

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 30, 2008

The Honorable Ed Schafer
Secretary of Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
Second Floor
14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Schafer:

We are writing to urge you to declare Scott County, located in Southwest Virginia, as a primary agricultural disaster area as a result of the ongoing drought. We understand Governor Tim Kaine has recently requested this declaration.

The recent drought which has affected this County has resulted in widespread damage throughout the region. The damage done to our region's agricultural crops has been severe, and our farmers are facing critical financial situations. Federal disaster relief assistance is urgently needed.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. With kind personal regards and best wishes, we remain

Sincerely,



Jim Webb
United States Senator



Rick Boucher
Member of Congress