



Farm
Production and
Conservation

Farm
Service
Agency

Office of the
Administrator

1400 Independence
Ave, SW
Stop 0501
Washington, DC
20250-0501

Voice: 202-720-6215
Fax: 202-720-9105

January 31, 2022

Dear Borrower,

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic hardship it has imposed on agricultural producers, on January 27, 2021, USDA announced a temporary suspension of past-due debt collection and foreclosures for distressed borrowers under the Farm Storage Facility Loan and the Direct Farm Loan programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Since that time, you may have received a "Notice of Intent to Accelerate" from the FSA regarding your loan. While the statute requires these notifications to inform borrowers of their options, please be assured that FSA will NOT be accelerating or foreclosing on any direct loans you may have with us, regardless of payment status, while this suspension is in effect.

The Farm Financial Crisis of the 1980's highlighted significant shortcomings in the loan servicing procedures USDA had in place at the time, and far too many borrowers failed to receive any notices of their loan servicing rights and options. As a result, Congress enacted legislation establishing standardized loan servicing processes that remain in place today. We acknowledge that the title of the notice you may have received might be misleading and confusing when considered in the context of the current suspension of past-due debt collection and foreclosures for distressed borrowers. Rest assured that under Secretary Vilsack's leadership, the FSA is focusing our attention and resources toward assisting you with available loan servicing options mentioned in some of these notices.

A separate letter will be sent out soon that will more fully explain the loan servicing options available to you as a direct loan borrower.

Between now and then, I encourage you to evaluate your current financial situation and work with the FSA to gain a better understanding of the available loan servicing options that can help you position yourself to continue to farm or ranch into the future.

Sincerely,

Zach Ducheneaux
Administrator
Farm Service Agency
U.S. Department of Agriculture