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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 30, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave SW
Washington, D.C. 20515

Secretary Rollins,

Madam Secretary, I appreciate your efforts to bring the U.S. Department of Agriculture outside of Washington's Bureaucracy and closer to its customers with the agency's reorganization and phased plan to relocate outside of the National Capital region (NCR). However, I have concerns over the proposed regional hubs, in Raleigh NC, Kansas City MO, Indianapolis IN, Fort Collins CO, and Salt Lake City UT.

As a Constitutionalist, I commend the Trump Administration's recognition of its responsibility to reduce the scope of the federal government and decentralize essential services by shifting them closer to the states. While I support this endeavor, I am also concerned that the Mid and Deep South do not have adequate representation with the five currently proposed cities.

Louisiana produces \$3.5 billion in its forestry industry, \$1.6 billion in its sugar cane industry, nearly \$1.5 billion in aquaculture and marine fisheries, and nearly \$800 billion in rice among billions more from feed grain crops, soybeans, horses, and cattle. These immense outputs are emblematic of the agricultural culture woven into the very fabric of the South and Gulf Coast. I urge your full and fair consideration for Louisiana to be home to a USDA Regional Hub, specifically New Orleans as it is located on the vital Mississippi River and operates as a world-renowned center of trade. A regional hub in New Orleans would represent commodities not served by any of the other hub locations, especially cotton, sugarcane and rice. New Orleans has long served as an epicenter for transporting American agricultural products down the Mississippi River and distributing them worldwide.

Many of America's most significant agricultural products come from the fertile soil of the Deep South, and I strongly believe that the farmers of this region must be adequately represented. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clay Higgins".

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff Landry".

Jeff Landry
Governor of Louisiana