

JULIA LETLOW, Ph.D.
5TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND
RELATED AGENCIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND RELATED
PROGRAMS

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND WORKFORCE

letlow.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1805

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
142 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL: (202) 225-8490
FAX: (202) 225-5639

DISTRICT OFFICES:
LOUISIANA CAPITAL REGION OFFICE
7932 WRENWOOD BLVD., SUITE C
BATON ROUGE, LA 70801
TEL: (225) 952-1390

NORTHEAST LOUISIANA OFFICE
1900 NORTH 18TH STREET, SUITE 501
MONROE, LA 71201
TEL: (318) 570-6440

SOUTH LOUISIANA OFFICE
1514 MARTENS DRIVE, SUITE 3
HAMMOND, LA 70401
TEL: (985) 284-5200

October 29, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Rollins,

I want to thank you and your team for your continued efforts to strengthen opportunities for America's farmers and producers in the global marketplace. Your leadership in advancing agricultural trade and opening new markets has been instrumental in supporting rural communities across the country.

As you know, U.S. soybean producers have faced persistent challenges due to ongoing shifts in global trade patterns and changes in purchasing behavior from major buyers such as China. In recent years, Chinese demand has moved increasingly toward suppliers in South America—particularly Argentina and Brazil—creating additional pressure on U.S. growers, including those in Louisiana. While restoring and expanding access to Chinese markets remains an important component of U.S. agricultural trade policy, this dynamic underscores the need to pursue a more diversified approach to market development.

As Argentina and Brazil expand their exports to meet growing Chinese demand, evolving trade flows may be creating new opportunities in other regions, including parts of Southeast Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. These markets have demonstrated increasing demand for feedstock and plant-based protein inputs, offering strong potential for long-term growth. The United States is well-positioned to strengthen its presence in these regions with high-quality U.S. soybeans and value-added agricultural products, and our farmers stand ready and willing to meet this demand.

I commend the Administration's ongoing successes negotiating fair trade agreements and expanding market access for U.S. agriculture. These efforts are critical to strengthening America's position in key export markets and providing meaningful support to rural communities across the country. As these efforts continue, I encourage the Department to maintain its focus on diversifying market access, particularly for soybeans, to help ensure that

U.S. producers remain resilient to global trade disruptions and continue serving as trusted suppliers to buyers around the world.

Thank you for your continued leadership and for the Department's ongoing support of America's farmers and ranchers. If I can answer any questions regarding this topic, or otherwise be of help, please contact Kade Smith in my office at Kade.Smith@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julia Letlow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Julia" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Letlow".

Julia Letlow, Ph.D.

MEMBER OF CONGRESS