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July 21, 2015

The Honorable Candice Miller  
United States House of Representatives  
320 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tim Walberg  
United States House of Representatives  
2436 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 2051

Dear Representative Miller and Representative Walberg:

Thank you for introducing The Great Lakes Assurance Program Verification Act. Michigan Farm Bureau supports the legislation and your effort to establish an environmental assurance program for each state within the Great Lakes basin.

Michigan farmers care deeply about the natural resources they work with every day. Conservation programs have been implemented in your districts and across the state with a focus on water and soil quality. From filter strips to improving manure storage structures to utilizing technology when spraying, Michigan farmers are always improving conservation practices. Your legislation provides a great priority incentive through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program for farmers that choose to participate in their State's environmental assurance program.

The Great Lakes Assurance Program Verification Act builds on the success of the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP). More than 10,000 farmers have initiated the process to voluntarily enter their farm into an environmental assurance program. Your legislation will allow farmers throughout the Great Lakes basin to also consider implementing a voluntary assurance program.

Michigan Farm Bureau supports The Great Lakes Assurance Program Verification Act and we stand ready to work with you in advancing the legislation.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Bednarski', written in a cursive style.

Carl Bednarski, President  
Michigan Farm Bureau