The Fruited Plain

“The Fruited Plain.” A vision of hope and abundance. A vision of America. Congress inscribed this picture of opportunity in our nation’s first Farm Bill, seeking to guarantee a future to hard-working farmers and hungry American families, even when times are tough.

It was not just a promise. It was a Covenant.

By passing several critical amendments, the Senate can restore this moral foundation to a bill that has become a source of corporate welfare to rich farms, an obstacle to struggling family farmers, and fuel for the deadly poverty that kills 30,000 of God’s people in poor countries each day.

- The Lugar-Lautenberg amendment would create a modern safety net for family farmers that invests in rural America and reduces the harm to farmers in poor countries around the world.
- The Dorgan-Grassley amendment would establish meaningful payment limits that target support to family farmers while closing loopholes that allow rich farms to abuse the system.
- Amendments to Ensure that a reformed farm-support system benefits Americans who currently cannot eat a nutritious diet, and conserves the land for future generations.

These amendments will reclaim two centuries of American values, in which the fruited plain was not just a slogan, but a source of life and hope for all people. From rural communities, towns, and cities across America; and from the fields of poor countries around the world where families labor for daily bread; the call to the Senate goes out:

Pass a Farm Bill that reflects America’s values. Pass a Farm Bill for the 21st Century.