



United States Department of Agriculture

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of the Chief
Information Officer

1400 Independence
Avenue SW
Washington, DC
20250

August 30, 2019

Delivered via Electronic Mail

Hart Wood
American Oversight
1030 15th St. NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005
foia@americanoversight.org

**RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request 2019-DA-02446-F
Interim No. 2**

Dear Mr. Wood:

This correspondence and the accompanying records constitute the Departmental FOIA Office's (DFO) second interim response for FOIA request **2019-DA-02446-F**.

This interim also responds to the matter of *American Oversight v. U.S. Department of Agriculture*, Civil Action No. 1:19-cv-01201 currently pending in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

The pending Complaint in the above-referenced matter is based on USDA's alleged failure to comply with the applicable time-limits provisions of the FOIA in response to American Oversight's (AO) request for the following:

1. All records reflecting communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, or WhatsApp), telephone call logs, calendar invitations, calendar entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, draft legislation, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) with Senator David Perdue or any person who works for Senator Perdue, including any person using an email address ending in perdue.senate.gov.

Please produce responsive records of the following individuals and offices:

- a) All political appointees in the Immediate Office of the Secretary, including Secretary Perdue
- b) All political appointees in the Office of Congressional Relations

- c) Farm Service Agency Georgia State Executive Director Talmadge Smith
 - d) USDA Rural Development Georgia State Director Joyce White
2. All records reflecting communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, messages on messaging platforms (such as Slack, GChat or Google Hangouts, Lync, Skype, or WhatsApp), telephone call logs, calendar invitations, calendar entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any oral communications, summaries of any oral communications, or other materials) between or among (a) any political appointee in the Immediate Office of the Secretary, including Secretary Perdue, and (b) any of the following individuals and entities or any person acting on their behalf:
- a) Jose “Pepe” Fanjul Jr.
 - b) Jose “Pepe” Fanjul Sr.
 - c) Alfonso “Alfie” Fanjul Jr.
 - d) Florida Crystals Corporation (including but not limited to any person using an email address ending in floridacrystals.com)
 - e) Fanjul Corp.
 - f) Becker & Poliakoff (including but not limited to any person using an email address ending in bplegal.com)
 - g) Smith & Boyette, including Van Boyette

Your request has been processed under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552. This second interim response addresses, in part, item one of your request.

Search Efforts

The DFO continued to review the potentially responsive records returned from our telecommunications provider, the Client Experience Center (CEC). As mentioned previously, the CEC provides comprehensive, fee-for-service information technology (IT) associated operations, security, and technical support services to USDA end users. The CEC also implements and manages enterprise IT solutions for users Department-wide. On July 31, 2019, the DFO provided American Oversight with its first interim response.

An additional 250 pages were reviewed for responsiveness. Of those 250 pages, a total of 67 pages (in full and in part) contain USDA Rural Development (RD) equities. As such, those equities will require a consultation prior to release. The remaining records are being provided with this second interim and are Bates Stamped 00104 - 00285.

The DFO has determined that certain information contained therein should be withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(6) and (b)(4) (FOIA Exemptions 4 and 6). Below is an explanation of the information withheld.

Application of 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(4) “FOIA Exemption 4”

Exemption 4 of the FOIA, which protects privileged or confidential trade secrets and commercial or financial information, is intended to protect the interests of both the government and submitters of information. 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). The exemption covers two broad categories of information contained in Federal agency records: 1) trade secrets, and 2) information that is (a) commercial or financial, and (b) obtained from a person, and (c) privileged or confidential. When commercial or financial information is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner and provided to the government under an assurance of privacy, it is exempt from disclosure.

The information withheld under Exemption 4 consists of private commercial information provided to the agency under assurances of confidentiality. The withheld information is also not customarily disclosed to the public and treated as private by the submitter. For these reasons, the information is being withheld under Exemption 4 of the FOIA.

Application of 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(6) “FOIA Exemption 6”

FOIA Exemption 6 permits the government to withhold information regarding individuals in “personnel, medical and similar files” when the disclosure of such information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and where such privacy interests outweigh any public interest which would be advanced by disclosure. For purposes of the FOIA, the public interest is advanced when disclosure of the requested information educates the public about the activities of the government.

Portions of the records produced as a result of the CEC’s search were withheld under FOIA Exemption 6. These items include cellular phone numbers, unpublished office numbers and emails, and conference access codes, information about individuals’ health and retirement status, and personal information concerning individuals’ friends and families. This information qualifies as “similar files” because it is information in which individuals have a privacy interest. Release of the cellular phone numbers, unpublished office numbers and emails could subject individuals to unwarranted or unsolicited communications. Release of the conference access codes could allow an uninvited person access to private information. With regard to the other items, all are purely personal in nature and do not advance one’s understanding of the government’s operations.

Because there is a viable privacy interest that would be threatened by disclosure, Exemption 6 authorizes this office to withhold the information. Accordingly, we have

determined that the public interest in the information's release does not outweigh the overriding privacy interests in keeping it confidential.

The DFO's review of potentially responsive records is still ongoing. In light of the matter *American Oversight v. U.S. Department of Agriculture*, Civil Action No. 1:19-cv-01201 currently pending in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, administrative appeal rights are not being provided in this response letter.

If you have any questions or concerns about this second interim response or the pending civil action, please contact Ms. Denise Clark, Assistant United States Attorney, Civil Division, U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia at Denise.Clark@usdoj.gov.

Sincerely,

Alexis R. Graves
Departmental FOIA Officer
Office of the Chief Information Officer

Enclosure: Responsive Records (182 pages)

From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Wilson II, Anthony - FNS](#)
Bcc: [Jacqlyn_Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie_Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [katie_naessens@ag.senate.gov](#); [patrick_donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [jonathan_mccracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [adam_tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [kevin_lefeber@durbin.senate.gov](#); [eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [jennifer_treutel@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [kyle_varner@ag.senate.gov](#); [Robert_Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine_Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Tom.O'Brien@mail.house.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [Elizabeth_Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [Dianne_Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [skylar_sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [payne_griffin@braun.senate.gov](#); [meris_petek@ernst.senate.gov](#); [cicely_batie@fischer.senate.gov](#); [emily_leviner@fischer.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [brita_endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [daniel_ulmer@hydesmith.senate.gov](#); [quentin_scholtz@mcconnell.senate.gov](#); [ben_ayres@perdue.senate.gov](#); [will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [Carrie.Hughes@mail.house.gov](#); [Mandy.Schaumburg@mail.house.gov](#); [Kathlyn.Ehl@mail.house.gov](#)
Subject: USDA Publishes National & State Level Estimates of WIC Eligibility and Program Reach Report
Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:37:28 PM

Good afternoon,

Today USDA's Food and Nutrition Service published the [National and State-Level Estimates of Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children \(WIC\) Eligibles and Program Reach in 2016](#).

This report, the latest in a series of annual reports on WIC eligibility, presents 2016 national and State estimates of the number of women, infants, and children eligible for WIC benefits and the percent of the eligible population covered by the program, including estimates by participant category. The report also provides estimates by region, U.S. territory, and race and ethnicity.

Please let me know if you have any questions, thank you.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)
(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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From: [MacGregor, Robert – OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: Meeting
Date: Thursday, November 1, 2018 11:19:58 AM

Hey Daniel - This is Rob MacGregor and I just started over at USDA in the Office of Congressional Relations handling Forest Service issues. Given your bosses' position on the Subcommittee on Conservation, Forestry, and Natural Resources, I wanted to see if you are interested in meeting in the next week or two to go over important Forest Service related issues in your state?

Let me know if you are interested and we can set something up.

Thanks,



Robert MacGregor

Policy and Congressional Advisor
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of
Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)

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Sent from Email+ secured by MobileIron

From: "Seaver, Andrew (Perdue)" <Andrew_Seaver@perdue.senate.gov>
Date: Monday, April 30, 2018 at 12:58:09 PM
To: "White, Joyce - RD, Athens, GA" <Joyce.White@ga.usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Tallulah River/Tate City Road

Hey Joyce, Hope you had a good weekend! Here is the letter from Commissioner Bradshaw that I spoke about Friday (on your voicemail). Give me a call when you get a chance. (b) (6). Andrew

From: (b) (6)] Commissioner Cliff Bradshaw
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 11:44 AM
To: Seaver, Andrew (Perdue) <Andrew_Seaver@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Tallulah River/Tate City Road

Please find a letter Commissioner Bradshaw has written to Senator Perdue concerning the Forest Service owned Road in the Tate City Community. Please let the commissioner know if the senator needs any further information or has any questions. His cell number is (b) (6) and his office number is 706-896-2276. Thank you for your help with this matter. Thank you,
Andrea Anderson
Finance Director
Towns County
706-896-2276

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From: [Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Ayres, Ben \(Perdue\)](#)
Cc: [Giles, Misty - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: Re: FSIS Issue
Date: Thursday, March 1, 2018 8:12:00 PM

Received. Misty copied and will look into when she returns.

-Joby

Joby Young
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Mobile: (b) (6)

Please excuse brevity and typos
Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 1, 2018, at 6:14 PM, Ayres, Ben (Perdue) <Ben_Ayres@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

Joby,

Below are copies of two emails that might help explain the issue a little better. Thanks again for the help.

Ben-Daniel

Please see the attached letter. I will forward 2 others.

My client, (b) (4)

[REDACTED]

Perdue could help.

Thanks

Terry Coleman

(b) (4)

(b) (4)

[REDACTED]

(b) (4)

[REDACTED]

She said that if we had any questions to give her a call.
If I hear anything I will let you know.

(b) (4)

[REDACTED]

Ben Ayres
Projects Director

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510

<USDA grant of inspection.pdf>

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email immediately.

From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: [Forsyth, Gabriele \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Re: Meeting Request
Date: Thursday, November 30, 2017 6:26:33 PM

Hey it's going great Gabriele!

Thanks for asking. Love getting to work with Joyce...she is special!

No problem at all. Will reach out to Daniel.

Thanks again!

Tas

Sent from Email+ secured by MobileIron

From: "Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue)" <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Date: Thursday, November 30, 2017 at 6:24:49 PM
To: "Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA" <Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov>
Cc: "Hale, Daniel (Perdue)" <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting Request

Hello!!!

How's the new job? Senator Perdue is delighted this all worked out for you. Regardless he unfortunately is not available during the time requested. However, Daniel Hale who handles these issues would be more than glad to meet. Please reach out to him directly at daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov to arrange a meeting. He is copied on this email as well.

Thanks again and please let me know if you have any questions.

Gabriele



GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
383 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (b) (6)

From: Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA [mailto:Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 10:42 AM
To: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>

Cc: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>

Subject: Meeting Request

Gabriele,

I hope you had a great Thanksgiving.

I will be in DC for my FSA Director training next week and wanted to see if it was possible to meet briefly with Senator Perdue on Thursday, December 7.

I don't want a lot of time... just to update him on what is going on at the agency and to see if we can help in any way.

I'm sorry this request is so late...we just got our agenda this morning.

If you need any additional information just let me know.

Thanks so much Gabriele.

Tas Smith
State Executive Director
Georgia Farm Service Agency, USDA
tas.smith@ga.usda.gov
355 E. Hancock Ave., Stop 100
Athens, GA 30601
706-546-2266
FAX 1-855-409-5735

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Randall, Kiev - FNS](#)
Bcc: [John.Christie@mail.house.gov](#); [Maxine.Sugarman@mail.house.gov](#); [Kaitlyn.Montan@mail.house.gov](#); [Alexa.Combelic@mail.house.gov](#); [Maria.Costigan@mail.house.gov](#); [Brandon.Mendoza@mail.house.gov](#); [Margo.Tercek@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Jackson@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Nasta@mail.house.gov](#); [Norma.Salazar@mail.house.gov](#); [adela.amador@mail.house.gov](#); [madeline.daly@mail.house.gov](#); [Jessica.Mulligan@mail.house.gov](#); [Danielle.Fulfs@mail.house.gov](#); [Nabeel.Alam@mail.house.gov](#); [Abbas.Alawieh@mail.house.gov](#); [Catherine.Rowland@mail.house.gov](#); [Lalia.Goharioon@mail.house.gov](#); [Joanne.Stiles@mail.house.gov](#); [erin.oquinn@mail.house.gov](#); [Ben.Talus@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Reingold@mail.house.gov](#); [Yuri.Beckelman@mail.house.gov](#); [Ron.Carlton@mail.house.gov](#); [Jessica.Shemacko@mail.house.gov](#); [Caroline.Paris-Behr@mail.house.gov](#); [Dorcas.Adekunle@mail.house.gov](#); [David.Simon@mail.house.gov](#); [Katie.Hunter@mail.house.gov](#); [Mark.Rusthoven@mail.house.gov](#); [Miriam.Fry@mail.house.gov](#); [Eric.Bagwell@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Coffman@mail.house.gov](#); [David.Voorman@mail.house.gov](#); [Steve.Ackerman@mail.house.gov](#); [Samantha.Baker@mail.house.gov](#); [Vincent.Gillierano@mail.house.gov](#); [Elaina.Murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Andrew.Christianson@mail.house.gov](#); [Helena.Shwarz@mail.house.gov](#); [Jonh.Witherspoon@mail.house.gov](#); [Aaron.Bill@mail.house.gov](#); [Alex.Makey@mail.house.gov](#); [Kenneth.Clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [Noell.Verhelst@mail.house.gov](#); [Patrick.Hester@mail.house.gov](#); [Sean.McCabe@mail.house.gov](#); [Sruthi.Prabhu@mail.house.gov](#); [Adam.York@mail.house.gov](#); [Robert.Blair@mail.house.gov](#); [Nick.Rockwell@mail.house.gov](#); [Hilary.Ranieri@mail.house.gov](#); [Joanna.Brown@mail.house.gov](#); [patrick_donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [jonathan_mccracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [adam_tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [kevin_lefeber@durbin.senate.gov](#); [eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [brian_werner@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [kyle_varner@ag.senate.gov](#); [skylar_sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [payne_griffin@braun.senate.gov](#); [meris_petek@ernst.senate.gov](#); [cicely_batie@fischer.senate.gov](#); [lauralee_burkett@fischer.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [brita_endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [daniel_ulmer@hydesmith.senate.gov](#); [quentin_scholtz@mcconnell.senate.gov](#); [ben_ayres@perdue.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn_Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [Carrie.Hughes@mail.house.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [Elizabeth_Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [Dianne_Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [Katie_Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine_Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Robert_Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Alison.Hard@mail.house.gov](#); [Tom.O'Brien@mail.house.gov](#)
Subject: Final Rule: Hiring Flexibility under Professional Standards
Date: Monday, February 25, 2019 5:29:56 PM

Good afternoon,

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service submitted the ***Hiring Flexibility under Professional Standards*** Final Rule to the Federal Register today, the [text](#) of the rule can be found on the FNS [website](#).

