

JOHN GARAMENDI
3RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
STRATEGIC FORCES SUBCOMMITTEE
EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES
SUBCOMMITTEE

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
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WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE
AVIATION SUBCOMMITTEE



UNITED STATES CONGRESS

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The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member, Committee on the
Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Leahy,

As your committee prepares for its upcoming hearing on “Consolidation and Competition in the U.S. Seed and Agrochemical Industry”, I write to express my concern with the recently announced merger between Bayer AG and Monsanto Company. Consolidation of this magnitude could produce significant unintended consequences and demands thoughtful consideration.

Agriculture is a vital economic driver in my district, providing thousands of jobs and producing over \$4 billion in farm gate value annually. While most of the ramifications are unknown at this time, this merger is likely to have significant impacts on my constituents. Because of this, it is critical that Congress utilize, to the maximum extent possible, its power of oversight.

In recent media reports, Bayer has stated that it expects to create \$1.5 billion in “total synergies” as a result of the merger. This is particularly concerning due to the fact that Monsanto has a number of facilities in my district that provide good, high paying jobs for those that I represent. Closure or consolidation of these facilities would be unacceptable in my view, because of job loss and because these facilities provide critical services to local farmers and valuable research for agriculture on a national scale. Additionally, the merger will lead to a loss of competition in the seed and agrochemical industry.

I believe that Congress has a role to play in this process and I appreciate your ongoing efforts to increase oversight and transparency. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Garamendi".

JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress