REPRESENTATIVE COLLIN PETERSON (D-MN)
Ranking Minority Member, House Committee on Agriculture

Rep. Peterson's contributions from the agriculture industry dropped by one-fifth between the 2010 and 2012 cycles, a decrease that tracked his 2011 move from committee chair to ranking member. Though agriculture businesses cut back their contributions to Rep. Peterson, his overall contributions declined at a sharper rate, making contributions from interests overseen by his committee a larger percentage of his total campaign contributions during the 2012 election cycle than during the 2010 election cycle. He was included in CREW's 2011 *Funds for Favors* report, which found that between 1998 and 2010, contributions from the agriculture industry to Rep. Peterson increased at a rate far outpacing his total contributions.[1] During the 112th Congress, after becoming the ranking member of the Agriculture Committee, Rep. Peterson voted in agreement with the interests regulated by the Agriculture Committee much more frequently than the average Democrat.

Campaign Contributions from the Agriculture Sector

	2010 Election Cycle	**2012 Election Cycle**	**% Change**
Industry Contributions	$650,412	$522,318	-20%
Total Contributions	$1,380,382	$1,023,360	-26%

- During the 2012 election cycle, the agriculture industry accounted for 51% of the $1,023,360 in total contributions received by Rep. Peterson's campaign committee and PAC.
- During the 2010 election cycle, the agriculture industry accounted for 47% of the $1,380,382 in total contributions received by Rep. Peterson's campaign committee and PAC.

Campaign Contribution Highlights from Industries Regulated by the Committee[2]

- The poultry and eggs industry contributed 2.8 times less money to Rep. Peterson during the 2012 election cycle than during the 2010 election cycle, decreasing its contributions from $37,000 to $13,000.
- The livestock industry contributed 1.8 times less money to Rep. Peterson during the 2012 election cycle than during the 2010 election cycle, decreasing its contributions from $31,731 to $17,250.
- The dairy industry contributed 1.7 times less money to Rep. Peterson during the 2012 election cycle than during the 2010 election cycle, decreasing its contributions from $67,000 to $39,750.

[1] For more information, see *Funds for Favors: Exposing Donors' Influence on Committee Leaders, available at* http://www.citizensforethics.org/pages/funds-for-favors.
[2] This section highlights committee industries that significantly increased or decreased their donations to the committee leader between the 2010 and 2012 election cycles.

Votes on Agriculture Issues

- From 2011-2012, Rep. Peterson voted in agreement with the interests regulated by the Agriculture Committee 87% of the time. The average Democrat voted in agreement with those interests 32% of the time.