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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515
December 1, 1971

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The Honorable Richard M. Nixon
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

10/20/71
filed Exec.
DA6-37
Thank you for instructing the Justice Department to obtain back-to-work court orders under the Taft-Hartley Act on Friday as requested in my letter of October 18 and in my subsequent telephone calls and conferences with the Secretaries of Agriculture and Labor. Your action has already resulted in resumption of grain shipments and some much needed improvement in corn prices which, however, remain lower than the cost of production.

Our corn farmers still need and have a right to expect direct action by their government to bolster the present corn market. They expanded production this year in direct response to the government's request for more corn, and are suffering real economic hardship as a direct result. As I have previously written to you in my letter of October 29 and in the letter in which I joined with 21 other corn belt Congressmen on November 1, the government's responsibility to help relieve this situation is very clear. I also wish to reiterate my statements on this subject during the past several weeks to Mr. Clark MacGregor and other members of the White House staff.

Mr. President, the quickest and most effective way to raise the price of corn is to have the Commodity Credit Corporation start immediate purchases of 1971 corn as I have been urgently requesting since August 11. However, I am anxious to support you in any reasonable action which will improve this situation. The House Committee on Rules has now delayed further consideration of the strategic reserve bill until next week, and there is no assurance it will be favorably reported for floor action then. Prompt and decisive action to come to the assistance of corn producers is already long overdue. I, therefore, again respectfully urge you to order immediate CCC purchases under existing authority or take such other corrective action as you believe will be most effective to strengthen the price of corn without further delay.

Sincerely,

Wiley Mayne

Member of Congress

WM/dd