



July 25, 2012

The Honorable Tom Coburn  
Unites States Senate  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Dr. Coburn,

The art of democracy is compromise. Thank you for your recent efforts to encourage both sides of the aisle to work together in an attempt to solve the nation's budget problems. We are a citizenry who demand more services, and we must be prepared to pay for them. I agree with you—there has to be balance.

In the spirit of compromise, I encourage you to give additional thought to your recent stand on the Market Access Program (MAP). It is a program in which the first dollars come from private sector producers to promote and market their products. Through a series of matching funds, those dollars are multiplied. Because of those investments, markets are opened, both domestic and export sales increase, and many dollars find their way back to communities across America creating jobs and increasing economic activity.

As you well know, there is a significant difference between spending and investing.

Agriculture has improved its efficiencies more than any other sector—somewhat to its partial demise. The agriculture industry has contributed more to this nation's economy than any other. One out of every twelve jobs is attributed to it.

MAP is a proven success story. If compromise brings about streamlining, so be it. However, on behalf of almost 200,000 Oklahomans who have elected me to represent them, I respectfully ask you to preserve as much of the MAP program as possible.

Sincerely,

Terry Detrick  
President, American Farmers & Ranchers

cc: The Honorable Frank Lucas  
The Honorable Collin Peterson  
The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
The Honorable Pat Roberts