

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 10, 2021

Ambassador Fareed Yasseen
Embassy of the Republic of Iraq
3421 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Ambassador Yasseen,

Thank you for your previous assistance regarding rice tenders operated by the Iraqi Grain Board (IGB). You have been very helpful in ensuring these tenders are successful, and we believe the trade between our countries benefits both the Iraqi people and the U.S. rice farmers, millers, merchants and allied businesses in our States.

We are writing today to request your assistance in an issuance and implementation of a U.S.-specific rice tender under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). We have also requested that our Secretary of State engage with the Iraqi Minister of Trade as well.

As you know, rice plays an essential role in the Iraqi diet, and rice farmers in our States recently finished harvesting the largest American rice crop in a decade. The U.S.-specific rice tender under the terms of the MOU would positively impact both the Iraqi people and our American rice farmers, especially those that are struggling from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We stand ready and willing to work with you on this issue, and we appreciate your assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,



John Boozman
United States Senator



Tom Cotton
United States Senator



Roy Blunt
United States Senator



John Cornyn
United States Senator



John Kennedy
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



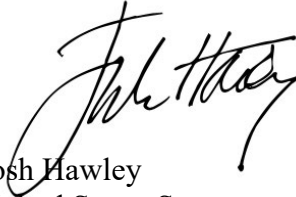
Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator



Cindy Hyde-Smith
United States Senator



Ted Cruz
United States Senator



Josh Hawley
United States Senator

CC: Qassim Basry, Commercial Attaché