July 17, 2018

**The Hon. K. Michael Conaway**

**Chairman, US House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture**

**1301 Longworth House Office Building**

**Washington, DC 20515**

**RE: 2018 Farm Bill/Agriculture Improvement Act (AIA)**

**Dear Representative Conaway:**

**The US Composting Council urges the House Committee on Agriculture to support the economic development potential of compost manufacturing in the reconciliation of the 2018 Senate AIA that is before you now. Our 27-year-old organization represents more than 2,000 individuals and companies dedicated to compost manufacturing, compost utilization and organics recycling.**

**We commend the US Senate for taking steps to include in their version measures to increase the reduction in wasted food and development of composting and anaerobic digestion.**

**Specifically, we ask you to integrate the section concerning funding and grants. We support the initiative to fund and carry out pilots by 24 municipal governments in not fewer than 10 states to develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost and food waste reduction plans.**

**The demand for compost manufacturing and landfill diversion significantly exceeds the infrastructure to serve it; USCC has projects underway to focus on** state permitting regulations, for compost facilities in zoning ordinances and local solid waste plans as obstacles for entrepreneurs who seek to open or expand compost facilities or compost sales. These pilot studies will provide on-the-ground and timely data for the work needed to provide composting services in the U.S.

We would be pleased to meet with you, your staff or your committee to answer questions or further outline ways this bill can serve these valuable economic and environmental enterprises.

Sincerely,



Frank Franciosi

Executive Director