



April 3, 2025

Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable John Thune  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Current Budget Reconciliation Process**

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Congressman Jeffries, and Senator Schumer:

On behalf of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents (PIA)<sup>1</sup>, we urge Congress to require the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to reinstate the annual administrative and operating (A&O) inflation adjustment for crop insurance agents in the ongoing budget reconciliation process.

As you may know, for several years, the RMA would provide annual adjustments to crop insurance agent compensation to account for inflation. Then, in 2016, the RMA, which is overseen by the USDA, abruptly stopped providing an annual inflation adjustment for agents, functionally freezing their compensation in 2016 dollars indefinitely. Since then, the RMA has refused to reinstate the annual inflation adjustment, arguing that it cannot legally do so without renegotiating the Standard Reinsurance Agreement (SRA). RMA maintains this position even though the agency *began* providing an annual inflation adjustment without renegotiating the SRA.

In 2022, Congress included in its appropriations package report language stating unequivocally that the RMA has the authority to reinstate the annual inflation adjustment without renegotiating the SRA. Despite this, the RMA has continued to refuse to reinstate the inflation adjustment.

Crop insurance agents are essential partners in the delivery of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. Moreover, federal crop insurance serves as the primary food safety net for producers and the public. By requiring RMA to reinstate the annual inflation adjustment, Congress will strengthen the food supply framework to better meet the risk management needs of producers.

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<sup>1</sup> PIA is a national trade association founded in 1931, which represents member insurance agents in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the District of Columbia. PIA members are small business owners and insurance professionals.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Skiados". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Skiados, MBA, CAE  
CEO  
National Association of Professional Insurance Agents