



AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION
Promoting the Practice and Profession of Statistics®

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September 17, 2018

The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer
Democratic Whip
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Hoyer,

I write as president of the American Statistical Association (ASA) to express gratitude for your recent letter to Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue expressing strong opposition to the USDA proposal that would so undermine the work of both the Economic Research Service and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

The ASA—the largest association of statisticians in the world, with more than 19,000 members—shares your concern that this proposal would be detrimental to evidence-based policymaking in the Department of Agriculture and—more broadly—for food, agriculture, and our rural economy.

On behalf of the ASA, please accept my sincere thanks for your continued support of evidence-based agricultural policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lisa LaVange'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa LaVange, Ph.D.