



## **National Association of Conservation Districts**

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September 28, 2009

The Honorable Blanche Lincoln  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture Nutrition and Forestry  
United States Senate  
328-A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Saxby Chambliss  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry  
United States Senate  
328-A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Lincoln and Ranking Member Chambliss:

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) represents the nation's 3,000 conservation districts and the 17,000 men and women that serve on their governing boards. We work closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to implement conservation programs for farms, ranches, grasslands and forested land. We are writing you in support of the nomination of Harris Sherman to become the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and the Environment (NRE) at USDA.

The Under Secretary for NRE is a key position for overseeing the conservation programs of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Conservation districts work closely with local NRCS and USFS representatives each day. We know the leadership in Washington, DC is critical to USDA's successful partnerships for natural resource protection and locally led conservation program delivery. Mr. Sherman's background in forestry, conservation and natural resource protection will serve him well to lead USDA's conservation and forestry division.

We urge you to approve Mr. Sherman's nomination.

Sincerely,

Steve Robinson  
President

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