This final rule adds four flexibilities to the hiring standards under the professional standards regulations for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. These flexibilities apply to new school nutrition program directors in small local educational agencies (LEAs) with 2,499 students or less, and new school nutrition program State directors.

The flexibilities provided by this rule are expected to expand the pool of candidates qualified to serve as leaders in the school meal programs while continuing to ensure that school nutrition professionals are able to perform their duties effectively and efficiently.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
Bcc: [\(b\) \(6\) @asginfo.net](#); [\(b\) \(6\) @reddingfirm.com](#); [\(b\) \(6\) @gapeanuts.com](#); [\(b\) \(6\) @qfb.org](#); [Alice.Johnson@mail.house.gov](#); [Michael.Reed@mail.house.gov](#); [Jody.Regding@isakson.senate.gov](#); [Charles.White@perdue.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [troy.windham@mail.house.gov](#); [bud.whitmire@mail.house.gov](#); [\(b\) \(6\) @georgiacotton.org](#); [\(b\) \(6\) @georgiacotton.org](#)
Subject: UGA-FSA Meetings (Time Change for Morning Meetings)
Date: Wednesday, August 22, 2018 4:03:55 PM
Attachments: [UGA-FSA Meetings Sept 2018.docx](#)

Please see the attached schedule change for the UGA-FSA Meeting from September 10-12, 2018.

Mornings meetings will be from **9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.** instead of the earlier memo which listed the morning sessions beginning at 9:30 a.m.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you.

Tas Smith
State Executive Director
Georgia Farm Service Agency, USDA
tas.smith@ga.usda.gov
355 E. Hancock Ave., Stop 100
Athens, GA 30601
706-546-2266
FAX 1-855-409-5735

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Monday, September 10, 2018

Bainbridge

9:00-10:30 am

Cloud Livestock Building

1300 E. River Road, Bainbridge, GA 39817

(b) (6)

Perry

2:45-4:15pm

Extension Office in Old Courtroom

801 Main Street, Perry, GA 31069

(b) (6)

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Statesboro

9:00-10:30 am

Bulloch County Agriculture Service Center

151 Langston Chapel Road, Statesboro, GA 30458

(b) (6)

Tifton

3:00-4:30pm

UGA Tifton Conference Center

15 RDC Road, Tifton, GA 31794

(b) (6)

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Cartersville

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Stiles Auditorium

320 West Cherokee Avenue, Cartersville, GA 30120

(b) (6)

Watkinsville

3:00-4:30pm

Jay Phil Campbell Building

1420 Experiment Station Road & Government Station Road,

Watkinsville, GA 30677

(b) (6)

From: [Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: stephanie_lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: FW: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]Follow-up information
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:53:43 AM
Attachments: [Pros Cons complete document.docx](#) Attachment is a list of job applicants (30 pages). Withheld under (b)(6)

From: Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:42 AM
To: 'Patrick_Mapp@perdue.senate.gov' <Patrick_Mapp@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: FW: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]Follow-up information

Patrick could you please print the attached list?

Thank you,
Heidi

From: Elizabeth Johnson [[mailto:\(b\)\(6\)@fooddirectionsdc.com](mailto:(b)(6)@fooddirectionsdc.com)]
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 4:24 PM
To: Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC <Heidi.Green@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: [CAUTION: Suspicious Link]Follow-up information

PROCEED WITH CAUTION: This message triggered warnings of **potentially** malicious web content. Evaluate this email by considering whether you are expecting the message, along with inspection for suspicious links.

Questions: Spam.Abuse@wdc.usda.gov

Hi Heidi,

It was so nice meeting and talking today! USDA is in good hands!

Attached is the document that was put together for the Romney transition. This actually lays out the names that were presented for many positions in the Department. As for FNCS, there are actually two state names on there -- one woman and the gentlemen I spoke to you about. The woman was in the Bush Administration and at least seemed to be good.

Additionally, I promised to forward [\(b\)\(6\)](#) information as a potential name for REE. His CV is attached too.

I will dig further into names for FNCS and let you now what I find out.

Look forward to talking soon!

Beth

Beth Johnson

Principal



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From: [Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Bcc: [kate.Wolgemuth@sullivan.senate.gov](#); [karen.mccarthy@murkowski.senate.gov](#); [brent.blevins@strange.senate.gov](#); [morgan.carter@shelby.senate.gov](#); [Alex.Hanson@cotton.senate.gov](#); [Skylar.Sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [brian.kennedy@flake.senate.gov](#); [Nick.matiella@mccain.senate.gov](#); [joe.petrzelka@feinstein.senate.gov](#); [philip.newman@gardner.senate.gov](#); [patrick.donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [emily.smith@murphy.senate.gov](#); [maya.kalonia@blumenthal.senate.gov](#); [brian.papp@carper.senate.gov](#); [leah.rubinshen@coons.senate.gov](#); [abby.tinsley@billnelson.senate.gov](#); [lauren.reamy@rubio.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [brett.layson@isakson.senate.gov](#); [jen.burks@hirono.senate.gov](#); [james.chang@schatz.senate.gov](#); [devin.mogler@ernst.senate.gov](#); [andrew.brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [darren.parker@risch.senate.gov](#); [Andrew.Earl@crapo.senate.gov](#); [kevin.lefeber@durbin.senate.gov](#); [Mark.Copeland@duckworth.senate.gov](#); 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Turner Bridgforth <i>Deputy Director</i> Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs	(b) (6) turner.bridgforth@osec.usda.gov	Governors State Agriculture Commissioners State Legislators Mayors City Officials County Officials

David Sindall <i>Administrative Specialist</i>	202-720-7095 david.sindall@osec.usda.gov	Administrative and Office Management
Jacqueline Howerton <i>Administrative Specialist</i>	202-720-7095 jacqueline.howerton@osec.usda.gov	Administrative and Office Management

From: [Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Glueck, James \(Agriculture\)](#); [Murray, DaNita \(Agriculture\)](#); [matt_erickson@ag.senate.gov](#); [Janae_Brady@ag.senate.gov](#); [Meghan_Cline@ag.senate.gov](#); [Darin_Guries@ag.senate.gov](#); [Chelsie_Keys@ag.senate.gov](#); [Andrew_Rezendes@ag.senate.gov](#); [Anthony_Seiler@ag.senate.gov](#); [Wayne_Stoskopf@ag.senate.gov](#); [Alexandra_Swee@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine_Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Charlie_Thornton@ag.senate.gov](#); [Andrew_Vlasaty@ag.senate.gov](#); [Sean_Babington@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie_Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [Rosalyn_Brummette@ag.senate.gov](#); [Jess_McCarron@ag.senate.gov](#); [Ashley_McKeon@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie_Naessens@ag.senate.gov](#); [Mike_Schmidt@ag.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn_Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [MaryBeth_Schultz@ag.senate.gov](#); [Joe_Shultz@ag.senate.gov](#); [Kyle_Varner@ag.senate.gov](#); [Will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Daniel_Ulmer@cochran.senate.gov](#); [Katelyn_Conner@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [Skylar_Sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [Brita_Endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [Andrew_Brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [Jessica_Clowser@Fischer.Senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [ryan_donnelly@thune.senate.gov](#); [Dan_Gerig@daines.senate.gov](#); [Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [Adrienne_Wojciechowski@leahy.senate.gov](#); [Jonathan_McCracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [Patrick_Donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [anne_knapke@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [Eric_Deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [Chase_Kitchen@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [Jared_Henderson@heitkamp.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [jack_schnettler@smith.senate.gov](#); [Dolch, Michael \(Ernst\)](#)
Cc: [Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: You're Invited: USDA's 94th Agricultural Outlook Forum-February 22-23
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 10:00:52 AM
Attachments: [Page 5 - At-A-Glance 2018.pdf](#)

Good morning!

USDA would like to invite you to attend the 94th Agricultural Outlook Forum next Thursday and Friday in Crystal City. The event is free for congressional staff (excluding meals) who register. This year's forum theme is "The Roots of Prosperity." More than 80 speakers will present at 30 sessions; the forum also offers a host of agriculture-related exhibitors. The forum offers a platform for conversation on key issues and topics among producers, processors, policymakers, government officials, and non-governmental organizations, both foreign and domestic. The schedule is attached. If you'd like to attend, please email Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov.

Presentation highlights include:

- U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue and members of his cabinet
- Distinguished Speaker [Akinwumi Adesina](#), African Development Bank Group president
- Dinner Speaker [Mehmood Khan](#), PepsiCo vice chairman and chief scientific officer
- "The 2018 Economic Outlook for Agriculture," presented by USDA Chief Economist Robert Johansson
- A plenary panel with agricultural industry leaders

Session topics include:

- The economic impact of opioids on rural America
- China's evolving markets and policies
- Restoring America's watersheds
- Animal disease outbreak preparedness
- Responding to hurricane disasters
- Right sizing regulation
- Emerging issues in food safety
- Outlook sessions on commodities, farm income, food prices, and organic agriculture

Please let us know if you have any questions.



Abbey L. Fretz

Director of Congressional Relations
Office of Congressional Relations

United States Department of
Agriculture

Office: (b) (6)

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Thursday, February 22

7:00 a.m.	Registration (Wednesday Evening Early Onsite Registration 5-7 p.m.)				
8:00 a.m.	Welcome – Deputy Secretary Steve Censky				
8:10 a.m.	2018 Agricultural Economic & Foreign Trade Outlook – Chief Economist Robert Johansson				
8:45 a.m.	Keynote Address – Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue				
9:20 a.m.	Distinguished Speaker – African Development Bank Group President and World Food Prize Recipient Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina				
9:50 a.m.	Coffee Break & Exhibit Hall Opens				
10:15 a.m.	Plenary Speakers				
12:30 p.m.	Networking Luncheon				
Concurrent Sessions					
1:45 p.m.	Food Price & Farm Income Outlooks	International Markets & Trade	Innovation In Agriculture	Encouraging Rural Prosperity	Ag Production & Rural Opportunities
	Food Price Outlook Salon IV	Brazil: Now to 2040 Salon III	Building Tomorrow's Agriculture Salon V & VI	The Importance of E-Connectivity Salon I & II	Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Salon J & K
3:15 p.m.	30 Minute Break				
3:45 p.m.	Farm Income Outlook Salon IV	Emerging Markets in Developing Regions Salon III	Livestock Reproduction Meets Modern Technology Salon J & K	Rural America and the Opioid Crisis Salon I & II	Outlook for Organic Agriculture Salon V & VI
5:30 p.m.	Cash Bar Reception				
6:30 p.m.	Forum Dinner Speaker – PepsiCo Vice Chairman & Chief Scientific Officer Mehmood Khan				

Friday, February 23

7:00 a.m.	Registration				
7:30 a.m.	Exhibit Hall Opens				
8:00 a.m.	Morning Kickoff				
8:30 a.m.	Coffee Break				
Concurrent Sessions					
9:15 a.m.	Rural & Urban America Support	Food Safety	Ag Policies Here & Abroad	Commodity Outlooks	Commodity Outlooks
	Protecting Agricultural Producers from Hurricanes Salon A & B	Animal Disease Outbreak Preparedness Salon V & VI	China's Evolving Markets and Policies Salon III & IV	Grains and Oilseeds Outlook Salon J & K	Sugar Outlook Salon I & II
10:45 a.m.	Break				
11:00 a.m.	Restoring America's Watersheds Salon A & B	Emerging Issues in Food Safety Salon V & VI	Crop Insurance In the U.S. and Abroad Salon III & IV	Cotton Outlook Salon J & K	Livestock and Poultry Outlook Salon I & II
Visit Exhibit Hall					
1:15 p.m.	Luncheons				
	Cotton and Fibers Salon J & K	Sugar and Sweeteners Salon C,D, & E	New Food Retailing Salon A & B	Grains and Oilseeds Salon III & IV	Livestock and Poultry Salon V & VI
2:30 p.m.	Break				
Concurrent Sessions					
3:00 p.m.	Water Quality	Commodity Outlook	Food Safety	Adjusting To Lower Commodity Prices	Rules and Regulation
	Water Quality and Edge-of-Field Conservation Salon J & K	Dairy Outlook Salon A & B	Food Safety: Arming Consumers Salon III	Consolidation in Agriculture Salon V & VI	Right-Sizing Regulation Salon I & II
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn				

USDA-19-0245-B-000029

USDA-19-0245-B-000023

00126

From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: [Ziesenhene, Greg \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: Senator David Perdue Works To Strengthen Farm Lending Program
Date: Monday, March 12, 2018 8:23:46 AM

Great seeing you as well Greg!

Take care...let me know if you need anything.

From: Ziesenhene, Greg (Perdue) [mailto:Greg_Ziesenhene@perdue.senate.gov]
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 12:43 PM
To: Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA <Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov>
Subject: FW: Senator David Perdue Works To Strengthen Farm Lending Program

Tas, Great seeing you on Friday! (b) (6)

Very respectfully,

Greg Z

Work Mobile: (b) (6)

E-mail: greg_ziesenhene@perdue.senate.gov

Office contact information:

Greg Ziesenhene

Regional Representative, Middle Georgia

Office of United States Senator David Perdue

3280 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 2640

Atlanta, GA 30305

Office Phone: (b) (6)

Office Fax: (404) 816-3435

Subject: Senator David Perdue Works To Strengthen Farm Lending Program



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 9, 2018

CONTACTS:
[Caroline Vanvick](#), 202-224-6594
[Lesley Fulop](#), 202-224-1324

Senator David Perdue Works To Strengthen Farm Lending Program

“Agriculture is Georgia’s largest economic driver and our farmers are the backbone of the industry”

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator David Perdue (R-GA) is taking action to preserve important loans used by farmers to start and grow their operations.

“Agriculture is Georgia’s largest economic driver and our farmers are the backbone of the industry,” **said Senator Perdue.** “Whether our farmers are just starting out or are looking to expand and improve, it’s critical they have the financial flexibility they need to get their farms up and running. I’m proud to work on strengthening this important loan program for our country’s farmers.”

The bipartisan *Farm Service Agency Loan Flexibility Act*, sponsored by Senator Perdue and Senator Gary Peters (D-MI), would provide the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) with the authority it needs to issue approved loans during times of high demand and irregular funding from Congress. FSA’s operating loans are used by beginning farmers, women and minorities, and other disadvantaged borrowers for expenses such as livestock, equipment, and seed, while ownership loans help farmers develop land.

“For many farmers—and new farmers in particular—access to capital is a top issue, and in years past, the inability of FSA to lend to farmers in need because of loan program caps has been problematic for our industry,” **said Gerald Long, President of Georgia Farm Bureau.** “Georgia Farm Bureau is pleased that Senator Perdue (R-GA) has chosen to lead on this issue and many other agriculture issues in Congress.”

###

Senator Perdue is the only Fortune 500 CEO in Congress and is serving his first term in the United States Senate, where he represents Georgia on the Armed Services, Banking, Budget, and Agriculture Committees.

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
Bcc: [\(b\) \(6\)](#); [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @qfb.org; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @qfb.org; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @asqinfo.net; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @gapeanuts.com; [alice.johnson@mail.house.gov](#); [Jody Redding@isakson.senate.gov](#); [charles.white@perdue.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @georgiacotton.org; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @georgiacotton.org; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @reddingfirm.com; [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [michael.reed@mail.house.gov](#); [Paul.Fryer@mail.house.gov](#); [craig.anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [Zellie.Duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [Troy.Windham@mail.house.gov](#); [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @georgiapecan.org; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @chillcfarms.com; [Tyler.Harper@senate.ga.gov](#); [\(b\) \(6\)](#) ; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) ; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @vidaliasfinest.com; [adam.rabinowitz@uga.edu](#); [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @qapf.org; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @qabeef.org; [\(b\) \(6\)](#) @qnbtrust.bank; [Greg.Ziesenhene@perdue.senate.gov](#)
Subject: Fwd: Producer Meeting Scheduled - Monday October 22, 2018
Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 10:21:12 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image014.png](#)

Please feel free to promote within your respective organizations.

Hope this meeting will provide needed information regarding assistance to growers affected by Hurricane Michael.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you.

Tas

> A producers meeting has been scheduled for Monday, October 22, 2018, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the UGA Tifton Conference Center. FSA, NRCS, RD, and RMA staff will be available to provide updates and information regarding disaster programs that will be available to producers affected by Hurricane Michael.

>

>

> County Office employees are encouraged to promote this meeting to ensure applicable producers are notified.

>

>

> UGA Tifton Conference Center (Large Auditorium)

>

> 15 RDC Road

>

> Tifton, GA 31794

>

>

> Dianne R. Westmoreland

>

> Administrative Officer

>
> Georgia State FSA Office
>
> 355 E Hancock Ave STOP 101
>
> Athens, Georgia 30601-2775
>
> Phone: (706) 546-2269 Ext. (b) (6)
>
> Cell: (b) (6)
>
> Fax: 1-855-409-5740
>
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From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Forsyth, Gabriele \(Perdue\)](#); [Hale, Daniel \(Perdue\)](#)
Cc: [Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC](#); [Hale, Daniel \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Hutchins
Date: Friday, November 2, 2018 11:15:10 AM

Thanks so much Gabriele! I'll schedule something with Daniel.

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 2, 2018 11:09 AM
To: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>; Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Hutchins

Lindsay,

Thank you for reaching out. Senator Perdue would be delighted to meet with Mr. Hutchins, but unfortunately is not available during the time requested. However, his Legislative Assistant Daniel Hale who handles these issues would be more than glad to meet with him. Please reach out to him directly at daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov to arrange a meeting. He is copied on this email as well.

Thanks again and please let me know if you have any questions.

Gabriele



GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510

Phone: (b) (6)

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 3:01 PM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Meeting with nominee Hutchins

Greetings Daniel and Gabriele,

I hope you are doing well! Scott Hutchins, who is nominated to serve as Under Secretary for REE at USDA, will be in town the week of November 12th and we would like to find a time for him to sit

down with the Senator. He is flexible that entire week. Could you please let me know when the Senator might be available for a brief meeting?

Best,

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

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From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [matt_vankuiken@stabenow.senate.gov](#); [john_dowd@leahy.senate.gov](#); [sarah_benzing@brown.senate.gov](#); [brigit_helgen@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [chad_obermiller@bennet.senate.gov](#); [jess_fassler@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [jackie_cottrell@roberts.senate.gov](#); [brad_white@cochran.senate.gov](#); [phil_maxson@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [toni-marie_higgins@boozman.senate.gov](#); [ryan_bernstein@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [lisa_goeas@ernst.senate.gov](#); [jill_kozeny@grassley.senate.gov](#); [ryan_nelson@thune.senate.gov](#); [jason_thielman@daines.senate.gov](#); [derrick_dickey@perdue.senate.gov](#); [joe_hack@fischer.senate.gov](#); [joel_elliott@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [tessa_gould@heikamp.senate.gov](#); [kris_gentile@casey.senate.gov](#); [jeff_lomonaco@smith.senate.gov](#); [Adrienne_Wojciechowski@leahy.senate.gov](#); [Jonathan_McCracken](#); [anne_knapke@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [patrick_donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [daniel_ulmer@cochran.senate.gov](#); [katelyn_conner@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [Skylar_Sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [brita_endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [michael_dolch@ernst.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [ryan_donnelly@thune.senate.gov](#); [dan_gerig@daines.senate.gov](#); [daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [jessica_clowser@Fischer.senate.gov](#); [chase_kitchen@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [Jared_Henderson@heikamp.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [adam_schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [jensine_moyer@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Doris_Wagley@cochran.senate.gov](#); [laura_vincent@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [Jennifer_Ewing@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [josie_Beecher@ernst.senate.gov](#); [jennifer_heins@grassley.senate.gov](#); [daffnei_riedel@thune.senate.gov](#); [caitlin_dorman@daines.senate.gov](#); [gabriele_forsyth@perdue.senate.gov](#); [anne_stanski@stabenow.senate.gov](#); [Kevin_McDonald@leahy.senate.gov](#); [scheduling@brown.senate.gov](#); [kelley_carney@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [kristin_mollet@bennet.senate.gov](#); [Kinsey_Spears@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [lynn_demos@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [stacy_austad@heikamp.senate.gov](#); [alina_meltaus@casey.senate.gov](#); [scheduling@smith.senate.gov](#); [vaughan_wehr@fischer.senate.gov](#)
Cc: [James_Glueck@ag.senate.gov](#); [Danita_Murray@ag.senate.gov](#); [Joe_Shultz@ag.senate.gov](#)
Subject: Secretary Perdue cordially invites Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry to the Swearing In of Richard Fordyce
Date: Monday, May 21, 2018 4:55:37 PM

Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue cordially invites Members of the Senate Agriculture to the Swearing In Ceremony for Farm Service Agency Administrator Richard Fordyce, as well as Food Safety and Inspection Service Administrator Carmen Rottenberg and Agricultural Marketing Service Administrator Bruce Summers.

The ceremony will take place in Room 107A of the Whitten Building on Wednesday, May 23rd, 2018 at 4:15 in the afternoon.

Please RSVP to lindsay.moore@osec.usda.gov by Tuesday, May 22nd.

Directions: The Whitten Building is located at 1400 Jefferson Drive SW on the National Mall directly across from the Smithsonian Museum of American History. The following link is a map which shows you exactly where the Jefferson Drive visitor's entrance to the Whitten Building is located: [Whitten Building](#). There is no parking available on-site, so please arrange to be dropped off or use one of the metered spots along Jefferson Drive.

Lindsay Moore



Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

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From: [Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: derrick_dickey@perdue.senate.gov
Cc: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: Hurricane Response
Date: Tuesday, October 9, 2018 4:29:37 PM
Attachments: [usda-ocr-disaster-assistance-resources 9.26.pdf](#)

Derrick,

I hope you're well. Obviously, your boss knows how to reach the Secretary, but I wanted to reach out directly to you, let me know any ways USDA can be of assistance this week or post-hurricane, my contact information, including cell phone is listed below.

Also, attached is a brochure we put together for hill offices with contact and links to web resources within USDA regarding disaster assistance.

Just know Georgia is very much in our thoughts and prayers this week, and know that we have also been in touch with state and local officials.

Also, at some point I'd love to schedule some time to sit down with you and chat more generally.

Ken



Ken Barbic

Assistant Secretary – Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Mobile: (b) (6)
Office: (202) 720-7095

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

USDA Disaster Assistance



From hurricanes to wildfires to droughts, USDA is here to assist with a variety of resources and programs to help when disaster strikes. Please contact us or check out the below resources for more information.

USDA Office of Congressional Relations (OCR) Staff Contacts

Ken Barbic, Assistant Secretary
ken.barbic@osec.usda.gov
(202) 720-7095

Evan Lee, Chief of Staff (FSA,NRCS,RMA)
evan.lee@osec.usda.gov
(202) 720-7095

Abbey Fretz, Director (APHIS)
abbey.fretz@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

Kelsey Barnes, Staff Assistant (RD)
kelsey.barnes@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

Erin Wilson, Policy Advisor (FNS)
erin.wilson@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

Lindsay Moore, Staff Assistant
lindsay.moore@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

USDA Disaster Websites

- ▶ **Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS)**
www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/emergencyresponse
- ▶ **Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)**
www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/disaster-assistance
- ▶ **Farm Service Agency (FSA)**
www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program
- ▶ **National Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS)**
www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/?cid=nrcseprd1361073
- ▶ **Risk Management Agency (RMA)**
www.rma.usda.gov/news/stormdisaster.html
- ▶ **Rural Development (RD)**
www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/services/rural-development-disaster-assistance

>
> Kathy Burns
> Regional Representative
> Office of U.S. Senator David Perdue
>
>

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From: [Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Hale, Daniel \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Re: Travel notification
Date: Friday, September 15, 2017 8:11:32 AM

Feel free to send field staff. Thanks man.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2017, at 3:52 PM, Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

Thanks a lot Joby. Unfortunately, the Senator won't be able to attend after all, but we definitely appreciate the heads up. Thanks, Daniel

From: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC [<mailto:Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 12:05 PM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Travel notification

Daniel,

Here are the details at this time:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->Mason Farm - 100 Massee Lane, Fort Valley, GA – 12:15PM
<!--[if !supportLists]-->a. <!--[endif]-->The Secretary will tour damaged pecan orchard and return to staging area for discussion and media interviews.
<!--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->Shiloh Farm - (b) (6) – 2:15PM
<!--[if !supportLists]-->a. <!--[endif]-->The Secretary will conduct aerial observation and on the ground meeting.
<!--[if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->Watson Farms - (b) (6) – 3:35PM
<!--[if !supportLists]-->a. <!--[endif]-->The Secretary will observe damage and participate in discussion and media interviews.

Please advise as to Sen. Perdue's availability/participation in any of these stops as soon as you can. I'll be on the ground. If he is attending you can use my cell for day-of contact (b) (6)

Thanks,

Joby

Joby Young

Chief of Staff – Office of Congressional Relations

<image001.jpg> United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)

From: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) [mailto:Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 5:54 PM

To: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Travel notification

Any idea where specifically he'll be going?

From: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC [<mailto:Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 4:37 PM

To: hart.thompson@mail.house.gov; Ada.bacetty@mail.house.gov;
marydee.beal@mail.house.gov; brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov;
thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov; nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov;
Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov; sally.larson@mail.house.gov;
caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov; susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov;
zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov; gary.woodward@mail.house.gov;
Dustin.Davidson@mail.house.gov; Hale, Daniel (Perdue)
<Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Layson, Brett (Isakson)
<Brett_Layson@isakson.senate.gov>; jason.lawrence@mail.house.gov; Reed, Michael
<Michael.Reed@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Travel notification

All:

Wanted to send you all an initial notification that the Secretary will be traveling to GA on this Friday, September 15th to survey Hurricane Irma damage. We anticipate that he will be in middle and south Georgia. We'll follow up with more details when we have them.

-Joby

Joby Young

Chief of Staff – Office of Congressional Relations

<image001.jpg> United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)

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From: [Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [White, Joyce \(Perdue\)](#)
Cc: [Young, Chris - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: Re: I'm Well On My Way!
Date: Monday, October 23, 2017 3:38:00 PM

Hurrahhhh!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2017, at 3:27 PM, White, Joyce (Perdue) <Joyce.White@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

I want to thank the both of you and **please thank the Secretary** for allowing me the opportunity to become the USDA State Director of Rural Development. (I'm not even certain I wrote that correctly). I have been reading the website and have had two conversations with Jill Stuckey who has been extremely gracious and helpful. She and I are also going to meet in person very soon.

I am sincerely grateful for your involvement and for thinking of me and thank you Heidi for your call in late August. The WH (Carley Miller) tells me I am pretty much on board, so I guess I'll start sometime soon. I think next week! I have to find out if there is any paperwork for me to fill out.

I had a good conversation with Derrick and with David last Monday, and I told my staff this morning that I was leaving.

If you have any direction for me, let me know. I want to keep in tandem with your expectations.

Again, thank you.

