations, new tariffs will result in difficulties for producers who rely on this critical input. This will only exacerbate their economic challenges.

After emerging from the supply chain shortages caused by the pandemic, farmers are keenly aware of how these challenges affect their ability to feed, fuel, and clothe the world. Given that there is only one domestic source of 2,4-D, with limited capacity to meet domestic demand, American agricultural producers rely on imports to supplement their management plans. Changes in the duties owed on these products could have far-reaching impacts on producers as they plan their expenses for the crop year.

¹ U.S. Department of Agriculture (February 2024) Economic Research Service
<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-sector-income-finances/highlights-from-the-farm-income-forecast/>

For these reasons, we urge you to consider the facts at hand during these preliminary investigations and understand the impact that any duty determination in this case will have on our constituents and across the United States. We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and stand ready to provide additional details as needed.

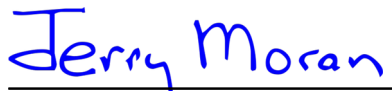
Sincerely,



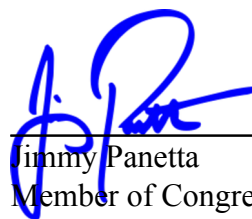
Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator



Adrian Smith
Member of Congress



Jerry Moran
United States Senator



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



Roger Marshall, M.D.
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Don Bacon
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Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Greg Pence
Member of Congress



Marcus J. Molinaro
Member of Congress



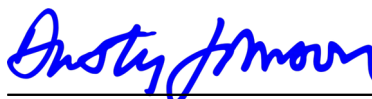
Mark Alford
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Darin LaHood
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Dusty Johnson
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Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress



David Kustoff
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