

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

August 27, 2021

The Honorable David Scott  
Chairman  
House Agriculture Committee  
1301 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Scott:

As you work to develop the Fiscal Year 2022 budget reconciliation package, we write to request the House Committee on Agriculture include \$200 million to expand U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) funding for alternative protein research.

As you know, addressing the climate impact of the agricultural sector will require a multipronged approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Currently, food production and farming practices are significant sources of greenhouse gas emissions. We need to invest in an all-of-the-above strategy that includes making traditional agriculture more climate-friendly but also supporting innovative, emissions-reduction solutions, such as alternative protein production. We understand the Committee has many important competing climate-related priorities for budget reconciliation. We believe that expanding consumer access to alternative proteins --- including meat, dairy, and eggs made from plant-based or cellular agriculture -- shows great promise to dramatically reduce the carbon footprint of our food system; however, significant research investment is needed if we are going to realize this potential.

Unlike other nations, the U.S. is not yet making the investments needed to scale up plant-based and cultivated proteins to meet current and future demand for climate-friendly, alternative protein sources. To maintain our global competitiveness and provide options for consumers, we urge the Committee to make research funding and private-sector incentives for alternative proteins a priority for the budget reconciliation package.

By making these investments, we can ensure that the climate-smart, food industry jobs of the future are being created in our communities, especially our rural communities. Investing in alternative proteins can also help reduce the use of antibiotics in animal agriculture and make our food system more resilient to the long-term impacts of the climate crisis.

Again, we strongly support your efforts to make traditional agriculture more climate-friendly through the budget reconciliation bill but also urge you to support new, innovative approaches to climate-friendly agriculture by including \$200 million to support alternative protein research in the budget reconciliation package, alongside the committee's other climate priorities.

Thank you for making climate change a priority in the agriculture portion of the budget reconciliation bill. We look forward to working with you to address this issue, and other critical climate-related agricultural policies, in the bill.

Sincerely,



JULIA BROWNLEY  
Member of Congress



JAMES P. MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

PETE AGUILAR  
Member of Congress

NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN  
Member of Congress

KAREN BASS  
Member of Congress

EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

JAMAAL BOWMAN  
Member of Congress

TONY CÁRDENAS  
Member of Congress

PETE AGUILAR  
Member of Congress

KATHERINE CLARK  
Member of Congress

YVETTE D. CLARKE  
Member of Congress

EMANUEL CLEAVER, II  
Member of Congress

CHARLIE CRIST  
Member of Congress

PETER A. DEFAZIO  
Member of Congress

ROSA L. DELAURO  
Member of Congress

MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress

TED DEUTCH  
Member of Congress

DEBBIE DINGELL  
Member of Congress

VERONICA ESCOBAR  
Member of Congress

ADRIANO ESPAILLAT  
Member of Congress

LOIS FRANKEL  
Member of Congress

JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress

MONDAIRE JONES  
Member of Congress

DANIEL T. KILDEE  
Member of Congress

RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY  
Member of Congress

BARBARA LEE  
Member of Congress

ANDY LEVIN  
Member of Congress

MIKE LEVIN  
Member of Congress

TED LIEU  
Member of Congress

JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress

GRACE MENG  
Member of Congress

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
Member of Congress

MARK POCAN  
Member of Congress

AYANNA PRESSLEY  
Member of Congress

The Honorable David Scott

August 27, 2021

Page 4

JAMIE RASKIN  
Member of Congress

DEBORAH K. ROSS  
Member of Congress

LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD  
Member of Congress

C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER  
Member of Congress

ADAM SCHIFF  
Member of Congress

MIKIE SHERRILL  
Member of Congress

HALEY STEVENS  
Member of Congress

RASHIDA TLAIB  
Member of Congress

LORI TRAHAN  
Member of Congress

NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ  
Member of Congress

BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN  
Member of Congress

SUSAN WILD  
Member of Congress