Joyce

Cell- (b) (6)

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Wilson II, Anthony - FNS](#); [Madias, Joanna - FNS](#)
Bcc: [joe.minges@mail.house.gov](#); [Jennifer.Tiller@mail.house.gov](#); [yasmin.rey@mail.house.gov](#); [Kellie.Adesina@mail.house.gov](#); [Lisa.Shelton@mail.house.gov](#); [Robert.Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine.Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn.Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [katie_bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [katie_naessens@ag.senate.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [tom.obrien@mail.house.gov](#); [Dianne.Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [Elizabeth.Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [joseph.layman@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); [thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov](#); [Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [sally.larson@mail.house.gov](#); [caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov](#); [susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [ashley.smith1@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Jack.Overstreet@isakson.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#)
Subject: Georgia: D-SNAP Early Expungement Waiver Approval
Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2018 7:41:09 PM
Attachments: [GA D-SNAP Early Expungement Waiver Approval.pdf](#)

Good evening,

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) approved Georgia's waiver request for early expungement of Disaster SNAP (D-SNAP) benefits. FNS is granting this waiver to allow Georgia to expunge unused disaster SNAP benefits 90 days after the date the benefits become available, regardless of whether other benefits in the account have been accessed by the household during that time. This waiver will take effect upon approval and will remain in effect until all the benefits issued for the disaster period of November 7, 2018, through November 19, 2018, have been expunged.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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NOV 05 2018

Food and
Nutrition
Service

SUBJECT: Georgia – Waiver to Allow Early Expungement of Disaster
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) Benefits

Park Office
Center

TO: Tim English
Acting Regional Administrator
USDA, Food and Nutrition Service
Southeast Regional Office

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

This is in response to the Georgia Department of Human Services' November 1, 2018, request to waive Section 7(h)(12)(C) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) regulations at 7 CFR 274.2(h)(2), which require States to expunge SNAP benefits that have not been accessed by the household after a period of one year. The waiver would allow for early expungement of Disaster SNAP (D-SNAP) benefits 90 days after issuance.

On November 2, 2018, the Food and Nutrition Service approved the State Agency's request to operate D-SNAP in the following 20 counties that received a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance: Baker, Calhoun, Clay, Crisp, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Laurens, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Randolph, Seminole, Sumter, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Turner, and Worth.

We are granting this waiver to allow Georgia to expunge unused D-SNAP benefits 90 days after the date the benefits become available, regardless of whether other benefits in the account have been accessed by the household during that time. The waiver will take effect upon approval and will remain in effect until all benefits issued for the disaster benefit period of November 7, 2018, through November 19, 2018, have been expunged. If the State agency opts to extend its D-SNAP operations for up to 2 additional days for the Phase 2 counties approved, then benefits will still be expunged 90 days after the date the benefits become available, up to November 21, 2018.

This waiver is approved under the authority of Section 412 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, and Section 5(h)(1) and (h)(3)(B) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

If you have any questions regarding this waiver or its implementation, please contact Georgina Castillo of my staff, at (214) 290-9836.

Sincerely,

Jessica Shahin
Associate Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#)
Bcc: [John.laufer@mail.house.gov](#); [johnathan.sergent@mail.house.gov](#); [nicole.mclaren@mail.house.gov](#); [maurice.zelazco@mail.house.gov](#); [Steve.Koncar@mail.house.gov](#); [Shane.Woods@mail.house.gov](#); [sarah.hanson1@mail.house.gov](#); [Callie.shapiro@mail.house.gov](#); [Hailey.hart@mail.house.gov](#); [sean.brady@mail.house.gov](#); [Andrew.Callahan@mail.house.gov](#); [barry.smith@mail.house.gov](#); [kenneth.clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [matthew.price@mail.house.gov](#); [bradley.solyan@mail.house.gov](#); [mason.heilman@mail.house.gov](#); [matthew.ellison@mail.house.gov](#); [Jean.Roseme@mail.house.gov](#); [gisselle.reynolds@mail.house.gov](#); [hector.arguello@mail.house.gov](#); [Christopher.Ferrer@mail.house.gov](#); [abby.tinsley@billnelson.senate.gov](#); [eleni.valanos@rubio.senate.gov](#); [wes.brooks@rubio.senate.gov](#); [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [joseph.layman@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); 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dana.acton@mail.house.gov; molly.carey@mail.house.gov; Nick.Tortorici@mail.house.gov; Noor.teebi@mail.house.gov; patrick.hester@mail.house.gov; robert.simpson@mail.house.gov; drew.wayne@mail.house.gov; jennifer.wood@mail.house.gov; clayton.cox@mail.house.gov; kayla.williams@mail.house.gov; Erynn.Hook@mail.house.gov; eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov; sean_byrne@schumer.senate.gov; jonathan.lowe@mail.house.gov; Ryan.dierker@mail.house.gov; kevin.carson@mail.house.gov; jared.dilley@mail.house.gov; madeline.vey@mail.house.gov; kelli.ripp@mail.house.gov; alex.briggs@mail.house.gov; peter.rivera@mail.house.gov; jenny.perrino@mail.house.gov; Jeffrey.wilson@mail.house.gov; felix.muniz@mail.house.gov; michael.mclean@mail.house.gov; Anne.sokolov@mail.house.gov; catharine.wilson@mail.house.gov; Mimi.Bair@mail.house.gov; mark.galay@mail.house.gov; jonathan_mccracken@brown.senate.gov; Sarah_Pearce@portman.senate.gov; Megan.Wenrich@mail.house.gov; Miranda.moorman@mail.house.gov; Alison.slagell@mail.house.gov; 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heather_majors@reed.senate.gov; aaron_goldner@whitehouse.senate.gov; andrew.ocha2@mail.house.gov; matt.blackwell@mail.house.gov; david.w.jackson@mail.house.gov; anna.bartlett@mail.house.gov; meghan.holland@mail.house.gov; lin.whitehouse@mail.house.gov; walker.truluck@mail.house.gov; meghan_dorn@lgraham.senate.gov; Emily_Lavery@Scott.senate.gov; andrew.fisher@mail.house.gov; logan_penfield@rounds.senate.gov; Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov; ryan_donnelly@thune.senate.gov; john.witherspoon@mail.house.gov; zachary.dooley@mail.house.gov; Roe.strother@mail.house.gov; richard.wilkin@mail.house.gov; vic.gott@mail.house.gov; ace.burch@mail.house.gov; leonardo.kowalsky@mail.house.gov; Robert.hogin@mail.house.gov; Don.andres@mail.house.gov; Lindsay_garcia@alexander.senate.gov; Holt_edwards@corker.senate.gov; michael.keyes@mail.house.gov; brandon.steinmann@mail.house.gov; Jett.thompson@mail.house.gov; Ebbie.yazdani@mail.house.gov; James.Redfield@mail.house.gov; nick.grimes@mail.house.gov; Alycia.Maloney@mail.house.gov; joshua.bradley@mail.house.gov; keenan.hale@mail.house.gov; Cameron.Poursoltan@mail.house.gov; michael.horder@mail.house.gov; Suzi.Plasencia@mail.house.gov; Michael.seeds@mail.house.gov; michelle.stoika@mail.house.gov; louise.bentsen@mail.house.gov; marc.rehmann@mail.house.gov; eric.gustafson@mail.house.gov; Lilie.coney@mail.house.gov; Kaley.Mathis@mail.house.gov; ben.thomas@mail.house.gov; scott.ferguson@mail.house.gov; kevin.hartley@mail.house.gov; chris.malen@mail.house.gov; John.Deoudes@mail.house.gov; Nicole.lansford@mail.house.gov; Rachel.huggins@mail.house.gov; Hannah.jaeckle@mail.house.gov; zack.lenick@mail.house.gov; Kristie.small@mail.house.gov; juan.sanchez@mail.house.gov; Susannah.ross@mail.house.gov; Murat.Gokcigdem@mail.house.gov; Robert.Schroeder@mail.house.gov; Ryan.Ethington@mail.house.gov; Thadddus.woody@mail.house.gov; Mickeala.carter@mail.house.gov; sarah.laven@mail.house.gov; steve.janushkowsky@mail.house.gov; brent_blevins@cornyn.senate.gov; Austin_Smithson@cruz.senate.gov; paul.johnson@mail.house.gov; clay.white@mail.house.gov; jake.bornstein@mail.house.gov; scott.heber@mail.house.gov; romel_nicholas@hatch.senate.gov; heath_hansen@lee.senate.gov; Brent.robinson@mail.house.gov; laura.lyon@mail.house.gov; evan.chatman@mail.house.gov; Cody.McClelland@mail.house.gov; hallie.pence@mail.house.gov; eric.bagwell@mail.house.gov; kate.schisler@mail.house.gov; kristin.seum@mail.house.gov; ryan.mcmanus@mail.house.gov; jamie.smith@mail.house.gov; nick_barbash@kaine.senate.gov; donald_pollard@kaine.senate.gov; micah_barbour@warner.senate.gov; yemisi_egbewole@warner.senate.gov; jeffrey.nowill@mail.house.gov; mark.fowler@mail.house.gov; Adrienne_Wojciechowski@leahy.senate.gov; caryn_compton@sanders.senate.gov; Shantanu.tata@mail.house.gov; Katya.Nazaretova@mail.house.gov; Anna.Schartner@mail.house.gov; Travis.martinez@mail.house.gov; kyle.kunkler@mail.house.gov; katie.r.allen@mail.house.gov; danielle.fulfs@mail.house.gov; Collin.swanson@mail.house.gov; Madison.Strader@mail.house.gov; david.marten@mail.house.gov; Megan_thompson@cantwell.senate.gov; jason_smith@murray.senate.gov; laura.wiley@mail.house.gov; alicia.molt-west@mail.house.gov; Alex.eveland@mail.house.gov; Chris.Goldson@mail.house.gov; Michael.mcsteger@mail.house.gov; Chris.Grawien@mail.house.gov; ryan.mccormack@mail.house.gov; matt.tucker@mail.house.gov; colleene_thomas@baldwin.senate.gov; meris_petek@ronjohnson.senate.gov; Blake.Deeley@mail.house.gov; John.caddock@mail.house.gov; nick.clemens@mail.house.gov; victoria_weaver@capito.senate.gov; elliott_howard@manchin.senate.gov; holly.heussner@mail.house.gov; kaityllynn_Glover@barrasso.senate.gov; shawna_newsome@enzi.senate.gov

Subject: USDA Trade Mitigation: TEFAP Administrative Funds

Date: Thursday, November 15, 2018 6:44:24 PM

Good afternoon,

Today USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) sent the attached memo to State Agencies regarding administrative funds in The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) in response to USDA's [announcement in August](#) authorizing up to \$12 billion in trade mitigation programs.

As you may be aware, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is administering the Food Purchase and Distribution Program to purchase up to \$1.2 billion in commodities, with the bulk of this food being distributed through TEFAP.

Due to the substantial increase in the total amount of food expected to be delivered to TEFAP State agencies and their eligible recipient agencies (ERAs) as a result of the Trade Mitigation Program, USDA is making Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds available to assist with the operational costs of the receipt, storage, and distribution of these foods. These funds will be provided in addition to TEFAP administrative funds that FNS provides to State agencies each fiscal year subject to appropriation by Congress.

Up to \$50 million will be available nationally to support TEFAP ERA operational expenses associated with Trade Mitigation Program foods. These funds will be allocated among State agencies by a formula based on the amount of food ordered by each State. State agencies will be responsible for the administration of these operational funds and will have the flexibility to determine how to distribute specific amounts to their ERAs for the purpose of supporting Trade Mitigation Program food operational costs. One hundred percent of these funds must be passed through by the State to their TEFAP ERAs. These funds will be administered through the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) public voucher process and will not flow directly through FNS.

The Trade Mitigation Program will be completed in four phases over the course of the next year. No funds will be allocated for phase one ordering as it has already been completed. For the remaining three phases, FNS is establishing a per-truck grant amount. States agencies are eligible to receive the per-truck grant amount for each truck of Trade Mitigation Program foods ordered. The per-truck grant for phase two is \$2,000 per truck of any Trade Mitigation Program product ordered. FNS will announce the phase three and four per-truck grant levels in subsequent guidance but anticipates that the per-truck grant amount for phases three and four will be of similar value to the phase two grant.

State agencies must pass through 100% of this funding to those TEFAP ERAs that receive Trade Mitigation Program foods. However, States will have the discretion to determine how to best allocate the funds among their ERAs based on the Trade Mitigation Program's operational needs, as the level of funding available is not anticipated to support all costs associated with the receipt, storage, and distribution of these foods.

Please see attached for additional information, do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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From: [Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Waldrop, PJ \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: H2A
Date: Friday, June 9, 2017 3:08:31 PM
Attachments: [Directive.pdf](#)

PJ,

Hi! It was great talking to you this afternoon. Attached is the DOL directive I mentioned on visa program enforcement. The link to the press release is below.

As I mentioned, it would be great to emphasize the need for DOL to actively partner with USDA to review and reform H-2A program to ensure efficiencies for growers and keep the integrity of the program. On the enforcement - eliminating bad actors and fraud is important for the program but because this is the only available option for farmers to access legal workers, it would be important to also emphasize to Secretary Acosta that reforms are also critical.

<https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/opa/opa20170606>

Also, I have not met with DOL on H-2A reform yet but others in the administration have met with the political staff. It seems like they are still learning about H-2A program so this can be an opportunity to really give them the lay of the land from the farmers perspective.

Let me know how it goes and if there is anything else we can do to be helpful!

Best,

Kristi J. Boswell

Senior Advisor to the Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture

Office: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

From: Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Friday, June 9, 2017 12:24 PM
To: Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>; Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kristi.Boswell@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Re: H2A

PJ, Kristi is working on this for us. Kristi can you please circle up with PJ asap.

Thank you,
Heidi

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 9, 2017, at 11:59 AM, Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

Do you have a few minutes to touch base about this?

(b) (6)

PJ Waldrop
Deputy Chief of Staff
U.S. Senator David Perdue

(b) (6)

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SECRETARY OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

JUN - 5 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: ACTING SOLICITOR
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
DEPUTY WAGE AND HOUR ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: THE SECRETARY OF LABOR 

SUBJECT: Enforcement and Coordination of Labor Department Non-Immigrant Visa Programs

It is now the policy of the Department of Labor (DOL or Department) to enforce vigorously all laws within its jurisdiction governing the administration and enforcement of the visa programs under DOL authority. DOL will fully commit to supporting enforcement and investigative efforts under these programs.

Under the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, as amended, 8 U.S.C. 1101 *et seq.*, and related laws:

- (i) The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), through the Office of Foreign Labor Certification, receives and reviews applications for labor certification under these programs.
- (ii) The Wage and Hour Division (WHD) conducts civil investigations to enforce labor protections that are provided by these programs.
- (iii) The Office of the Solicitor (SOL) litigates WHD investigations administratively, as appropriate.
- (iv) The Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducts audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of DOL, including criminal fraud investigations involving the programs, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended.

It is critical that DOL actively engage in robust administration and enforcement of its responsibilities under the visa programs. Therefore, I direct, and have directed:

- (i) ETA, WHD and SOL to rigorously administer and enforce the laws relating to admission of workers into the United States under the visa programs in order to fulfill the Department's strong commitment to enhancing program integrity and protecting U.S. workers.

- (ii) ETA, WHD, and SOL to coordinate their administration and enforcement activities.
- (iii) ETA, WHD, and SOL to make referrals of criminal fraud matters in these programs to the OIG. Within 45 days, an appropriate protocol for such referrals will be jointly developed to ensure efficiency and investigation de-confliction.
- (iv) ETA, WHD and SOL to establish a working group to coordinate enforcement to avoid duplication of efforts and to maximize the efficiency of DOL activities. This working group will include the Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, the Wage and Hour Administrator, and the Solicitor of Labor, or their designees. The working group shall invite representatives from the OIG to participate in this effort to provide for the maximum appropriate coordination between ETA, WHD, SOL, and OIG in regard to activities related to the programs.
- (v) ETA to propose changes to the Labor Condition Application (LCA) in order to better identify systematic violations and potential fraud and provide greater transparency for agency personnel, U.S. workers, and the general public.
- (vi) WHD to consider changes to its investigative forms and procedures as necessary to enhance the effectiveness of its activities under these programs.

From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Forsyth, Gabriele \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: Photo op
Date: Wednesday, November 21, 2018 1:52:52 PM

Hi Gabriele,

Could you have your two interns send over a brief bio? Just a paragraph with their hometown, school, involvement, future plans, etc. will do! We'll be giving the Secretary a short memo that includes their bios.

Thanks,

Lindsay

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 1:16 PM
To: Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lauren.Sullivan@osec.usda.gov>
Cc: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Abbey.L.Fretz@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Photo op

Yes that works



GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510

Direct phone: (b) (6)

From: Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <[Lauren.Sullivan@osec.usda.gov](#)>
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 1:10 PM
To: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <[Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov](#)>
Cc: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <[Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov](#)>; Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC <[Abbey.L.Fretz@osec.usda.gov](#)>
Subject: RE: Photo op

Hey there,

We have shifted this photo op/meet and greet to be on November 28th at 4:30pm. Can your 2 interns come then?

Let me know.

Thank you!
Lauren

From: Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, November 5, 2018 3:45 PM
To: 'Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue)' <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Abbey.L.Fretz@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Photo op

No problem. Thanks for sending!

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 5, 2018 3:44 PM
To: Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lauren.Sullivan@osec.usda.gov>
Cc: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Abbey.L.Fretz@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Photo op

Again, thank you for this – we will have Mitchel Sheffield and Ansley Green (goes by Cason) there.



GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510

Direct phone: (b) (6)

From: Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lauren.Sullivan@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 5, 2018 11:48 AM
To: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC <Abbey.L.Fretz@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Photo op

Hey there,

We have the House and Senate Ag Fall interns coming on Wednesday, Nov 14 at 4:45pm for a meet and greet/photos. Would your interns be able to come then and we can include them in that group? If so, please send me their names.

Thanks!
Lauren

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 5, 2018 11:28 AM
To: Sullivan, Lauren - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lauren.Sullivan@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Photo op

Lauren –

Does Sec. Perdue ever do photo ops? I have 2-3 interns that would love a pic with the Secretary if ever possible between now and mid-December? Please.

Gabriele



GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510

Direct phone: (b) (6)

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: [White, Charles \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Seminole County FSA Office
Date: Thursday, December 20, 2018 9:45:22 AM
Attachments: [News Release Seminole County New Office Operation.doc](#)

Good morning Charles:

Wanted to ensure you received the news release that will be sent to producers announcing new hours of operation for the Seminole County FSA Service Center. I am grateful for your cooperation throughout this process.

If we can be of any assistance throughout this process, please let me know.

Hope you have a Merry Christmas!

Tas Smith
State Executive Director
Georgia Farm Service Agency, USDA
tas.smith@ga.usda.gov
355 E. Hancock Ave., Stop 100
Athens, GA 30601
706-546-2266
FAX 1-855-409-5735

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Cathy Smith, Acting CED

1012 Ag Lane, Box A
Bainbridge, GA 39817
Voice: (229) 246-5773
Email: cathy.smith@ga.usda.gov

News Release

Release No.: 2016-001

Contact: Cathy Smith, Acting CED
cathy.smith@ga.usda.gov

SEMINOLE COUNTY FSA OFFICE NEW HOURS OF OPERATION

The Seminole County FSA Office is under a permanent shared management operation with the Decatur County FSA Office. Due to budget related challenges and limited resources available, this notification is to inform you that the Seminole County FSA Office will operate with reduced hours and will be open to the public on Tuesday and Thursday of each week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This change is effective January 7, 2019.

Producer records may be accessed by the Decatur County FSA Office at any time if you are unable to conduct your FSA business on Tuesday and/or Thursday in the Seminole County FSA Office.

Producers will have the option to select another Administrative Office to administer their farm records if it is more convenient.

Producers are encouraged to visit the Decatur County FSA Office to conduct their FSA business. The Decatur County FSA Office is located at 101 Ag Lane, Box A, Bainbridge, GA 39817 and their telephone number is (229) 246-5773.

For more information contact Cathy Smith, Acting County Executive Director,
(229) 246-5773

From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
Bcc: [michael.bryant@mail.house.gov](#); [Michael.Reed@mail.house.gov](#); [Paul.Fryer@mail.house.gov](#);
[alice.johnson@mail.house.gov](#); [Jody.Redding@isakson.senate.gov](#); [charles.white@perdue.senate.gov](#)
Subject: Fwd: USDA to Reopen FSA Offices for Limited Services During Government Shutdown
Date: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 11:53:40 AM

FYI:

If y'all have any questions about our functions over the next few days let me know.

Hopefully, we can reopen in full force soon.

Tas

From: "USDA Office of Communications" <usda@public.govdelivery.com>
Date: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 11:17:22 AM
To: "Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA" <Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov>
Subject: USDA to Reopen FSA Offices for Limited Services During Government Shutdown

[View as a webpage](#)

United States Department of Agriculture

Press Release

USDA to Reopen FSA Offices for Limited Services During Government Shutdown

(Washington, D.C., January 16, 2019) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced that many Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices will reopen temporarily in the coming days to perform certain limited services for farmers and ranchers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has recalled about 2,500 FSA employees to open offices on Thursday, January 17 and Friday, January 18, in addition to Tuesday, January 22, during normal business hours. The offices will be closed for the federal Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Monday, January 21.

In almost half of FSA locations, FSA staff will be available to assist agricultural producers with existing farm loans and to ensure the agency provides 1099 tax documents to borrowers by the Internal Revenue Service's deadline.

“Until Congress sends President Trump an appropriations bill in the form that he will sign, we are doing our best to minimize the impact of the partial federal funding lapse on America's agricultural producers,” Perdue said. “We are bringing back part of our FSA team to help producers with existing farm loans. Meanwhile, we continue to examine our legal authorities to ensure we are providing services to our customers to the greatest extent possible during the shutdown.”

Staff members will be available at [certain FSA offices](#) to help producers with specific services, including:

- Processing payments made on or before December 31, 2018.
- Continuing expiring financing statements.
- Opening mail to identify priority items.

Additionally, as an intermittent incidental duty, staff may release proceeds from the sale of loan security by signing checks jointly payable to FSA that are brought to the county office by producers.

Information on the locations of FSA offices to be open during this three-day window will be posted:

- On the USDA [website](#).
- On Twitter at [@SecretarySonny](#) and [@USDA](#).
- On USDA's [Facebook](#).

While staff are available in person during this three-day window, most available services can be handled over the phone. Producers can begin contacting staff on

January 17 [here](#).

Additionally, farmers who have loan deadlines during the lapse in funding do not need to make payments until the government shutdown ends.

Other FSA Programs and Services

Reopened FSA offices will only be able to provide the specifically identified services while open during this limited time. Services that will ***not*** be available include, but are not limited to:

- New direct or facility loans.
- New Farm loan guarantees.
- New marketing assistance loans.
- New applications for Market Facilitation Program (MFP).
- Certification of 2018 production for MFP payments.
- Dairy Margin Protection Program.
- Disaster assistance programs, such as:
 - Livestock Indemnity Program.
 - Emergency Conservation Program.
 - Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program.
 - Livestock Forage Disaster Program.
 - Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish.

While January 15, 2019 had been the original deadline for producers to apply for MFP, farmers have been unable to apply since December 28, 2018, when FSA offices closed because of the lapse in federal funding. Secretary Perdue has extended the MFP application deadline for a period of time equal to the number of business days FSA offices end up being closed, once the government shutdown ends. These announced days of limited staff availability during the shutdown will not constitute days open in calculating the extension. Producers who already applied for MFP and certified their 2018 production by December 28, 2018 should have already received their payments.

More information on MFP is available at www.farmers.gov/manage/mfp.

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From: [Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [matt_vankuiken@stabenow.senate.gov](#); [john_dowd@leahy.senate.gov](#); [sarah_benzin@brown.senate.gov](#); [brigit_helgen@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [chad_obermiller@bennet.senate.gov](#); [jess_fassler@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [jackie_cottrell@roberts.senate.gov](#); [brad_white@cochran.senate.gov](#); [phil_maxson@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [toni-marie_higgins@boozman.senate.gov](#); [ryan_bernstein@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [lisa_goeas@ernst.senate.gov](#); [jill_kozy@grassley.senate.gov](#); [ryan_nelson@thune.senate.gov](#); [jason_thielman@daines.senate.gov](#); [derrick_dickey@perdue.senate.gov](#); [joe_hack@fischer.senate.gov](#); [joel_elliott@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [tessa_gould@heikamp.senate.gov](#); [kris_gentile@casey.senate.gov](#); [jeff_lomonaco@smith.senate.gov](#); [Adrienne_Wojciechowski@leahy.senate.gov](#); [jonathan_mccracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [anne_knapke@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [patrick_donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [daniel_ulmer@cochran.senate.gov](#); [katelyn_conner@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [Skylar_Sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [brita_endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [michael_dolch@ernst.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsm@thune.senate.gov](#); [ryan_donnelly@thune.senate.gov](#); [dan_geri@daines.senate.gov](#); [daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [jessica_clowser@Fischer.senate.gov](#); [chase_kitchen@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [Jared_Henderson@heikamp.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [adam_schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [jensine_moyer@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Doris_Wagley@cochran.senate.gov](#); [laura_vincent@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [Jennifer_Ewing@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [josie_beecher@ernst.senate.gov](#); [jennifer_heins@grassley.senate.gov](#); [daffnei_riedel@thune.senate.gov](#); [caitlin_dorman@daines.senate.gov](#); [gabriele_forsyth@perdue.senate.gov](#); [anne_stanski@stabenow.senate.gov](#); [Kevin_McDonald@leahy.senate.gov](#); [scheduling@brown.senate.gov](#); [kelley_carney@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [kristin_mollet@bennet.senate.gov](#); [Kinsey_Spears@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [lynn_demos@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [stacy_austad@heikamp.senate.gov](#); [alina_meltaus@casey.senate.gov](#); [scheduling@smith.senate.gov](#); [vaughan_wehr@fischer.senate.gov](#)
Cc: [Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC](#); [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#); [Glueck, James \(Agriculture\)](#); [Murray, DaNita \(Agriculture\)](#); [Shultz, Joe \(Agriculture\)](#); [Howerton, Jacqueline - OSEC](#)
Subject: Invitation from Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue for Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Members-- Tuesday, March 13th
Date: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 2:22:49 PM

*Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue
cordially invites
Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and
Forestry
to an afternoon coffee with the USDA Subcabinet*

*Tuesday, March 13, 2018
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
328-A Russell Senate Office Building
Members and one staff person preferred*

*Please RSVP to Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov by Monday, March 12th.
Any questions, please contact Abbey Fretz at 202 (b) (6).*

Abbey L. Fretz

Director of Congressional Relations
Office of Congressional Relations



United States Department of
Agriculture
Office: 202 (b) (6)

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From: [Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [White, Joyce \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: FW: Rural Development State Director
Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017 12:02:33 PM
Attachments: [Rural Development State Director 2017.docx](#)

Joyce, I am sorry it took me so long to get this to you—but here is the job description on the RD Director position. After you review and are ready let's touch base again!
Was great to talk with you last week!

Heidi

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Rural Development State Director
GS-0301-15
Schedule C

INTRODUCTION

The Rural Development State Director is a Schedule C excepted service position and requires a confidential relationship that provides critical leadership support of strategic goals and objectives of the President and Secretary of Agriculture.

The purpose of this position is to provide critical leadership and support to USDA policy formulation, policy implementation, and program execution and to ensure alignment of these areas with goals, viewpoints, and philosophies of the current Administration.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Works closely with Rural Development Administrators responsible for formulating and implementing Rural Housing Service (RHS), Rural Business and Cooperative Development Service (RBS) and Rural Utilities Service (RUS) programs within the assigned jurisdictional area in the implementation of customer related program delivery.

Implements national policies of the administration in concert with efforts to minimize opportunity for an improved quality of life for rural residents and communities throughout America. Seeks and utilizes opportunities to enhance design and implementation of program delivery in providing customer service to meet the needs of external and internal customers in rural America.

Meets with state and local government officials advocating Rural Development's positions on issues of intergovernmental cooperation and mutual interest and involvement. Explains and defends the RHS, RBS, and RUS management and supervision policies, activities and requirements. Plans and executes a public relations program utilizing all appropriate informational and educational resources, including mass media, to improve awareness of RD mission area programs by individuals, groups, and the general public. Secures essential cooperation, services, or assistance from outside sources in furthering program goals.

Creates and sustains partnerships with other federal, state, and local rural development agencies. Provides national policy makers with information on the need for changes in programs and/or program delivery to meet the changing needs rural communities.

Participates in the development, formulation, coordination, and implementation, in conjunction with agency management officials, of overall mission area operating and administrative programs, policies, and plans within the assigned State area. Develops guides, standards, procedures, and

instructions necessary in administering the programs State, District/Regional area or County/local offices.

Recommends revisions in national program emphasis as necessary for maximum flexibility within the given state and throughout the nation keeping within the regulatory requirements. Institutes positive action to resolve appeals, complaints, problems and irregularities; and assures complete and timely response to USDA-OIG, GAO, and OPM and RHS, RBS and RUS audit/evaluation reports. Major disagreements or unresolved problems, which cannot be settled, are elevated to the Administrators or the National Office for direction.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge of the policy goals and strategic objectives of the Administration and the Secretary sufficient to coordinate the development and implementation of key policy and program initiatives.

