

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Martin R. Barbre
Administrator, Risk Management Agency
United States Department of Agriculture
Room 6092
1400 Independence Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20250

June 27, 2019

Dear Administrator Barbre:

We write regarding ongoing adverse weather conditions in Illinois that are expected to have negative effects on crop insurance coverage and payments for agriculture producers, agents and brokers. Your prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

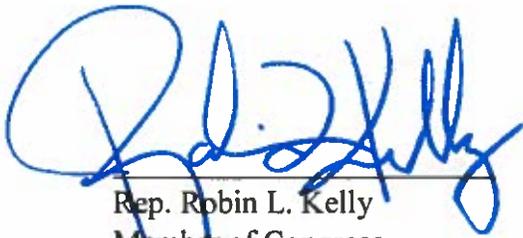
Producers across Illinois are reporting delayed planting resulting from excess precipitation. According to the Illinois Farm Bureau, these delays are beyond the norm and will pose significant financial challenges for individual farmers, not the least of which will be meeting the current October 1, 2019, deadline for paying for crop insurance premiums.

The current delayed and disjointed planting season will undoubtedly result in late harvest for those producers that manage to plant a crop. A late harvest, combined with expected lower yields due to the shortened growing season, may cause significant financial management issues for impacted producers. The negative effects of these issues often spread beyond the farm to the broader rural economy and communities.

The weather and soil conditions facing Illinois producers are exceptional. We urge you to exercise any authorities or discretion provided pursuant to the Federal Crop Insurance Act to provide producers, in coordination with Approved Insurance Providers, additional time necessary to make crop insurance payments for the current growing season. Delaying the payment deadline until at least December 1, 2019, will protect producers from potential financial ruin.

Once again, your prompt attention to this matter is appreciate. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Rep. Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Rep. Mike Bost
Member of Congress

Cheri Bustos

Rep. Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Rodney Davis

Rep. Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

Sean Casten

Rep. Sean Casten
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis

Rep. Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Bill Foster

Rep. Bill Foster
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Adam Kinzinger

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Bobby L. Rush

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Janice D. Schakowsky

Rep. Janice D. Schakowsky
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John Shimkus

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Lauren Underwood

Rep. Lauren Underwood
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Daniel W. Lipinski

Rep. Daniel W. Lipinski
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