

177 Tribal Governments, Tribal & Partner Organizations, and Individuals In Support of Janie Simms Hipp Nomination for USDA General Counsel

May 24, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Intertribal Agriculture Council and over 170 Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, Partner Organizations, and Individuals, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

The nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as USDA General Counsel is historic for several key reasons. As a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, Janie represents America's first farmers. As a world-renowned food and agriculture legal mind with more than 35 years of experience, Janie's legal experience and expertise in food and agriculture law is unparalleled. As an agricultural lawyer during the devastating farm financial crisis of the 1980s, Janie also has experience assisting ag and food producers through incredibly tough times, an essential need for public servants today as our country's ag and food producers weather the economic and health crises brought on by the pandemic. Janie's nomination is a strong statement that agriculture and Rural America must have people in the building at USDA who know what they are going through, and most importantly how to help during these very difficult times. Janie Hipp is exactly the right person at the right time, because difficult times call for extraordinary leadership.

Janie Hipp's career and reputation are extraordinary. She has dedicated her entire legal career to working on behalf of Rural America and our food producers. It's not only her passion, but it's in her heart. Being from a small, rural southeastern Oklahoma town that was agriculture-dependent and infrastructure-poor, she planted her professional and home roots firmly in Arkansas while traveling the country and world to help farmers and ranchers. Whether speaking one-on-one with a producer, or speaking on a stage in front of thousands, she always brings the same passion and brilliance and speaks truth to power on behalf of agriculture and Rural America. Janie grew up there, lives there, and serves the people there.

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Janie also has over seven years of experience working at USDA in various capacities, including serving as a national program leader for Farm Financial Management, Trade Adjustment Assistance, Risk Management Education, and the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development programs at the United States Department of Agriculture National Institute for Food and Agriculture. She was then tapped by Secretary Vilsack to work closely with him as Senior Advisor for Tribal Relations and Director of the Office of Tribal Relations during the Obama Administration. In a majority of these roles, Janie worked across programs and USDA agencies to create new connections to help farmers and ranchers. With her legal mind back at USDA as General Counsel, we believe that she will help Secretary Vilsack get the Department running better than ever during a time when we need USDA the most.

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We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Janie Simms Hipp to serve as the next General Counsel of USDA. There is much work to do to address the systemic, historic, and current

barriers facing our country's food producers, and we believe there is no one better than Janie Simms Hipp to lead USDA's Office of General Counsel.

Sincerely,

A Well-Fed World
Acoma Pueblo
Airfresh Seafoods
Akiptan, Inc
Alabama State Association of Cooperatives
Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, Oxnard, Ca
American Federation of Government Employees, Local 3354 (AFL-CIO)
American Indian Mothers Inc
Amy Huie, Individual
Animo Partnership in Natural Resources
Ashley Babcock, Individual
Atrisco
Blackfeet Agriculture Resource Management Plan (ARMP)
Blackfeet Nation Stockgrowers Association
Blackfeet Natural Resource Conservation District
Border Agricultural Workers Project
Bridget Sweet, Individual
Brynlee Rolland, Individual
California Association of Food Banks
Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment
CHANGE Philanthropy
Cheyenne Stone, Individual
Church Women United in New York State
Climate Change Leadership Institute and the New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group
College of Menominee Nation
Community Hunger Solutions
Compañeras Campesinas
Cottage House Inc.
Dakota Rural Action
Dream of Wild Health
DX Beef, LLC
Elizabeth Hoover, Individual
Ella Robertson, Individual
Ellen Vandevise, Individual
Endangered Habitats League
Eskehyll Farm
Family Farm Action
Farm Aid
Farm Credit Council
Farm Journal Foundation
Feeding America
First American Capital Corp.

Letter from 177 Tribes, Organizations, & Individuals
Support for Janie Simms Hipp USDA General Counsel Nomination
May 24, 2021

