



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
MIKE BEEBE  
GOVERNOR

July 10, 2012

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Arkansas has suffered agricultural devastation, including damage and losses to crops and pastures. This is due to the effects of a severe drought throughout the entire State, beginning April 1, 2012, and continuing. I previously sent a request for a Secretarial Designation on June 15, 2012, for Baxter, Carroll, Conway, Faulkner, Fulton, Grant, Izard, Marion, Perry, Pulaski, Saline, Searcy, and Van Buren Counties, a request that is currently pending. I am asking that the previous request of June 15, 2012, be withdrawn in order to include the aforementioned counties in a broader designation that encompasses all of Arkansas.

I now request a Secretarial Disaster Designation for all 75 Arkansas counties, each of which has experienced significant damage and losses to crops and pastures because of the unrelentingly severe drought. Such a designation will allow the Farm Service Agency to make emergency loans available to the eligible farmers whose lives and livelihoods have been detrimentally affected by this natural disaster.

Please give this request the highest priority, so that assistance to the affected farmers may be expedited. Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact my office if you require further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Beebe".

Mike Beebe

MB:jb

Cc: Butch Calhoun, Secretary  
Arkansas Agriculture Department