Knowledge of the goals, needs, and priorities of USDA government partners at the federal, state and local levels sufficient to effectively represent the goals of the Administration and the Secretary in collaborative interactions and program development.

Knowledge of the laws and regulations that govern USDA program operations sufficient to provide leadership in resolving complex policy and program issues in collaboration with federal, state, and local government partners.

Mastery of program evaluation techniques and methodologies sufficient to perform and direct a wide variety of studies and projects related to USDA programs, mission operations, and policies. Knowledge of Rural Development mission area's policy and objectives concerning RHS, RBS, and RUS programs and activities in order to provide confidential input relative to the effectiveness of key Department policies and programs.

Oral and written communication skills sufficient to address highly complex and sensitive issues and to effectively represent the policies of the Administration and the designated supervisor in wide-ranging external interactions and in the development of a variety of written issuances.

Knowledge of Federal, State, and local agencies and organizations within the State carrying out rural economic and community development, credit, and family-living development and assistance programs, with skill in motivating and coordinating participation and utilization of the services of such agencies and organizations in furthering RHS, RBS, and RUS program goals.

Skill in planning and organizing work, making administrative and technical decisions, and evaluating work accomplishments in relationship to broad rural economic and community development program objectives.

Knowledge of supervisory practices and training methods, to effectively select, train, direct and coordinate the activities of employees and promotes efficiency and economy in daily operations.

Skill in meeting and working with other financial and rural community leaders, representatives of State and Federal agencies, rural residents and the general public.

Skill providing leadership and promoting public outreach relations' activities in support of Rural Development mission.

SUPERVISION AND GUIDANCE RECEIVED

The employee functions as a recognized expert and independently establishes goals and priorities based on an expert of the policy goals of the Administration and the designated supervisor. The employee independently plans, develops and carries out delegated responsibilities and assigned special projects and has wide-ranging latitude for making and implanting decisions regarding policy and program matters. Work performed and recommendations made by the incumbent are accepted as technically sound and accurate and reviewed solely for broad effectiveness in meeting overall objectives.

SCOPE AND EFFECT

The work of the incumbent has a primary focus on the continual enhancement of USDA relationships, policy development, and program implementation activities with federal, state and local government counterparts. The incumbent's work directly facilitates the effective and efficient development and implementation of key policy and programmatic goals of the Administration and the designated supervisor.

The incumbent advises the Administration of local responses to National policies, adapts programs and policies to meet local conditions and needs, and recommends changes in National policies and operating procedures. Incumbent is the policy advocate before the State and local governments, the public, and the news media.

From: [Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [White, Joyce \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Re: Rural Development State Director
Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 10:54:06 PM

Joyce will call you tomorrow morning!!

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 15, 2017, at 3:27 PM, White, Joyce (Perdue) <Joyce.White@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

Hey Heidi:

I didn't want to take too much time in getting back with you!

I have read the job description, and I am humbled you and the Secretary would think of me for this position.

As far as the job is concerned, I know I can handle getting around Georgia and working with the great people of our great state. I know I have the intuition to sense when dollars are being wasted and when dollars are going for the good of the people and of the State.

I would have a learning curve I am sure regarding the policies and any technical expertise needed.

I would love to talk further when you are available. I have the Senator all next week traveling the state with me and have been preparing for his being here this week. I am advancing all the venues and preparing all the briefings and double checking to ensure we have security for all. I will make myself available to talk when you have time.

Thanks!

Joyce

From: Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC [<mailto:Heidi.Green@osec.usda.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2017 12:03 PM
To: White, Joyce (Perdue) <Joyce.White@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: FW: Rural Development State Director

Joyce, I am sorry it took me so long to get this to you—but here is the job description on the RD Director position. After you review and are ready let's touch base again! Was great to talk with you last week!

Heidi

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From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Bcc: [Heather.Ham-warren@mail.house.gov](#); [evan.lee@mail.house.gov](#); [jeff.sands@mail.house.gov](#); [jenifer.nawrocki@mail.house.gov](#); [Derron.bennett@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.albert@mail.house.gov](#); [John.laufer@mail.house.gov](#); [johnathan.sergent@mail.house.gov](#); [nicole.mclaren@mail.house.gov](#); [maurice.zelazco@mail.house.gov](#); [Steve.Koncar@mail.house.gov](#); [Shane.Woods@mail.house.gov](#); [sarah.hanson1@mail.house.gov](#); [Callie.shapiro@mail.house.gov](#); [Hailey.hart@mail.house.gov](#); [sean.brady@mail.house.gov](#); [Andrew.Callahan@mail.house.gov](#); [evan.bergwall@mail.house.gov](#); [kenneth.clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [matthew.price@mail.house.gov](#); [bradley.solyan@mail.house.gov](#); [mason.heilman@mail.house.gov](#); [logan.hollers@mail.house.gov](#); [Jean.Roseme@mail.house.gov](#); [gisselle.reynolds@mail.house.gov](#); [hector.arguello@mail.house.gov](#); [Christopher.Ferrer@mail.house.gov](#); [abby_tinsley@billnelson.senate.gov](#); [lauren_reamy@rubio.senate.gov](#); [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [joseph.layman@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); [thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov](#); [Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [sally.larson@mail.house.gov](#); [caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov](#); [susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [ashley.smith1@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Jack.Overstreet@isakson.senate.gov](#); [daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [miriam.fry@mail.house.gov](#); [mike.albares@mail.house.gov](#); [haley.wilson@mail.house.gov](#); [elissa.mclerran@mail.house.gov](#); [clay.mills@mail.house.gov](#); [hunter.hobart@mail.house.gov](#); [cachavious.english@mail.house.gov](#); [morgan_carter@shelby.senate.gov](#); [rebecca_howard@jones.senate.gov](#)
Subject: Hurricane Michael- USDA Disaster Assistance
Date: Friday, October 12, 2018 11:51:07 AM
Attachments: [usda-ocr-disaster-assistance-resources_9.26.pdf](#)

Good morning all,

In the wake of Hurricane Michael, we wanted to reach out and let you know that our office is available as a resource for you throughout the recovery process. Please find attached a disaster assistance one-pager with helpful contacts and web links, and please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Best,

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

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United States
Department of
Agriculture

USDA Disaster Assistance



From hurricanes to wildfires to droughts, USDA is here to assist with a variety of resources and programs to help when disaster strikes. Please contact us or check out the below resources for more information.

USDA Office of Congressional Relations (OCR) Staff Contacts

Ken Barbic, Assistant Secretary
ken.barbic@osec.usda.gov
(202) 720-7095

Evan Lee, Chief of Staff (FSA,NRCS,RMA)
evan.lee@osec.usda.gov
(202) 720-7095

Abbey Fretz, OCR Director (APHIS)
abbey.fretz@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

Kelsey Barnes, Legislative Analyst (RD)
kelsey.barnes@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

Erin Wilson, Policy Advisor (FNS)
erin.wilson@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

Lindsay Moore, Staff Assistant
lindsay.moore@osec.usda.gov
(b) (6)

USDA Disaster Websites

- ▶ **Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS)**
www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/emergencyresponse
- ▶ **Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)**
www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/disaster-assistance
- ▶ **Farm Service Agency (FSA)**
www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program
- ▶ **National Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS)**
www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/?cid=nrcseprd1361073
- ▶ **Risk Management Agency (RMA)**
www.rma.usda.gov/news/stormdisaster.html
- ▶ **Rural Development (RD)**
www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/services/rural-development-disaster-assistance
- ▶ **Farmers.gov- Self-service and tools for farmers**
www.farmers.gov/recover

Sarah,

I am having a lot of frustrations trying to apply for the 2019 USDA RBDG grant. Is that something you can assist me with?

First, I have been unsuccessful in attempting to logon to sam.gov and I cannot get a 2019 grant application. I have a 2018.

At any rate, I know it is due this month and have a project I'd like to submit. The overwhelming amount of paper work is intimidating and I don't have a clue how to answer some of the forms. Please advise.



Katheryne A. Fields

Director
Institutional Advancement

Southern Crescent Technical College
Griffin Campus
501 Varsity Road
Griffin, GA 30223

p: (b) (6)

f: 770-229-3236

e: (b) (6) [@scotech.edu](mailto:(b) (6)@scotech.edu)

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From: [Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Hale, Daniel \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: question
Date: Friday, November 2, 2018 3:27:32 PM
Attachments: [Req - 7 cfr 1468.6.pdf](#) Available online: <https://www.ecfr.gov>
[Policy.pdf](#) Title 440 Part 528 Available online: <https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/>
[Admin Action Guidance.docx](#)

Daniel – I hope that was helpful. Please see the attached guidance and regs regarding modifications.

Please don't hesitate to call or email with questions.

--

Evan B. Lee
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
c: (b) (6)

From: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2018 3:43 PM
To: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: question

That works for me. Thanks again.

From: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2018 3:31 PM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: question

Sounds good, Daniel. How does 3pm tomorrow sound? Our folks from NRCS will be able to provide an overview of USDA's authority to modify easement contracts, the criteria for granting a modification, and the process for a landowner to apply for a modification.

Here is the call-in information: [888-844-9904](tel:888-844-9904) – participant code: (b) (6)

--

Evan B. Lee
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
c: (b) (6)

From: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 1, 2018 3:10 PM
To: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: question

Thanks a lot Evan. We're going to reach out to the landowner to see what they would prefer as far as sharing the deed and will get back to you. I'll be in the office until 5 and all day tomorrow if yall have some time to discuss generally how the process for making changes to an easement works just for my knowledge.

From: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2018 7:31 PM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: question

Thanks for taking my call, Daniel. Our team at HQ is ready to hop on a call at your convenience to discuss the steps toward resolution. They did underscore that obtaining more information about the easement, specifically the conservation easement deed in question, beforehand would help make productive use of the time. Does your office want to contact the landowner and obtain a copy of the deed, or do you prefer USDA contact him directly? Let me know. Meanwhile, we're on standby to assist.

—
Evan B. Lee
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
C: (b) (6)

From: "Hale, Daniel (Perdue)" <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Date: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 11:35:59 AM
To: "Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC" <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: question

My chief is actually the one who he contacted and I don't think he was given any more detail. I can give you the guy's email if you want to reach out directly or I can get him in touch with you if you don't mind.

From: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 11:25 AM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: question

Daniel – Is there any other additional information you can provide, such as the location of the easement and the local office they've contacted?

--

Evan B. Lee
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
c: (b) (6)

From: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 10:58 AM
To: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: question

Hey Evan below is some background on the issue. The land is in Florida but the one inquiring has Georgia ties. They just want to talk with the right people at USDA to hopefully get a resolution.

This is regarding a conservation easement granted to the USDA in Florida. There is no problem with the property covered by the conservation easement, the problem is that the former owner of the property permitted the USDA to cross all of his other property to access the Conservation Easement land. It doesn't matter that the other property is not adjacent to the conservation easement. The owner discovered that employees of the USDA could enter and cross his property at any point in time in the future under the pretense that they needed to reach Conservation Easement property. The owner reasonably wants to limit this access to a 20' wide strip of property that can be fenced off to keep any USDA employees off of the rest of the property, but the local USDA representative refuses to negotiate the matter. Can you help us determine the correct person to speak to so that we can more thoroughly explain the matter to some who can understand why the owner is upset about the potential government intrusion on his property?

From: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 1:07 PM
To: Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <Peter.Bachmann@osec.usda.gov>; Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: question

Hi Daniel – nice to meet you over email.

--

Evan B. Lee
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
c: (b) (6)

From: Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 1:06 PM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: question

It is now Evan Lee, cc'ed.

From: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 11:09 AM
To: Bachmann, Peter - OSEC Washington, DC <Peter.Bachmann@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: question

Who handles NRCS issues in your office over there?

Daniel Hale

Legislative Assistant

Office of U.S. Senator David Perdue

(b) (6)

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Attachment A - Implementation Guidance

Applicability: Section 1265D(d)(2) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) made all existing easements, not including Floodplain Easements, subject to the Easement Administration Action policy. Modification and termination requirements for Floodplain Easements may be found in section 514.60 of the Emergency Watershed Protection Program Manual. The NRCS Easement Administration Action policy is outlined in NRCS Manuals Title 440, Part 528, Subpart R, 528.171.

Easement Integrity: As a conservation agency with an easement portfolio comprising more than 20,000 parcels surpassing 3.2 million acres, NRCS has an important stewardship responsibility to ensure that these lands are maintained, protected and managed with the public's interest as a priority. Approval of easement administration actions should be rare and only recommended and approved when avoidance is not possible or practical and there is a clear compelling public need.

Deed Terms: Prior to initiating an Easement Administration Action, State Conservationists must review the existing easement deed to ensure the terms do not include language relevant to the proposal.

Proponents: An admin action proponent may be the landowner, a third-party such as a utility developer or governmental agency, or NRCS itself. In the case of a third-party proponent, the policy also requires the landowner's concurrence prior to NRCS reviewing a project proposal.

Proponent Communication: Easement Programs Division (EPD) staff will not directly communicate with any landowner or third-party project proponent regarding easement administration actions. State staff are asked not to provide EPD staff contact information to a landowner or project proponent. The State Conservationist must designate a point of contact who will be responsible for communicating with the proponent throughout the review process. The EPD staff is available for consultation with State staff when clarification is needed. However, the staff is not able to review and approve documents as a package is being assembled.

Initial Review: If, after an initial review, a State Conservationist finds the proposal does not meet requirements of law and policy, she/he should deny the proposal. A State Conservationist's decision is final and cannot be appealed. However, a proponent may revise a request and resubmit for consideration at any time.

Appeal Rights: Easement Administration Action are not program benefits subject to appeal.

Condemnation: NRCS easement lands are generally not subject to condemnation through eminent domain proceedings. In the case of a Federal transportation project the U.S. Department of Transportation has specific authority to appropriate Federal lands for transportation projects. To avoid appropriation, State Conservationists are responsible to inform the U.S. Dept. of Transportation that the proposed appropriation is contrary to the public interest and inconsistent with the purposes for which the land has been reserved by USDA-NRCS.

Expenses: Proponents are responsible for all expenses related to analyzing and implementation of a proposal. Common expenses related to these projects include but are not limited to: appraisals, review appraisals, environmental assessments and Environmental Impact Statements (National Environmental Policy Act), boundary surveys and marking, hazardous substances review, title search, recording fees, and mitigation including the acquisition of replacement land and any restoration costs.

Avoidance: If a project can avoid an easement, then the proposal should generally be denied. The expense to the proponent in avoiding the easement cannot be a consideration in the process. In evaluating the evidence that a project cannot avoid the easement area, the unwillingness of other landowners to allow the project on their land should not be interpreted to mean that the proposed project cannot avoid the easement. Avoidance generally refers to engineering, public safety issues, or other location based factors that would make the project impossible without impacting the easement area.

Mitigation: All proposals, including subordinations, **must** articulate how the proponent will fully mitigate for any environmental and economic impacts to the easement area. Mitigation will usually require acquisition of offsetting land except in limited circumstances where a significant conservation projects within the existing NRCS easement area might suffice. Replacement land should generally be connected to the original easement, but in cases where no adjoining land is available the mitigation may be in a new location. Replacement land must meet all ACEP land qualification requirements. The State Conservationist should also keep the practical administration of the easement in mind when considering mitigation areas.

Environmental Review: Except in those limited cases where another Federal agency completes a NEPA study that specifically analyzes the impact to the NRCS easement and the mitigation for that impact, the CPA-52 cannot be used as the basis for a decision to approve an Easement Administration Action. Thus, to meet NRCS's NEPA responsibilities a full Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Study will likely be required. The proponent is responsible for either amending their NEPA analysis or hiring a NEPA contractor on behalf of NRCS to meet this responsibility. NEPA is a Federal responsibility and therefore if the NEPA study is contracted is must be completed on behalf of the State Conservationist and written from NRCS' perspective.

Tax Consequences: A State Conservationist must recommend that landowners seek tax advice prior to supporting a proposal; changing any term of an existing easement may have significant tax consequences. Apart from recommending the consultation, no other information of tax consequences should be discussed with landowners or proponents as this may be construed as giving tax advice.

Approval Process: State Conservationists are responsible for reviewing and recommending proposals to the EPD Director for review. The State Conservationist should review supporting documentation to ensure that the information fully describes the proposal and to ensure the proposal meets all requirements of policy. The EPD Director is responsible for reviewing and approving all modification, exchange, or subordination proposals. Termination proposals are

reviewed by the Chief and cannot be approved until Congressional notification is completed by NRCS National Headquarter office. The EPD review and approval process will take a minimum of 90 days – terminations may take up to 180 days.

Completeness: EPD will not review incomplete recommendation packages.

Easement Violations: The Easement Administration Action process cannot be used to address easement violations. All violations must be corrected prior to a landowner submitting a proposal for an easement administration action.

Post approval: If a proposal includes activities that might adversely affect the easement area, then a Plan of Operations Agreement for the affected area should also be created. The Plan of Operation Agreement should include requirements for construction and rehabilitation of the area and may also include liability agreements and bonding requirements.

Minor Administrative Corrections: The Easement Administration Action Minor Administrative Corrections policy allows for State Conservationists to authorize deed corrections without EPD approval for 1) typographical errors, 2) minor changes in legal descriptions as a result of survey or mapping errors, and 3) address changes. These corrections categories should be strictly interpreted and any changes that exceed the scope of these categories cannot be authorized by a State Conservationist.

DRAFT

From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: [Redding, Jody \(Isakson\)](#); daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov; [White, Charles \(Perdue\)](#); [Johnson, Alice](#)
Subject: Letter to Administrator Fordyce for Georgia Beekeepers
Date: Thursday, November 8, 2018 10:49:22 AM
Attachments: [Urgent Assistance Needed for Georgia Beekeepers.pdf](#)

FYI:

Tas Smith
State Executive Director
Georgia Farm Service Agency, USDA
tas.smith@ga.usda.gov
355 E. Hancock Ave., Stop 100
Athens, GA 30601
706-546-2266
FAX 1-855-409-5735

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United States Department of Agriculture

Farm
Production
and
Conservation

Farm
Service
Agency

Georgia State
FSA Office
STOP 100
355 E. Hancock Ave.
Athens, GA
30601-2775

Voice: 706-546-2286
Fax: 855-409-5735

November 5, 2018

TO Richard Fordyce
Administrator

FROM Tas Smith, Georgia State Executive Director 
 H. Allen Poole, Georgia State FSA Committee, Chairperson

SUBJECT Urgent Assistance Needed for Georgia Beekeepers

Please accept this request from the Georgia State Executive Director and the Georgia State FSA Committee for assistance on behalf of the beekeepers of the State of Georgia. We have been contacted by Mr. Barry Hart of southeast Georgia, on behalf of this producer-group, imploring our help and assistance. Mr. Hart spoke with you during your recent visit to Georgia in September to express concerns beekeepers are currently facing regarding the multiple benefit exclusion with the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) and the Apiculture Pilot Program, crop insurance policy administered by the Risk Management Agency (RMA).

We are grateful to FSA for addressing the concern of the linkage requirement allowing beekeepers to only purchase NAP to satisfy the Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (WHIP). This change provides clarity for beekeepers on the program coverage needed moving forward to comply with WHIP guidelines.

However, another issue that needs addressing is language in Handbook 1-NAP (Revision 2) paragraph 150 A, Multiple Benefit Exclusion and paragraph 150 B, Choosing NAP Benefits or Other Program Benefits. Several Georgia beekeepers enrolled in the Apiculture Pilot Program for 2017 and are not being granted an exclusion from the multiple benefit prohibition as are hay growers who purchased the RI-PRF Pilot Program Perennial Forage Insurance Plan. Both the Apiculture Pilot Program and RI-PRF Pilot Program Perennial Forage Insurance Plan pay on rainfall not production. Without a similar exclusion, beekeepers are in jeopardy of having to pay back money from production losses due to the Okefenokee Swamp wildfire, as well as losses from Hurricane Irma last year.

Recent weather events, which have included tornadoes, hurricanes, drought, and wildfire have caused a profound loss for beekeepers and honey producers within our State. We urge FSA to grant a multiple benefit exclusion for NAP and the Apiculture Pilot Program for beekeepers.

From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov; [Forsyth, Gabriele \(Perdue\)](#)
Cc: [Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: Meeting with nominee Mindy Brashears
Date: Thursday, August 23, 2018 3:52:06 PM

Good afternoon Daniel and Gabriele,

I hope you are doing well! Mindy Brashears, who has been nominated to serve as the Under Secretary for Food Safety at USDA, will be in DC next week and would like to set up a meeting with the Senator and/or staff if possible. She will be available any time after mid-day on Wednesday as well as all day on Thursday and Friday. Please let me know if any of these options would work for your boss. If not, I will circle back when she returns to DC and we can try again at that time.

Best,

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

From: [Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: emma_johnston@perdue.senate.gov
Bcc: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: RE: Connect
Date: Monday, March 4, 2019 11:09:25 AM

Thanks, Lindsay. Kicking you to BCC.

Emma – Super nice to meet you over email. Would love to chat or grab coffee at your convenience. Let me know if there's a time that works best on your end.

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2019 11:01 AM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Cc: emma_johnston@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: Connect

Hi Anna,

I want to connect you with Emma Johnston, a UGA gal who recently started working in Senator Perdue's office. She is interested in a few topics that you cover, particularly food safety, and I think it would be great for you to find a time to chat!

Thanks!!

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)

Bcc: [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [joseph.layman@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); [thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov](#); [Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [sally.larson@mail.house.gov](#); [caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov](#); [susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [ashley.smith1@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Jack.Overstreet@isakson.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [jain.hart@mail.house.gov](#); [Elizabeth.songvilay@mail.house.gov](#); [dave.chun@mail.house.gov](#); [jen_burks@hirono.senate.gov](#); [james_chang@schatz.senate.gov](#); [Kelsey.Griswold@mail.house.gov](#); [will.collier@mail.house.gov](#); [stephanie.carlson@mail.house.gov](#); [Christopher.hall@mail.house.gov](#); [Meris_petek@ernst.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [Hugh.Fike@mail.house.gov](#); 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Subject: FW: USDA Publishes SNAP Proposed Rule

Date: Thursday, December 20, 2018 11:55:45 AM

I apologize if you did not receive this email this morning or are receiving it for a second time, there was a glitch in delivery. Please see below:

From: Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC

Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 5:17 AM

Cc: Fink, Katherine - FNS <Katherine.Fink@fns.usda.gov>; Carter, Scott - FNS

<Scott.Carter@fns.usda.gov>; Wilson II, Anthony - FNS <anthony.wilson@fns.usda.gov>

Subject: USDA Publishes SNAP Proposed Rule

Good morning,

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) published the proposed rule *"Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents"* on its website this morning.

Specifically, this rule modifies criteria focused on the waiving of time limit requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) who receive SNAP benefits while not completing statutory work requirements.

-

The proposed rule would ensure USDA-FNS issues waivers only to provide targeted relief to areas that demonstrate a "lack of sufficient jobs" or have an unemployment rate above 10 percent. The ABAWD time limit encourages SNAP participants to find and keep work if they live in areas that do not lack sufficient jobs. USDA proposes reforming the standards for waivers so that more individuals are subject to work requirements, consistent with the Administration's focus on self-sufficiency and moving people back to work. Specifically, the rule does the following:

1. Eliminates waivers for grouped areas (e.g., multiple counties) that are not economically tied together
2. Eliminates waivers for areas with unemployment rates below 7 percent under certain criteria
3. Eliminates the ability of an area to qualify for a waiver based on its designation as a Labor Surplus Area (LSA) by the Department of Labor
4. Limits the use of alternative economic indicators to areas for which standard data is limited or unavailable, such as Indian Reservations and U.S. Territories
5. Provides additional clarity for States regarding the waiver request process

Please see below for the press release with additional information:

- Link to the text of the proposed rule
- Link to the letter Secretary Perdue sent to the nation's governors at the beginning of November.
- Link to a fact sheet on the proposed rule

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

USDA to Restore Original Intent of SNAP: A Second Chance, Not A Way of Life

(WASHINGTON, December 20, 2018) – At the direction of President Donald J. Trump, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced a [proposed rule](#) intended to move more able-bodied recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to self-sufficiency through the dignity of work. The rule is meant to restore the system to what it was meant to be: assistance through difficult times, not lifelong dependency. Over time, without any changes in the underlying welfare reform legislation of 1996, that ideal has been watered down by out-of-control administrative flexibility in SNAP.

“Long-term reliance on government assistance has never been part of the American dream,” said Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue. “As we make benefits available to those who truly need them, we must also encourage participants to take proactive steps toward self-sufficiency. Moving people to work is common-sense policy, particularly at a time when the unemployment rate is at a generational low.”

The rule proposed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) focuses on work-related program requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). The rule would apply to non-disabled people, between the ages of 18 and 49, with no dependents. The rule would **not** apply to the elderly, the disabled, or pregnant women.

Under current SNAP requirements, ABAWDs must work or participate in an employment program for at least 20 hours a week to continue to receive benefits for more than three months over a 36-month period. States may request to waive the time limit in areas with an unemployment rate above 10 percent or where there are ‘not sufficient jobs,’ which current regulations primarily define as an unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average. With today’s strong economy, that could include areas with unemployment rates of under 5 percent – a rate normally considered to be full employment. In 2016 there were 3.8 million individual ABAWDs on the SNAP rolls, with 2.8 million (or almost 74 percent) of them not working.

“Americans are generous people who believe it is their responsibility to help their fellow citizens when they encounter a difficult stretch,” Perdue said. “That is the commitment behind SNAP. But like other federal welfare programs, it was never intended to be a way of life.”

USDA’s proposal would help to ensure that work provisions are waived only when necessary, encouraging states to renew their focus on helping SNAP participants find a path to self-sufficiency. In a recent [letter](#) to the nation’s governors, Secretary Perdue explained, “These waivers weaken states’ ability to move the ABAWD population to long-term self-sufficiency because they do not require ABAWDs to engage in work and work training.”

USDA encourages all interested parties to provide input on the proposed rule, which will be posted to the Federal Register in the coming days. The comment period will be open for 60 days after the proposed rule is published in the Federal Register.

USDA’s FNS works to reduce food insecurity and promote nutritious diets among the American people. The agency administers 15 [nutrition assistance programs](#) that leverage

American's agricultural abundance to ensure children and low-income individuals and families have nutritious food to eat. FNS also co-develops the [Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), which provide science-based nutrition recommendations and serve as the cornerstone of federal nutrition policy.

#

- **Fact Sheet:** [SNAP Requirements for ABAWDs](#)
- **Proposed Rule:** [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents](#)

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: [Perkins, Chris \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: Senator Perdue contact 7/13/18
Date: Tuesday, July 17, 2018 8:02:30 AM

This is very helpful....thank you Chris. So great to meet you as well.

If there is anything you need from Georgia FSA, please let me know.

Thanks again.

Tas

Tas Smith
State Executive Director
Georgia Farm Service Agency, USDA
tas.smith@ga.usda.gov
355 E. Hancock Ave., Stop 100
Athens, GA 30601
706-546-2266
FAX 1-855-409-5735

From: Perkins, Chris (Perdue) [mailto:Chris_Perkins@perdue.senate.gov]
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 6:33 PM
To: Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA <Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov>
Subject: Senator Perdue contact 7/13/18

Tas,

It was good seeing you again at the UGA Griffin event on Friday with Secretary & Senator Perdue. I have attached a link to a map that shows where all the field reps serve and their contact information. Let me know if you are ever in my area or have USDA events that our office should attend. Feel free to contact us if you or USDA ever needs anything from the Senator's office in the future.

