

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 14, 2007

Dr. John W. Boyd, Jr.
President
National Black Farmers Association
68 Wind Road
Baskerville, Virginia 23915

Dear Dr. Boyd:

I am pleased to join my colleague, Senator Charles Grassley of Iowa, in introducing S. 515, the Pigford Claims Remedy Act of 2007.

The enormous disparity between USDA loans received by African American farmers compared with USDA loans received by other farmers is fully documented. It is time to end the inexcusable delays associated with resolving this issue, and finish the job.

S. 515 re-establishes the right of those plaintiffs who filed within the court-ordered late filing period to file claims and receive a determination on the merits of their cases. You can be sure I will work with my colleagues so that legislation will pass both chambers of Congress and be signed into law by the President.

I would like to thank the National Black Farmers Association for its diligence and commitment on behalf of African-American farmers on this case. Please know I stand ready to continue my help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barack Obama', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Barack Obama
United States Senator