



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

August 28, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

It's now been six months since you started the war in Iran. Ever since, Illinois farmers and families have been paying the price for it.

As one of the nation's top producers of corn, our corn farmers are especially being hit hard. Our corn farmers rely on nitrogen-based fertilizers to grow their product, but since you started the war in Iran the price of these fertilizers has skyrocketed. Nitrogen fertilizers is now costing \$1,123 per ton – a 36% increase from \$828 per ton just last April, according to University of Illinois economists.

I understand in June your administration acknowledged the fertilizer emergency created by your war and temporarily suspended certain import taxes on some fertilizers. While that was a reasonable step, it failed to include relief for the farmers in the Midwest who need nitrogen fertilizers to grow their corn.

In the coming months, Illinois farmers will have to decide whether to plant corn or switch acres to soybeans. They will have to decide whether they can afford to utilize nitrogen this fall at a higher price or gamble that it will be cheaper in the spring.

These are decisions farmers should be making based on their land and the market—not by the cost of starting wars. You have repeatedly promised to lower costs for American farmers. Instead, your unlawful war raised the price of one of the most important products farmers buy and just about every other input through your illegal tariffs.

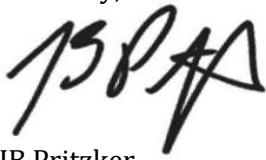
Farmers will not be the only ones paying more. When it costs more to grow corn, those higher costs move through the supply chain and are eventually passed on to working families through higher prices at the grocery store.

Your administration has already conceded that fertilizer shortages threaten American agriculture, our food supply, and our economic security. I am asking you to provide immediate relief and use your authority to:

- Expand emergency relief authorized by your June 29 proclamation to include nitrogen fertilizers by directing the Departments of the Treasury and Commerce to permit urea, urea ammonium nitrate, anhydrous ammonia, and ammonium sulfate to enter the United States free of federal import taxes for the duration of this emergency.
- Extend the emergency relief timeline authorized by your June 29 proclamation covering phosphate fertilizer from Morocco through June 30, 2027, so it covers the fall purchasing window and the full spring application season.

You claim to stand with American farmers and families. Now is your opportunity to prove it. Your war and your tariffs are squeezing Illinois farmers with higher costs they cannot control and never asked for. They should not be forced to pick up the tab for your decisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JB Pritzker', written over a light gray rectangular background.

JB Pritzker
Governor of Illinois