

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 24, 2019

The Honorable Sonny Perdue  
Secretary  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Perdue,

We write to raise concerns regarding reports that President Trump's United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) refused to publicize government-funded studies that contain information about the effects of climate change.

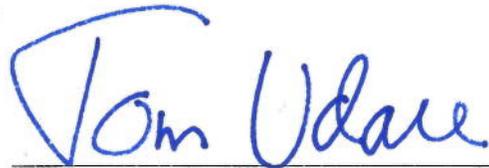
In order to immediately rectify this, I request that the USDA provide Members of Congress with a complete list of climate-related studies from January 2017 to present. It was reported that, since President Trump has taken office, the Agricultural Research Service has only issued releases for two of, at least, forty-five climate-related studies. Conclusions from this research can offer opportunities for the agricultural industry to play a vital role in climate mitigation.

Additionally, we are going to request the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) provide oversight over the release of USDA's climate-related studies. It is vital that the Trump Administration and USDA properly communicate taxpayer-funded research about the increasing dangers of climate change. Our offices continue to hear from constituents about the ongoing impacts of extreme weather patterns. This attempted suppression of scientific research is a disservice to the American people as we develop policy solutions to combat climate change.

Sincerely,



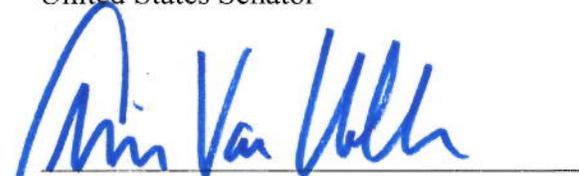
Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Tom Udall  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

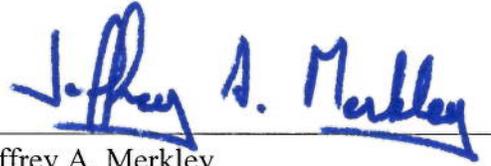


Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



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Tina Smith  
United States Senator



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Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator