



January 14, 2025

Honorable John Boozman
Chair, Senate Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member, Senate Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Boozman and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

We write today in support of a swift confirmation of Secretary-designate Brooke Leslie Rollins to be the 33rd Secretary of Agriculture.

As leaders of State Departments of Agriculture, we are the primary individuals tasked with advancing and defending our state and regional agricultural interests, all of which contribute to a robust domestic food supply and economy. Collectively, we also work to identify new markets for American agriculture abroad. Our success heavily relies on having strong leadership at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As such, we believe Secretary-designate Rollins is an ideal candidate to lead the Department.

Secretary-designate Rollins has been engaged in American agriculture since an early age in both Texas and Minnesota. She attended Texas A&M on scholarship where she received her Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Development and has enjoyed years of generational family involvement in both 4-H and FFA.

Notable for us, Secretary-designate Rollins has had the unique experience of being on the frontlines and working in state government. Specifically, she served as deputy general counsel and policy director for Texas Governor Rick Perry. We are most fortunate to have a nominee for U.S. Secretary of Agriculture that understands the importance of a positive working relationship between state and federal government. Additionally, she has led two large public policy organizations, experiences of which

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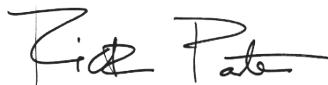
have contributed to her qualifications to lead one of the largest federal entities in USDA.

Finally, and arguably of the utmost importance, Secretary-designate Rollins has a strong working relationship with President Trump as she is his former Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council. We are confident President Trump's vote of confidence in her will yield tremendous results for our state governments and all of U.S. agriculture.

Given the unexpected recent natural disasters, economic hardship and disease threats faced by U.S. agriculture, it is imperative Secretary-designate Rollins is quickly able to get to work at USDA, so that our states may begin partnering with her on addressing these and other important issues. As such, we urge your Committee, and the entire U.S. Senate, to expeditiously confirm Secretary-designate Rollins as the next Secretary of Agriculture.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rick Pate
Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture
& Industries



Shawn Jasper
New Hampshire Commissioner of
Agriculture



Bryan Scoresby
Alaska Director of Agriculture



Jeff Witte
New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture



Wes Ward
Arkansas Secretary of Agriculture



Doug Goehring
North Dakota Commissioner of
Agriculture



Wilton Simpson
Florida Commissioner of Agriculture



Brian Baldrige
Ohio Director of Agriculture

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Tyler Harper
Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture



Blayne Arthur
Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture



Chanel Tewalt
Idaho Director of Agriculture



Hugh Weathers
South Carolina Commissioner of
Agriculture



Don Lamb
Indiana Director of Agriculture



Hunter Roberts
South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture
& Natural Resources



Mike Naig
Iowa Secretary of Agriculture



Charlie Hatcher, DVM
Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture



Jonathan Shell
Kentucky Commissioner of
Agriculture



Sid Miller
Texas Commissioner of Agriculture



Mike Strain, DVM
Louisiana Commissioner of
Agriculture & Forestry



Craig Butters
Utah Commissioner of Agriculture



Andy Gipson
Mississippi Commissioner of
Agriculture



Matt Lohr
Virginia Secretary of Agriculture &
Forestry

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Chris Chinn

Missouri Director of Agriculture



Sherry Vinton

Nebraska Director of Agriculture



Julian Joseph (J.J.) Goicoechea, DVM

Nevada Director of Agriculture



Joe Guthrie

Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture &
Consumer Services



Kent Leonhardt

West Virginia Commissioner of
Agriculture



Doug Miyamoto

Wyoming Director of Agriculture

cc: Honorable John Thune
Honorable Charles E. Schumer



Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

January 10, 2025

The Honorable John Boozman
Chair, Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member, Senate Agriculture, Nutrition & Forestry Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Boozman and Ranking Member Klobuchar,

I am writing today in support of a swift confirmation of Secretary – designate Brooke Leslie Rollins to be the 33rd Secretary of Agriculture.

As North Carolina's Commissioner of Agriculture since 2005 and a past president of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, I understand that having a strong and capable leader at the helm of the United States Department of Agriculture is critical.

I am fully confident in her ability to quickly engage with commissioners of agriculture across the country just as other commissioners have done in the past. A quick and seamless transition of leadership is needed to ensure that state input is given towards policy.

Rollins brings a wealth of experience that makes her a great choice for Secretary of Agriculture. She has experience at the state level serving as deputy general counsel and policy director for Texas Governor Rick Perry. Having a Secretary of Agriculture that understands the importance of a close working relationship between the state and federal government will be beneficial for all states.

She has also led two large public policy organizations and served as director of the White House Domestic Policy Council during President Trump's first term.

I believe that Rollins is a great choice to lead an agency as large and diverse as USDA. Protecting and growing our domestic food supply is critical to the success of our country. Given recent natural disasters, such as Hurricane Helene, and the ongoing threat of High Path Avian Influenza, it is critical that Secretary- designate Rollins is quickly installed at USDA so we can begin partnering with her to address these and other issues. I urge your Committee and the entire U.S. Senate to quickly confirm Rollins as the next Secretary of Agriculture.

Sincerely,