First Nations Development Institute
Flowering Tree Permaculture Institute
Food Animal Concerns Trust
Food Research & Action Center
Fort Belknap Indian Community
Fort Independence Tribe of Paiute Indians
Fort Lewis College
Four Bands Community Fund
Foxhead Regenerative Agriculture Project
Friends of the Earth
Good Earth Garden School
Guidiville Rancheria of California
HEAL (Health, Environment, Agriculture, Labor) Food Alliance
Heartwood
Hempstead Project Heart
Heroda Bikax^e Consulting LLC
Hope's Harvest RI
Hopland Band of Pomo Indians
Ilima Ho-Lastimosa, Individual
Indian Land Tenure Foundation
Indigikitchen
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Inter Tribal Association of Arizona
Intertribal Agriculture Council
InterTribal Buffalo Council
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement
Jason George, Individual
Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future
Joseph Gazing Wolf, Individual
Joseph Seller, Individual, Lead Counsel of Keepseagle Class Action Litigation
Julie Sevier Miller, Individual
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe College
Lakota Funds
Land Stewardship Project
LaSalle Cattle
Latino Farmers of the Southeast
LEAD for Pollinators, Inc.
Makoce Agriculture Development, Inc
Maryland Hunger Solutions
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Melissa Leilani DeMello, Individual
Menominee Nation of Wisconsin
Michael Fields Agricultural Institute
Michelle Schulz, Individual
Midwest Organic & Sustainable Agriculture
Mississippi Association of Cooperatives
Modoc Nation

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National Association of Conservation Districts
National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
National Congress of American Indians
National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International
National Farm to School Network
National FFA Organization
National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association
National Wildlife Federation
Native American Fish and Wildlife Society
Native American Natural Foods
Native American Rights Fund
Native Americans in Philanthropy
Native CDFI Network
Native Food and Nutrition Resource Alliance
Natural Resources Defense Council
Natwani Coalition
Navajo Nation Ganado Farm Board
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE)
North American Traditional Indigenous Food Systems (NATIFS)
North Carolina Association of Black Lawyers Land Loss Prevention Project
North South Institute
Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group
Northern California Tribal Court Coalition
Now You Know New Mexico
Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College
Ohe.laku Cooperative
Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association
Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts
Oklahoma Black Historical Research Project, Inc.
Opus Consulting
Organization en California de Lideres Campesinas
Osage Nation Ranch LLC
Oweesta Corporation
Passamaquoddy Wild Blueberry Company
People's Action
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Pesticide Action Network
Pocasset Wampanoag Tribe of the Pokanoket Nation
Pueblo of San Felipe
Quality Equipment, LLC
Quentin Means
Quivira Coalition
Red Feathers Native American Cuisine
Red Willow Center, Taos Pueblo
Reinvestment Fund
Rhode Island Food Policy Council

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May 24, 2021

Rosalie Z. Fanshel, Individual
Rosebud Economic Development Corporation
Rural Advancement Fund of the National Sharecroppers Fund,
Rural Coalition
Rural Development Leadership Network
San Diego Hunger Coalition
Santa Clara Pueblo
Share Our Strength
Shiprock Traditional Farmers Cooperative
Sicangu Community Development Corporation
Sierra Club
Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Nation
South Dakota Indian Business Alliance
Spirit Lake Tribe
Sustainable Agriculture and Food System Funders
Sweet Grass Consulting, LLC
Tanka Fund
Tanka Resilient Agriculture
The Akana Group Inc
The California Indian Museum and Cultural Center
The Common Market
The DX Ranch
The Sioux Chef
Thunderbird Strategic LLC
Tortugas Pueblo and Zia Queenbee Farm & Field Institute
Travois
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians
Tyler Ranch
Uncas Consulting LLC
United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund
United States Cattlemen's Association
University of Minnesota Extension
University of Wisconsin - Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems
Victory Hemp Foods
Wallace Center at Winrock International
Washington State University Western Center
WATCH, INC
White Earth Land Recovery Project (WELRP)
Wisconsin Farmers Union
Wisdom of the Elderberry Farm (Deg Hit'an Dine, Inupiaq)
World Farmers

Fort Belknap Indian Community



Fort Belknap Agency
656 Agency Main Street
Harlem, Montana 59526-9455
PH: (406) 353-2205
FAX: Council – (406) 353-4541
FAX: Departments – (406) 353 - 2797

Fort Belknap Indian Community
(Tribal Govt.)
Fort Belknap Indian Community
(Elected to administer the affairs of the community and
to represent the Assiniboiné and the Gros Ventre Tribes
of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation)

April 23, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
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Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
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Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

ANDREW WERK, Jr.
President



MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

P.O. Box 910
Keshena, WI 54135-0910

April 16, 20201

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
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Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Menominee Indian Tribe, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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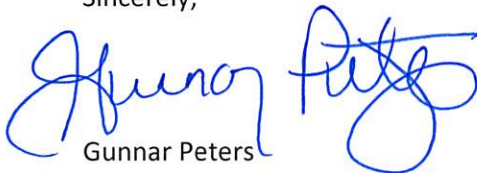
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Sincerely,



Gunnar Peters

Chairman

Menominee Tribal Legislature

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin



April 21, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
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Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of Dream of Wild Health, an Indigenous-led nonprofit and agricultural producer serving the Native communities in MN, I write in full support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neely M. Snyder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Neely" being the most prominent.

Neely M. Snyder
Executive Director

Neely@dreamofwildhealth.org



Inter Tribal Association of Arizona

21 TRIBAL NATIONS

April 23, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

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Ak-Chin Indian
Community
Cocopah Tribe
Colorado River
Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell
Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave
Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian
Community
Havasupai Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Hualapai Tribe
Kaibab Band of Paiute
Indians
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Pueblo of Zuni
Quechan Tribe
Salt River Pima-
Maricopa Indian
Community
San Carlos
Apache Tribe
San Juan
Southern Paiute Tribe
Tohono O'odham
Nation
Tonto Apache Tribe
White Mountain
Apache Tribe
Yavapai-Apache
Nation
Yavapai-Prescott
Indian Tribe

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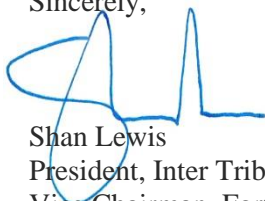
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We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Janie Simms Hipp to serve as the next General Counsel of USDA. There is much work to do to address the systemic, historic, and current barriers facing our country's food producers, and we believe there is no one better than Janie Simms Hipp to lead USDA's Office of General Counsel.

Sincerely,



Shan Lewis
President, Inter Tribal Association of Arizona
Vice Chairman, Fort Mojave Indian Tribe



Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate

LAKE TRAVERSE RESERVATION
P.O. Box 509
12554 BIA Hwy. 711
Agency Village, South Dakota 57262
Phone: (605) 698-3911

April 21, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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Sincerely,



Delbert Hopkins – SWO Tribal Chairman





FORT INDEPENDENCE INDIAN RESERVATION

P.O. BOX 67 • INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526 • (760) 878-5160 • FAX (760) 878-2311

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
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328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Fort Independence Community of Paiute Indians of the Fort Independence Indian Reservation, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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Respectfully,

Carl Dahlberg
Tribal Chairman

THE POCASSET
WAMPANOAG TRIBE
OF THE
POKANOKET NATION



April 20, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
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328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Pocasset Wampanoag Tribe of the Pokanoket Nation / Watuppa Reservation, write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all our country's food and agriculture producers.

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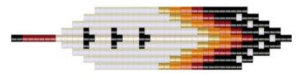
As Descendants of the Algonquin Language Bands, our Pocasset Wampanoag Tribe is a member of the original Pokanoket Federation led by Grand Sachem Massasoit otherwise known as Ousamequin (Yellow Feather). The Pocasset Tribe encompassed present-day Tiverton, Rhode Island and parts of Southeastern Massachusetts including Fall River, Freetown, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Westport, and Middleboro. The Pocasset Tribe was a first contact tribe

headed by Chief Corbitant, father of Female Sachem Weetamoe, King Phillips' Sister-in-Law. The Pocasset was one of the largest and most powerful tribes in the Pokanoket Federation. Our reservation was the first deeded reservation and is the only Pocasset Territory reserved indefinitely for the Royal Family line of Massasoit and his Clans. Today the Pocasset's have a traditional 'Clan Style' Tribal Council of Chiefs that administers the tribes' day to day operations.

What we hope to emphasize is that the omission of non-federally recognized tribes from such discussions leads to the exclusion of perspectives, experiences, and knowledge that could enhance programs and policies designed to serve those same populations. Our work to educate the surrounding community, to advocate for resources that address the needs of our people, provide us with a deeper understanding. We have successfully formed the only tribal alliance with a casino in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. We currently hold the only tribal land trust, Pocasset Pokanoket Land Trust, in this region. These efforts and our growing regional alliances have positioned us to receive grant funding from the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service that will help advance outreach and conservation efforts in support of non-tribal communities, refugees, and under-served groups across New England.

We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Janie Simms Hipp to serve as the next General Counsel of USDA. There is much work to do to address the systemic, historic, and current barriers facing our country's food producers, and we believe there is no one better than Janie Simms Hipp to lead USDA's Office of General Counsel.

