

Dear Mrs. Obama,

I am writing to ask for your support of native pollinators and pollinator-friendly gardens. We are deeply concerned with the plummeting populations of pollinators across the country, and, as university students, we are working to provide habitat for bees and butterflies on our campuses. Planting pesticide-free pollinator gardens that include milkweed is an important step in protecting the pollinator populations that are necessary for human survival.

Loss of milkweed habitat is causing a major decline in monarch butterfly populations. Monarch caterpillars rely exclusively on milkweed for survival, the loss of milkweed due to the use of GMO crops and widespread use of herbicides and pesticides is greatly threatening their survival. Monarch butterfly populations have declined by 90 percent in the past 20 years, and remaining populations have lost 165 million acres of habitat in that timeframe, in large part due to herbicide and pesticide use.^[1]

Native bee populations have also plummeted in recent years because of many threats including spread of diseases, habitat loss, climate change, and invasive species.^[2] The widespread use of neonicotinoid pesticides has killed many and hampered the ability of others to return to their hives. “Neonics” are systemic; when applied, they infiltrate all of the structures of a plant, including its nectar. Neonics are very heavily used in agriculture as well as in residential and commercial settings.

We would like to encourage you to take a stand for pollinator gardens by publicly encouraging schools, businesses, churches, and community groups across the country to plant pollinator gardens and adopt pollinator-friendly, pesticide and herbicide-free practices.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

¹ Center for Biological Diversity, “After 90 Percent Decline, Federal Protection Sought for Monarch Butterfly,” http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/news/press_releases/2014/monarch-butterfly-08-26-2014.html

² Xerces Society, “Project Bumble Bee,” <http://www.xerces.org/bumblebees/>

	Name	ZIP Code
1	Lisa Hall	95060
2	Eva Malis	94709
3	Garrett Kizer	36832
4	Kate Brandhuber	36832
5	Amber Thomas	36830
6	Samantha Spark	36830
7	Victoria Benson	77840
8	Sarah Nagengast	52240
9	Emily Metallic	47401
10	Cassie Heeke	47546
11	Dana Khabbaz	46385
12	Wasay Rasool	46254
13	Kouros Maghsoudi	78705
14	Nick	80210
15	Charlotte Vetter	80210
16	Kevin Connally	77840
17	Hailey Mueller Lavigne	77441
18	Tasya Nasoetion	77479
19	Zoe Scott	78641
20	Lucas Allen McClish	43201
21	Emily Catherine Wornson	75068
22	Megan Yoder	46237
23	Austin Yantes	53726
24	Roger's Community Garden	92111
25	Janette Perez-Jimenez	95616
26	Robert Whipple	07030
27	pva4@case.edu	44116
28	Laura Wheeler	44106
29	Meggan Sellers	24060
30	Triniti Micek	53233
31	Felicia Miller	24061
32	Ashley Lohr	24060
33	Brenden Sweeney	26884
34	Caitlin Greene	24060
35	Shannon Mazurowski	24060
36	Erica Peyton	24060
37	Melissa Skirkanich	24060
38	Collin Trepanitis	24502
39	Jessica Mogren	24060

40	Hallie Harriman	22654
41	Christina Nelson	20132
42	Madison Roberts	24060
43	Estelita Leija	92092
44	Sarah Gilmore	24060
45	Nikkole Lenardson	24060
46	Amanda Wright Cron	24073
47	Nicholas James Lemanski	20147
48	Earle Johnathan Berge	24060
49	Kathleen Ayers	16803
50	Karen Wing	16803
51	Jason Lilley	16801
52	Peter Buckland	16801
53	Kerri Lai	16803
54	Justin Wheeler	16801
55	Amy Marie Mayer	16801
56	Maya Yakobi	16802
57	Melanie Bernier	16875
58	Elyzabeth Engle	16803
59	Margaret Michels	16801
60	Jenna Reeger	16803
61	Beth Kocher	16801
62	Frances Harriman	02864
63	Abbe Hamilton	16801
64	Lina Schneider	16801
65	Theodore Thwing	16801
66	Mercedes Howard	16803
67	Dylan Petkus	16801
68	Maricela Aviles	46203
69	Rachel	16803
70	kelly niland	06484
71	Rebecca Weber	90007
72	Mikaela Knight	46979
73	Tiffany Hunsinger	47906
74	Morgan Sussman	47906
75	Rebekah Lumkes	47906
76	Jacquelyn Gutierrez	77840
77	Whitney Berry	77840
78	Kendra Kilson	06488
79	Benjamin Lorenzet	06029

80	Jack	77840
81	Marika Gherardi	77840
82	Alisha Newton	28173
83	Daniel Shaykevich	18332
84	Lauren Benefield	75230
85	Regina Flores	77802
86	Amanda Burkey	14450
87	Alice Chen	16701
88	Korin Carpenter	14627
89	Colin McCormack	07869
90	Megan Runkle	17033
91	Robert Franks	14627
92	Raina Langevin	05403
93	Lillian Reynolds	14075
94	Emily Mesiti	10562
95	Leah Mould	14472
96	Gabrielle Scullard	85225
97	Brian Rinehart	40213
98	Sawyer Johnson	90027
99	Gouri Mahadwar	14627
100	Rebecca Busse	47904
101	Fangda Fan	98105
102	Kristina Gaddy-Kates	77840
103	Zhuli Stoyanova	48825
104	Allison Hall	45056
105	Laura Patricia Gloria	78852
106	Minerva Ringland	06520
107	Hunter Johnson	24095
108	Devika Kaul	33155
109	Anu Kaul	33324
110	Laxmi Mullick	11576
111	Vimal Mullick	11576
112	Inder Chadha	11576
113	Diana Arato	11724
114	Rahul Kaul	33324
115	Neha Manchanda	33155
116	Emily Brown	98203
117	Lauren Rowe	90049
118	Megan Britton	60540
119	Amy Byrne	60067

120	Jordan Patrik Connor	61820
121	Collin Patrick Wilson	52758
122	Devin Gardner	65202
123	Kayla Galvan	61801
124	Laura Pellizzari	60546
125	Jessica	60632
126	Kelsey Duensing	60134
127	Victoria Dent	61820
128	Heidi Doden	61801
129	Mallory Wall	60527
130	Elizabeth Hannigan	02215
131	Greta Doden	60083
132	Rachel Tsai	98004
133	Laurel Cohen	06511
134	Aaron Choate	98105
135	Hannah Krystal	06525
136	Grace Cammarn	44281
137	Alex Di Giovanni	60467
138	Lindsey Vorhees	60093
139	Lauren Lonski	60181
140	Kiara Frausto	60638
141	Sarah Kim	61801
142	Evan Emmel	60565
143	Victoria Fox	98240
144	Jessica Kaplan	02215
145	Qiyuan Fu	02215
146	Ashley Graybill	44106
147	Sarah Ciresi	02215
148	Chelsea Watson	06878
149	Marlowe Susselman	44106
150	Claire Holliday	43212
151	Jamie K DeFauw	61235
152	Ryan Graves	61820
153	Sierra Kross	98105
154	Rachel Janovsky	60189
155	Ariana Javidi	06268
156	Amy Wruck	14850
157	Claire Cameron	53703
158	Desirae Thomaier	93003
159	Aida Ebrahimi	53706

160	Nina Comiskey	53715
161	Hannah Bidigare-Curtis	44106
162	Jessica Hutchison	60404
163	Rachael Hansen	60108
164	Aaron Tam	98008
165	Hallie Harriman	24060