



Dear Wisconsin Congressional Delegation members,

As leaders of Wisconsin’s agriculture community, we write to you to request your opposition to the massive corporate tax increase being discussed in Congress. Our groups oppose President Biden’s proposal to eliminate the tax deduction for owners of pass-through businesses, a crucial deduction that helps small business owners reinvest in their businesses. In addition, we urge you to support the continued use of stepped-up basis. Proposals to impose additional capital gains at death and to repeal stepped-up basis would be devastating to many family-owned farms looking to continue those farms with the next generation.

Wisconsin agriculture has seen volatility in the marketplace like never before. Over the past 18 months, COVID has closed restaurants and schools, vital markets to Wisconsin agriculture products. While we appreciate the support Congress has delivered, many farms are still struggling to recover from the devastating impacts those closures have had. Raising taxes on farms and ranches would push an additional hardship that could be the tipping point for some family run farms, forcing them to shutter or consolidate.

Wisconsin agriculture is the backbone of nearly every county in the state, the importance of our farms and ranches cannot be overlooked. Farmers, ranchers, and family-owned agribusiness operators are responsible for producing safe and affordable feed and food. For agricultural producers, carrying on the legacy of our predecessors and setting the next generation up for success is critically important.

Past Congressional action has shown the importance of agriculture to Wisconsin’s future and the negative ramifications of a tax increase. That is why we find it troubling that Congress is now debating the merits of a tax increase when COVID numbers are continuing to climb. As cities and counties consider reinstating restrictions on the markets we rely to sell our products, now would seem to be the worst possible time to increase the corporate tax rate and eliminate a key deduction for small business owners.

After nearly two years of market volatility, closures, and government assistance, it would seem to be a step in the opposite direction to raise taxes. Family farms should not bear the burden of the pandemic in the form of a tax increase. Therefore, we respectfully urge our Congressional delegation to reject an increase in taxes and instead focus on proposals that would grow our economy and strengthen Wisconsin’s workforce.

Sincerely,

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation
 Midwest Food Products Association
 Midwest-SouthEastern Equipment Dealers Association
 Wisconsin Cattlemen’s Association
 Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association
 Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association
 Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association
 Wisconsin Agri-Business Association