

July 8, 2015

Specialty Crop  
**Farm Bill Alliance**  
Working to Make American Agriculture Stronger

The Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance (SCFBA) strongly opposes the amendment offered by Rep. Chellie Pingree to the FY 2016 Agriculture Appropriations bill which would exclude growers with an adjusted gross income of \$750,000 from the federal crop insurance program.

Fruit and vegetable crops generally have a higher value/higher cost ratio and as result, would reach the limit proposed by Rep. Pingree more easily than other crops. Consequently, fruit and vegetable providers would disproportionately be negatively impacted by this amendment and therefore, we urge that it be defeated.

Specialty crops are currently the most underserved sector of the agriculture industry in the federal crop insurance program. This amendment would effectively cut off large segments of the specialty crop industry from crop insurance. Federal policy should focus on reducing this disparity by encouraging specialty crop participation, not establishing additional barriers to their entry.