With great respect,
Chief George Spring Buffalo
Pocasset Tribe of the Pokanoket Nation / Watuppa Reservation



4180 HIGHWAY 281
BELCOURT, ND 58316
TMBCI.ORG

JAMIE AZURE
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN
JAMIE.AZURE@TMBCI.ORG

701.477.2673

April X, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer

Majority Leader

U.S. Senate

Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

Minority Leader

U.S. Senate

Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow

Chairwoman

U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,

Nutrition, and Forestry

328A Russell Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman

Ranking Member

U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,

Nutrition, and Forestry

328A Russell Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the **Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians**, I write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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Sincerely,

Jamie Azure



Jamie Azure, Tribal Chairman

4180 Highway 281, PO Box 900

Belcourt ND, 58316

O: (701) 477-2673

C: (701) 278-2253

Jamie.azure@tmbci.org

P (918) 540-2535
F (918) 540-2538



PEORIA TRIBE

OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

118 S. Eight Tribes Trail • P.O. Box 1527
Miami, Oklahoma 74355

CHIEF
Craig Harper

SECOND CHIEF
Logan Pappenfort

April 20, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
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The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
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328A Russell Office Building
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328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma I write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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Craig Harper, Chief



April 21, 2021

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Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
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Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Climate Change Leadership Institute and the New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's

agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

The nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as USDA General Counsel is historic for several key reasons. As a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, Janie represents America's first farmers. As a world renowned food and agriculture legal mind with more than 35 years of experience, Janie's legal experience and expertise with food and agriculture law is unparalleled. As an agricultural lawyer during the devastating farm financial crisis of the 1980s, Janie also has experience assisting ag and food producers through incredibly tough times, an essential need for public servants today as our country's ag and food producers weather the economic and health crises brought on by the pandemic. Janie's nomination is a strong statement that agriculture and Rural America must have people in the building at USDA who know what they are going through, and most importantly how to help during these very difficult times. Janie Hipp is exactly the right person at the right time, because difficult times call for extraordinary leadership.

Janie Hipp's career and reputation are extraordinary. She has dedicated her entire legal career to working on behalf of Rural America and our food producers. It's not only her passion, but it's in her heart. Being from a small, rural southeastern Oklahoma town that was agriculture-dependent and infrastructure-poor, she planted her professional and home roots firmly in Arkansas while traveling the country and world to help farmers and ranchers. Whether speaking one-on-one with a producer, or speaking on a stage in front of thousands, she always brings the same passion and brilliance and speaks truth to power on behalf of agriculture and Rural America. Janie grew up there, lives there, and serves the people there.

In working alongside producers to solve the complex legal changes they face, Janie's expertise spans the entirety of USDA's programs and authority. She has extensive experience in food law and policy, trade, credit and finance, conservation, sustainable and regenerative ag, ag business, risk management, federal nutrition programs, research and education, and rural development to name a few. Janie is an encyclopedia of agricultural legal knowledge and directly connects the law to the histories and challenges our producers face with a specific eye on how it can be applied to make it better for the producer. Not only does Janie know the law, she knows its applications within USDA inside and out – just like a farmer knows their tractor – which is essential for General Counsel who has to look at the legal and program authorities across the entire agency.

Janie also has over seven years of experience working at USDA in various capacities, including serving as a national program leader for Farm Financial Management, Trade Adjustment Assistance, Risk Management Education, and the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development programs at the United States Department of Agriculture National Institute for Food and Agriculture. She was then tapped by Secretary Vilsack to work closely with him as Senior Advisor for Tribal Relations and Director of the Office of Tribal Relations, during the Obama Administration. In a majority of these roles, Janie worked across programs and USDA agencies to create new connections to help farmers and ranchers. With her legal mind back at USDA as General Counsel, we believe that she will help Secretary Vilsack get the Department running better than ever during a time when we need USDA the most.

While Janie's legal expertise is unmatched, so is her experience working on behalf of Rural America. Janie sat at kitchen tables to help producers during the farm financial crisis of the 1980s. Janie sat at conference tables across the country listening to Tribal leaders and state and local government officials looking to build strong agricultural economies. Janie has sat at tables at USDA, the White House, the U.S. Congress, and the United Nations to guide lawmakers tackling the most difficult issues facing America's food producers at the national

and international levels. In all of these spaces, Janie brings her unparalleled passion, heart, experience, and intelligence to make sure that agriculture and Rural America are represented, and that everyone has a seat at the table and voice in the effort.

We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Janie Simms Hipp to serve as the next General Counsel of USDA. There is much work to do to address the systemic, historic, and current barriers facing our country's food producers, and we believe there is no one better than Janie Simms Hipp to lead USDA's Office of General Counsel.

Sincerely,

Robb Hirsch

Executive Director of the Climate Change Leadership Institute

Co-founder of the NM Healthy Soil Working Group

www.takeresponsibility.us / robb@takeresponsibility.us / 505-988-3364



National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations

April 21, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader

U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking
Member Boozman:

On behalf of the National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian
Reservations, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms
Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a
strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that
comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of
producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary
Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms.
Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to

Mary Greene-Trotter,
President
Spirit Lake Nation
Mt. Plains Region
P.O. Box 414
Fort Totten, ND 58335
Phone: (701) 766-4684
sitfdp@gondtc.com

Marisa Fuller, Secretary
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
Mt. Plains Region
P.O. Box 135
Macy, NE 68039
Phone: (402) 349-5408

Jaime Prouty, Treasurer
Comanche Nation
Southwest Region
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73501
Phone: (580) 492-3327

Rex Hailey,
Parliamentarian
Seminole Nation
Southwest Region
P.O. Box 111
Seminole, OK 74818
Tel: (405) 234-5240

MIDWEST REGION
Joseph VanAlstine, VP
Little Traverse Bay Band of
Odawa Indians

MOUNTAIN PLAINS
Charles "Red" Gates, 1st VP
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

SOUTHWEST REGION
Wayne Martinez, VP
Eight Northern Pueblo's

WESTERN REGION
AC Sanchez, VP
Couer d'Alene Tribe

the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Janie Simms Hipp to serve as the next General Counsel of USDA. There is much work to do to address the systemic, historic, and current barriers facing our country's food producers, and we believe there is no one better than Janie Simms Hipp to lead USDA's Office of General Counsel.

Sincerely,



Mary Greene Trottier, President



Shiprock Traditional Farmers Cooperative
P.O. Box 4380
Shiprock, New Mexico 87420
shiprocktraditionalfarmers@gmail.com

April 22, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the, Shiprock Traditional Farmers Cooperative, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Janie Simms Hipp to serve as the next General Counsel of USDA. There is much work to do to address the systemic, historic, and current barriers facing our country's food producers, and we believe there is no one better than Janie Simms Hipp to lead USDA's Office of General Counsel.

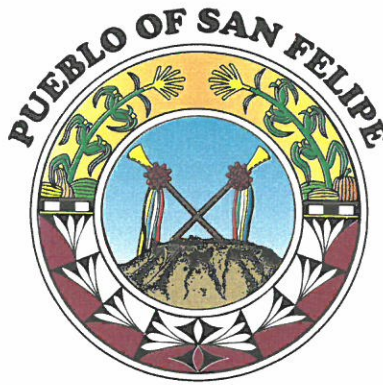
Sincerely,

Beverly Maxwell, President
Joann Tyler, Vice President
Betsy Yazzie, Secretary

Board Members: Lula Sandoval
Clarina Clark
Wallace Buck Jr.

Harrison Yellowman

P.O. Box 4339
San Felipe Pueblo, NM 87001



Phone: (505) 867-3381/3382
FAX: (505) 867-3383

Office of the Governor

April 21, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Pueblo of San Felipe we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a Native American with the knowledge and experience that comes from working with all different types of producers, Janie Hipp is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

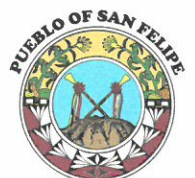
The nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as USDA General Counsel is historic and as a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, Janie represents America's first farmers, and has extensive experience working on behalf of rural America.

We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Janie Simms Hipp to serve as the next General Counsel of USDA. There is much work to do to address the systemic, historic, and current barriers facing our country's food producers, and we believe there is no one better than Janie Simms Hipp to lead USDA's Office of General Counsel.

Sincerely,
Pueblo of San Felipe


Governor Anthony Ortiz


Lt. Governor James Tenorio





GANADO FARM BOARD

Serving the Ganado Chapter

P.O. BOX 188 * GANADO, ARIZONA 86505 * (928)755-5920 * FAX (928) 755-

JONATHAN NEZ
PRESIDENT

MYRON LIZER
VICE PRESIDENT

April 14, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
328A Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for the Nomination and Confirmation of Janie Simms Hipp as USDA General Counsel

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairwoman Stabenow, and Ranking Member Boozman:

On behalf of the Navajo Nation Ganado Farm Board, we write in support of President Biden's nomination of Janie Simms Hipp to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As a strong Indigenous woman with an incredible depth of knowledge and experience that comes from working across this country and the world with all different types of producers, Janie is uniquely qualified to provide sound legal advice to Secretary Vilsack and all of USDA's agencies. We urge the U.S. Senate to swiftly confirm Ms. Hipp as the next General Counsel of USDA as her expertise is critically important to the agency's ongoing pandemic response and the support USDA provides to all of our country's food and agriculture producers.

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Sincerely,



Evangeline Curley-Thomas
Ganado Farm Board President
P.O. Box 188
Ganado, AZ 86505