



June 14, 2023

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
Chairwoman  
Senate Agriculture Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20002

The Honorable John Boozman  
Ranking Member  
Senate Agriculture Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Chairwoman Stabenow and Ranking Member Boozman,

We write today to indicate our support for Senator Braun's *Protecting America's Agricultural Land from Foreign Harm Act (S. 926)*, an important and necessary step towards protecting national security.

In light of reports of recent Chinese purchases of agricultural land near U.S. military installations, it is vital that Congress take steps to ensure the safety and security of our critical infrastructure. These purchases have raised legitimate concerns about potential espionage, unauthorized access, and exploitation of critical areas. This is not a hypothetical: since 2017, U.S. officials have "investigated Chinese land purchases near critical infrastructure... and stonewalled what they saw as clear efforts to plant listening devices near sensitive military and government facilities<sup>69</sup>." Failure to address the national security risks of these purchases risks putting our troops in harm's way, unnecessarily exposing intelligence sources and methods, undermines our relationships with allies, and threatens our national security.

Senator Braun's bipartisan, bicameral *Protecting America's Agricultural Land from Foreign Harm Act*, which would restrict the ownership or control of U.S. agricultural land by individuals controlled by our adversaries, is a well-designed solution to this problem. The legislation will allow the federal government to effectively protect our critical infrastructure and reduce the vulnerability of our defense installations. The bill would send a clear message to our enemies that while the U.S. values foreign investment, we will take responsible measures to safeguard our national security. We urge the Senate Agriculture Committee to quickly consider and favorably report this legislation to the full Senate.

Sincerely,

Ryan Walker  
Acting Executive Director  
Heritage Action for America

69. Katie Bo Lillis, "CNN Exclusive: FBI Investigation Determined Chinese-Made Huawei Equipment Could Disrupt US Nuclear Arsenal Communications," CNN, July 25, 2022, <https://www.cnn.com/2022/07/23/politics/fbi-investigation-huawei-china-defense-department-communications-nuclear/index.html> (accessed February 14, 2023).