The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Letter of Support for Congressman Jim Costa for Chairman of the House  
Agriculture Committee

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

We are writing to you to support Congressman Jim Costa becoming the next chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Congressman Costa is a longtime member of the committee and a representative of one of the world's most productive agricultural regions, California's Central Valley.

Congressman Costa has represented our region in elected office for decades, first in the California Legislature and now in Congress. California's 16th Congressional District, which he represents, includes parts of Fresno County, which is the largest agricultural producing county in the United States.

Congressman Costa understands the issues that affect agriculture and all the industries that are supported by it. He has also been a longtime advocate for federal nutrition programs, expansion of freight markets for U.S. farm products, workforce issues, immigration, agricultural research, natural resources, and on-farm conservation programs.

As a locally-based membership organization, the Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce engages, educates, and empowers small, diverse, Black businesses in the Fresno metropolitan area. Since our founding in 2001, we have continued to advocate for the greater African American community's interests, including equitable regional economic development, investments in infrastructure, quality jobs, and healthy communities. We enjoy the Congressman's support in our work and offer ours in turn.

We know that you are very familiar with your home state's agricultural industry and with Congressman Costa's excellent work as a representative of the Central Valley. We appreciate you taking the time to consider our opinion. As such, we hope you will agree that Congressman Costa chairing the House Agriculture Committee would be as good for California as it would be for our country.

Sincerely,

Tara Lynn Gray, CEO  
Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce
Cc:
Congressman Collin Peterson
Congressman David Scott
Congresswoman Marcia Fudge
Congressman Jim Costa
Congressman Jim McGovern
Congressman Filemón Vela
Congresswoman Alma Adams
Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger
Congresswoman Jahana Hayes
Congressman Antonio Delgado
Congressman TJ Cox
Congresswoman Angie Craig
Congressman Anthony Brindisi
Congressman Josh Harder
Congresswoman Kim Schrier
Congresswoman Chellie Pingree
Congresswoman Cheri Bustos
Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney
Congressman Salud Carbajal
Congressman Al Lawson
Congressman Tom O'Halleran
Congressman Jimmy Panetta
Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick
Congresswoman Cindy Axne
Congresswoman Xochitl Torres Small
Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett