

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 14, 2013

Mr. Daniel M. Ashe
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
4401 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 330
Arlington, Virginia 22203

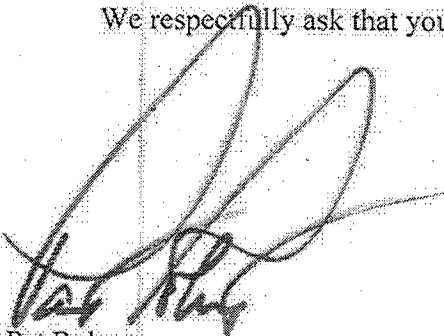
Dear Mr. Ashe:

We are writing to express our support for a 30-day extension to the comment period for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Black-footed Ferret Safe Harbor Agreement and Environmental Assessment (FWS-R6-ES-2012-N190; FF06E16000-123FXES11130600000D2). Extending the deadline would allow affected individuals more time to review the agreement and environmental assessment.

The notice was published on December 19, 2012, and the deadline for submission is January 18, 2013. This notice, however, was published during the holiday season and many farmers and ranchers have not had the opportunity to evaluate the proposal. Providing an extension to the comment period would give interested parties the ability to thoroughly evaluate the program and provide USFWS with comprehensive comments about the impact of the proposal.

We respectfully ask that you extend the public comment period.

Sincerely,



Pat Roberts



Jerry Moran



Tim Huelskamp

CC: Ms. Kimberly Tamkun

House Agriculture & Natural
Resources Committee
Date 1-16-2013
Attachment # 1