USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

June 24, 2024

THE HONORABLE CHELLIE PINGREE
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Pingree:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service response to the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, section 8702(g)(6), that the Secretary submit to Congress a report that, with respect to appointments made under the pilot program compared to appointments to resource advisory committees not made under the pilot program a description of the extent to which: 1) appointments were faster or slower; 2) the requirements described in section 8702(4) differ; and a recommendation with respect to whether Congress should terminate, continue, modify, or expand the pilot program.

After 45 days from the date of this letter, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/budget-performance.

If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter is being sent to Chairman Mike Simpson.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure