

RE: Support for Farm Bill amendment #75 offered by Rep. Hastings (FL)
Pollinator Protection Research & Conservation

Dear Representative:

The undersigned urge you to vote for **amendment #75**, a **Pollinator Protection research and conservation** provision which will be offered by Rep. Alcee Hastings of Florida during floor consideration of the 2007 farm bill.

This amendment (1) authorizes research funding to address Colony Collapse Disorder in honey bees and other factors confronting managed and native pollinators; and (2) places a greater emphasis in existing USDA conservation programs on habitat and other pollinator-beneficial best management practices to protect and enhance native and managed pollinators.

As recognized in the Committee Report on page 226, *“In addition to wildlife benefits, crop pollination represents a major agricultural input, especially for specialty crop producers.”* Enhancing pollinator research and conservation through the 2007 farm bill to benefit honey bees and other managed pollinators and native pollinators will help ensure both essential crop pollination services and healthy wildlife ecosystems.

Please support the pollinator protection amendment.

Sincerely,

Organizations:

American Beekeeping Federation, Inc.
American Honey Producers Association
American Farmland Trust
California Farm Bureau Federation
California State Beekeepers Association
Center for Biological Diversity
Coevolution Institute
Defenders of Wildlife
Environmental Defense
Florida Farm Bureau Federation
National Wildlife Federation
Partners for Sustainable Pollination
Sonoma County Beekeepers Association
Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
Wild Farm Alliance
Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

Individuals:

May Berenbaum, Ph.D., Professor and Head, Department of Entomology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Stephen Buchmann, Ph.D., Department of Entomology, University of Arizona
Nicole Cavender, Director, Restoration Ecology, The Wilds, Cumberland, OH
Liz Day, Indianapolis, IN
Elizabeth Dougherty, Oakland, CA
Maryann Frazier, Senior Extension Associate, Department of Entomology, Penn State
University
Sarah S. Greenleaf, Ph.D., Department of Plant Pathology, University of California-Davis
Jennifer L. Hopwood, Iowa State University
Rhonda Kranz, Kranz Consulting, Takoma Park, MD
Kelly C. Lotts, USGS National Biological Information Infrastructure, Big Sky Institute,
Montana State University
David Mendes, Headwaters Farm, North Fort Meyers, FL
Tim Miklasiewicz, Ph.D., Ohio Ecological Conspirators, Plain City, OH
Randy Oliver, Beekeeper, Biologist & Author, Grass Valley, CA
David W. Roubik, Ph.D., Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
Leslie Saul-Gershenz, Director of Conservation, Center for Ecosystem Survival,
San Francisco, CA
Robbin W. Thorp, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Entomology, University of
California, Davis
Maria Van Dyke, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia
Daniel B. Weaver, President, Bee Weaver Apiaries, Inc., Navasota, TX & President,
American Beekeeping Federation
David Webb, Vice-President, Florida State Beekeeper's Association, Cocoa, FL
E. O. Wilson, Ph.D., Research Professor of Biology, Emeritus, Harvard University