

October 31, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Thune, Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of companies and workers across America's manufacturing, agriculture, public health, and consumer-goods sectors, we strongly urge the House and Senate to reach a final bipartisan agreement on the Fiscal Year 2026 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations and bring the conference agreement to the floor for a vote without further delay. Timely enactment is essential to keep critical environmental and public-health services operating and to give businesses the certainty needed to invest, hire, and deliver products that bolster America's economy.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) is most central to that certainty. Through the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), OCSPP evaluates new and existing chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Through the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), OCSPP evaluates and registers pesticide products under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as updated by the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA).

EPA's functions are critical to America's 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors as they depend on resilient assets, systems, and supply chains that keep food, energy, health care, transportation, and public safety running. The Agency provides science-based decisions that allow essential chemistries and pest-management tools to reach consumers and workers safely.

Although OCSPP staff are continuing work for now, in an extended government shutdown, furloughs, and funding lapses at EPA can further stall new chemical reviews and pesticide registrations, interrupt PRIA timelines, slow emergency exemptions and label amendments, and delay guidance and stakeholder engagement.

As long-standing regulatory backlogs grow, access to tools for crop protection, hospital sanitation, rodent control, structural maintenance, and rights-of-way management are constrained. Farmers risk yield losses; hospitals and first responders face higher contamination risk and manufacturing supply chains tighten with rising costs. Prolonged uncertainty suppresses investment and can drive state-by-state workarounds that create

uneven compliance. Stable, adequate funding for OCSPP specifically protects critical infrastructure and public health.

Congress can move targeted appropriations during shutdowns to restore operations at specific agencies. In prior lapses, the House and Senate have considered and enacted individual spending measures while broader negotiations on government spending continued. Both Appropriations Committees have reported their Interior-Environment bills.

As such, we respectfully request that both chambers promptly appoint and convene conferees, to finalize a bicameral agreement that will provide OCSPP with adequate resources. This agreement should focus on integrating much needed technology upgrades, and adequate staffing to deliver timely TSCA and pesticide registration decisions. Equally important, both chambers should schedule floor consideration and swift passage of the conference agreement.

We stand ready to support a swift, bipartisan path to enactment. Thank you for your ongoing leadership and for your steadfast commitment to keep these business-critical programs working effectively and efficiently.

Sincerely,

American Cleaning Institute
American Seed Trade Association
Biological Products Industry Alliance
Council of Producers & Distributors of Agrotechnology
CropLife America
Household & Commercial Products Association
ISSA, The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association
Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment