

TROY A. CARTER, SR.  
2ND DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY,  
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CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
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CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
2ND VICE CHAIR

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

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
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RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS  
MATERIALS

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL  
REGION 7

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20250

Subject: Request for Extension of Farm Aid under Section 22007 of the IRA

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

As the Representative for Louisiana's 2nd Congressional District, I write today on a pressing matter affecting my district and Black farmers nationwide. Section 22007 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) provides \$2.2 billion in financial assistance for farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination in USDA's farm lending programs prior to January 1, 2021. The portal for applying for this aid is set to expire **on January 13, 2024**.

My support of the Biden Administration in its efforts to relieve debt for socially disadvantaged farmers under the American Rescue Plan was a historic opportunity to create long-overdue equity for farmers left behind due to decades of discriminatory practices. Unfortunately, due to decades of discrimination against Black farmers it is time consuming and challenging for many to compile the necessary documentation to access this important assistance. Therefore, I request that you use your existing authority to leave the portal open for an additional 90 days to help Black farmers in my district and across the country receive what they rightfully deserve.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter. I look forward to your continued leadership and your response.

Sincerely,



Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress