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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 23, 2012

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Jamie L. Whitten Building  
1400 Independence Ave, SW  
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

As the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) considers nominations for the National Pork Board, I would like to offer my support to Mr. Carl Link of Fort Recovery, Ohio. I believe that he would be an excellent choice to serve on the Board.

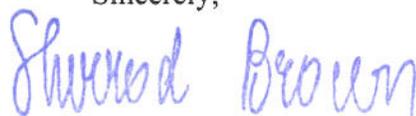
As an active member of the Ohio agricultural community, Mr. Link was one of five members of the National Pork Producers to be nominated for this important board. Currently Mr. Link oversees the management of pigs at Cooper farms in Mercer County. In addition to his time on the farm, Mr. Link serves on the Ohio Department of Agriculture's concentrated animal feeding operation permitting program, and has spent considerable time working on the development of Ohio's livestock care standards.

Mr. Link is also an active member of the Ohio Pork Producers Council, serving on their Demand Enhancement Committee, as a National Pork Act Delegate, and an operation Main Street speaker. Mr. Link moreover remains involved with the Ohio Farm Bureau, National Turkey Federation, United Egg Producers, and the Ohio Turkey Marketing Board.

Mr. Link's considerable service and diverse experience would make him constructive member and good addition to the National Pork Board. As one of the largest pork producing states in the country, Ohio's active and direct involvement in the National Pork Board is critical to the many pork producers in my state.

I appreciate your consideration of this nomination and thank you for your continuing service to our nation's farmers.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator