

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 28, 2018

The Honorable Douglas A. Silliman
U.S. Ambassador to Iraq
United States Department of State
2201 C St NW
Washington, DC 20520

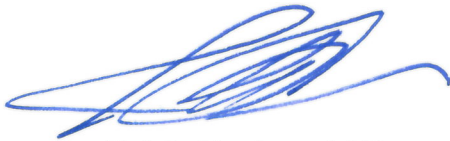
Dear Ambassador Silliman:

Thank you for your continued strong and persistent advocacy for American farmers wishing to sell American rice to Iraq. The efforts of you and your staff have reaped tremendous results and have made a significant and noticeable difference.

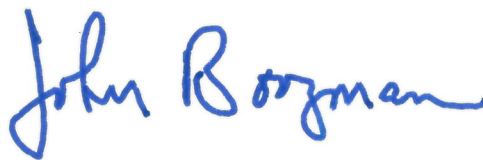
We write regarding Iraq's recent announcement of a tender for 30,000 tons of rice. We understand that Iraq will be closing the tender next week and making a decision on the bids received shortly thereafter. Accordingly, we urge you to continue to work closely with Iraqi officials to successfully negotiate a positive conclusion to this tender.

Historically Iraq has been a major destination for rice produced in the United States, and it continues to present significant export opportunities. There is ample supply of high quality U.S. rice grown by our farmers who are willing and ready to supply Iraq with food. At a time when commodity prices remain troublingly depressed, a successful conclusion of this tender would have an immediate and strongly positive impact on the American farm economy.

Sincerely,



Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress



John Boozman
United States Senator



Tom Cotton
United States Senator



Rick Crawford
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins
Member of Congress