<https://www.perdue.senate.gov/connect/serving-you>

Sincerely,

Chris Perkins

Field Representative

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE

3280 Peachtree St NE | Suite 2640 | Atlanta, GA 30305

Office: (b) (6) Cell: (b) (6)

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From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Bcc: [miriam.fry@mail.house.gov](#); [mike.albares@mail.house.gov](#); [haley.wilson@mail.house.gov](#); [elissa.mcclerran@mail.house.gov](#); [clay.mills@mail.house.gov](#); [hunter.hobart@mail.house.gov](#); [cachavious.english@mail.house.gov](#); [morgan.carter@shelby.senate.gov](#); [rebecca.howard@jones.senate.gov](#); [charles.truxal@mail.house.gov](#); [matt.blackwell@mail.house.gov](#); [jeff.sands@mail.house.gov](#); [jenifer.nawrocki@mail.house.gov](#); [Derron.bennett@mail.house.gov](#); [John.laufer@mail.house.gov](#); [johnathan.sergent@mail.house.gov](#); [nicole.mclaren@mail.house.gov](#); [maurice.zelazco@mail.house.gov](#); [Steve.Koncar@mail.house.gov](#); [Shane.Woods@mail.house.gov](#); [sarah.hanson1@mail.house.gov](#); [Callie.shapiro@mail.house.gov](#); [Hailey.hart@mail.house.gov](#); [sean.brady@mail.house.gov](#); [Andrew.Callahan@mail.house.gov](#); [barry.smith@mail.house.gov](#); [kenneth.clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [matthew.price@mail.house.gov](#); [bradley.solyan@mail.house.gov](#); [mason.heilman@mail.house.gov](#); [matthew.ellison@mail.house.gov](#); [Jean.Roseme@mail.house.gov](#); [gisselle.reynolds@mail.house.gov](#); [hector.arguello@mail.house.gov](#); [Christopher.Ferrer@mail.house.gov](#); [abby.tinsley@billnelson.senate.gov](#); [lauren.reamy@rubio.senate.gov](#); [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [joseph.layman@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); [thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov](#); [Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [sally.larson@mail.house.gov](#); [caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov](#); [susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [ashley.smith1@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Jack.Overstreet@isakson.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [kyle.l.parker@mail.house.gov](#); [john.caision@mail.house.gov](#); [bryan.martin@mail.house.gov](#); [Emily.Richardson@mail.house.gov](#); [carson.middleton@mail.house.gov](#); [ryan.walker11@mail.house.gov](#); [Jason.Cooke@mail.house.gov](#); [kayla.dolan@mail.house.gov](#); [chris.worrell@mail.house.gov](#); [chad.yelinski@mail.house.gov](#); [katherine.stewart@mail.house.gov](#); [Tyler.haymore@mail.house.gov](#); [Mykel.Wedig@burr.senate.gov](#); [torie.ness@tillis.senate.gov](#); [david.w.jackson@mail.house.gov](#); [anna.bartlett@mail.house.gov](#); [lin.whitehouse@mail.house.gov](#); [walker.truluck@mail.house.gov](#); [meghan.dorn@lgraham.senate.gov](#); [Emily.Lavery@Scott.senate.gov](#); [Brent.robinson@mail.house.gov](#); [laura.lyon@mail.house.gov](#); [evan.chatman@mail.house.gov](#); [Cody.McClelland@mail.house.gov](#); [hallie.pence@mail.house.gov](#); [scott.bennett@mail.house.gov](#); [hugh.fike@mail.house.gov](#); [kate.schisler@mail.house.gov](#); [kristin.seum@mail.house.gov](#); [ryan.mcmanus@mail.house.gov](#); [jamie.smith@mail.house.gov](#); [nick.barbash@kaine.senate.gov](#); [ken.johnson@warner.senate.gov](#)
Subject: USDA disaster resources briefing- Hurricane Michael
Date: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 5:59:37 PM

Greetings all,

USDA is hosting a conference call on Thursday, October 19th at 11AM to discuss the USDA Disaster Assistance programs available to your constituents as they recover from Hurricane Michael. USDA program experts will provide an overview of each program and answer questions. The call-in number is 888-844-9904 and participant access code is (b) (6)

Best,

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

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overwhelming amount of paper work is intimidating and I don't have a clue how to answer some of the forms. Please advise.



Katheryne A. Fields

Director
Institutional Advancement

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Subject: EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:00 AM TOMORROW: Dietary Guidelines for Americans Updates
Date: Monday, March 18, 2019 4:56:29 PM

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to make you aware of several announcements regarding the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Please note all information included in this email is **EMBARGOED until 10am tomorrow, March 19.**

- **2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee**—As you are aware, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), in coordination with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will hold the first meeting of the 2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee at USDA's headquarters on March 28th and 29th.
 - ***Tomorrow, March 19th, the registration for in-person attendance will open until March 26, 2019 at 5:00 p.m..*** Please visit [DietaryGuidelines.gov](https://www.dietaryguidelines.gov) for registration details.
 - USDA will soon provide the public with dates for all subsequent committee meetings. An ongoing [public comment period](#), opened on March 12, will remain open throughout the committee's deliberations to ensure the public can submit comments.
- **USDA has renamed the Nutrition Evidence Library (NEL) to [Nutrition Evidence Systematic](#)**

Review (NESR).

- As you are aware, the Nutrition Evidence Library (NEL) is an entity that specializes in conducting systematic reviews (SRs) to inform Federal nutrition policy and programs. As a part of USDA's commitment to transparency, the Nutrition Evidence Library (NEL) will be renamed the Nutrition Evidence Systematic Review (NESR).
 - Please note, the **only change** is to the name of this entity.
 - **The NESR will continue to employ the same rigorous, protocol-driven methodology designed to minimize bias; to ensure that systematic reviews are relevant, timely, high quality, and reproducible; and to maximize transparency.**
- **Updates to the DietaryGuidelines.gov & NESR websites**
 - Along with a new name, NESR updated the website at www.nesr.usda.gov. There, users can find details about NESR's current and previous systematic reviews.
 - DietaryGuidelines.gov was also redesigned to be more user-friendly in USDA's efforts to provide better customer service and transparency to people interested in following the development of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
 - Please note that both websites are undergoing final bug testing tonight and into tomorrow morning. These websites are not considered public until the 10AM announcement.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

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Alison.slagell@mail.house.gov; joshua.jackson@mail.house.gov; cody.hoefer@mail.house.gov; dan_hillenbrand@inhofe.senate.gov; valerie_manak@lankford.senate.gov; sarah.round@mail.house.gov; riley.bushue@mail.house.gov; Kevin.Stockert@mail.house.gov; kris.pratt@mail.house.gov; chris.huckleberry@mail.house.gov; pete_arby@merkley.senate.gov; malcolm_mcgeary@wyden.senate.gov; Colleen.carlos@mail.house.gov; kendra.brown@mail.house.gov; sam.breene@mail.house.gov; patrick.schilling@mail.house.gov; john.busovsky@mail.house.gov; Erica.Andeweg@mail.house.gov; Julie.nolan@mail.house.gov; Charlotte.Pineda@mail.house.gov; christopher.buki@mail.house.gov; matthew.powell@mail.house.gov; katie.branson@mail.house.gov; Twinkle.patel@mail.house.gov; Helena.matrogianis@mail.house.gov; Kate.werley@mail.house.gov; johnathan.hershey@mail.house.gov; Darcy.mclaughlin@mail.house.gov; samuel.negatu@mail.house.gov; Adam_Tarr@casey.senate.gov; Tyler_minnich@Toomey.senate.gov; natalia.gandia@mail.house.gov; Matthew.mcginin@mail.house.gov; 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Michael.edwards@mail.house.gov; Jett.thompson@mail.house.gov; Ebbie.yazdani@mail.house.gov; James.Redfield@mail.house.gov; amy.murphy@mail.house.gov; Alycia.Maloney@mail.house.gov; dylan.macinerney@mail.house.gov; keenan.hale@mail.house.gov; Cameron.Poursoltan@mail.house.gov; michael.horder@mail.house.gov; Suzi.Plasencia@mail.house.gov; Michael.seeds@mail.house.gov; michelle.stoika@mail.house.gov; louise.bentsen@mail.house.gov; marc.rehmann@mail.house.gov; Jordan.Ballard@mail.house.gov; Lilie.coney@mail.house.gov; elissa.mclerran@mail.house.gov; ben.thomas@mail.house.gov; scott.ferguson@mail.house.gov; michael.richards@mail.house.gov; chris.malen@mail.house.gov; John.Deoudes@mail.house.gov; Nicole.lansford@mail.house.gov; Rachel.huggins@mail.house.gov; Hannah.jaeckle@mail.house.gov; Ryan.ehly@mail.house.gov; juan.sanchez@mail.house.gov; Susannah.ross@mail.house.gov; Murat.Gokcigdem@mail.house.gov; Robert.Schroeder@mail.house.gov; Ryan.Ethington@mail.house.gov; Thadddus.woody@mail.house.gov; Mickeala.carter@mail.house.gov; Lexi.heller@mail.house.gov; steve.janushkowsky@mail.house.gov; brent_bleivins@cornyn.senate.gov; Austin_Smithson@cruz.senate.gov; paul.johnson@mail.house.gov; clay.white@mail.house.gov; ryan.leavitt@mail.house.gov; scott.heber@mail.house.gov; romel_nicholas@hatch.senate.gov; heath_hansen@lee.senate.gov; Brent.robinson@mail.house.gov; laura.lyon@mail.house.gov; evan.chatman@mail.house.gov; Cody.Mcclelland@mail.house.gov; hallie.pence@mail.house.gov; scott.bennett@mail.house.gov; hugh.fike@mail.house.gov; kate.schisler@mail.house.gov; kristin.seum@mail.house.gov; ryan.mcmanus@mail.house.gov; jamie.smith@mail.house.gov; nick_barbash@kaine.senate.gov; ken_johnson@warner.senate.gov; jeffrey.nowill@mail.house.gov; mark.fowler@mail.house.gov; Adrienne_Wojciechowski@leahy.senate.gov; caryn_compton@sanders.senate.gov; Shantanu.tata@mail.house.gov; Katy.Nazaretova@mail.house.gov; Anna.Schartner@mail.house.gov; Travis.martinez@mail.house.gov; kyle.kunkler@mail.house.gov; katie.r.allen@mail.house.gov; danielle.fulfs@mail.house.gov; natalie.kamphaus@mail.house.gov; Madison.Strader@mail.house.gov; erik.ashida@mail.house.gov; Megan_thompson@cantwell.senate.gov; jason_smith@murray.senate.gov; laura.wiley@mail.house.gov; sydney.terry@mail.house.gov; Alex.eveland@mail.house.gov; Chris.Goldson@mail.house.gov; Michael.mcsteger@mail.house.gov; Chris.Grawien@mail.house.gov; ryan.mccormack@mail.house.gov; matt.tucker@mail.house.gov; colleene_thomas@baldwin.senate.gov; meris_petek@ronjohnson.senate.gov; Blake.Deeley@mail.house.gov; John.caddock@mail.house.gov; nick.clemens@mail.house.gov; victoria_weaver@capito.senate.gov; elliott_howard@manchin.senate.gov; holly.heussner@mail.house.gov; kaitlynn_Glover@barrasso.senate.gov; shawna_newsome@enzi.senate.gov

Subject: USDA operations during a lapse in funding
Date: Friday, January 19, 2018 3:37:23 PM

Hi All:

We have received a few questions about the operations of USDA agencies during a lapse in funding. For your use should a lapse occur and you receive constituent inquiries, please see information on our operations as this link: <https://www.usda.gov/shutdownplans>.

Also, I will be the point of contact for our Congressional Relations office in the event of a shutdown. Please feel free to reach out to me with questions.

-Joby

Joby Young

Chief of Staff – Office of Congressional Relations



United States Department of Agriculture

Mobile: (b) (6)

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From: [Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Daniel_Ulmer@cochran.senate.gov](#); [Katelyn_Conner@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [Skylar_Sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [Brita_Endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [Andrew_Brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [Jessica_Clawser@fischer.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [ryan_donnelly@thune.senate.gov](#); [Dan_Gerig@daines.senate.gov](#); [Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [Adrienne_Wojciechowski@leahy.senate.gov](#); [Jonathan_McCracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [Patrick_Donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [anne_knapke@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [Eric_Deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [Chase_Kitchen@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [Jared_Henderson@heikamp.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [jack_schnettler@smith.senate.gov](#); [Michael_Dolch@ernst.senate.gov](#)
Cc: [Glueck, James \(Agriculture\)](#); [Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC](#); [Murray, DaNita \(Agriculture\)](#); [Shultz, Joe \(Agriculture\)](#); [Schneider, Jacqlyn \(Agriculture\)](#)
Subject: EMBARGOED: USDA Farm Bill and Legislative Principles
Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 9:44:14 PM
Attachments: [2018-farm-bill-and-legislative-principles FINAL.pdf](#) Available online: <https://www.usda.gov>

Good evening,

Tomorrow, Secretary Perdue will be announcing USDA's Farm Bill and other legislative principles. Over the past nine months, he and his team have been traveling the United States listening to ideas and concerns raised at town halls, in fields, machine sheds, community colleges, and even front yards. These interactions across 30 states have helped us form a set of legislative principles designed to support Congress as it moves forward with crafting the 2018 Farm Bill and other agriculture-related legislation.

Please know that as you move forward on the Farm Bill, USDA stands ready to provide Congress with any assistance necessary to ensure the quick passage of a comprehensive, fiscally responsible Farm Bill that supports our new motto at USDA, "Do right and feed everyone."

I'm attaching an embargoed copy of the principles for your information. **This is embargoed until 5:30 a.m. tomorrow.** We look forward to briefing you during the Senate Agriculture Committee briefing tomorrow. Let us know if you have any questions.

Abbey

Abbey L. Fretz

Director of Congressional Relations
Office of Congressional Relations



United States Department of
Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)

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Leighton Alston

Board Member

(b) (6) Cell

(b) (6)

Sincerely,

Chris Perkins

Field Representative

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE

3280 Peachtree St NE | Suite 2640 | Atlanta, GA 30305

Office: (b) (6) Cell: (b) (6)

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
Bcc: [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [michael.reed@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [craig.anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [alice.johnson@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [ashley.osterkamp@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy2@mail.house.gov](#); [ben_ayers@perdue.senate.gov](#); [daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [Jody_Redding@isakson.senate.gov](#); [charles_white@perdue.senate.gov](#); [jack_overstreet@isakson.senate.gov](#)
Subject: Fwd: Perdue Announces Additional Hurricane and Wildfire Recovery Details | USDA
Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 1:57:42 PM

Some additional details were provided by Secretary Perdue regarding the WHIP program.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Tas

Sent from Email+ secured by MobileIron

From: "Tas Smith" (b) (6) >
Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 1:40:02 PM
To: "Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA" <Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov>
Subject: Perdue Announces Additional Hurricane and Wildfire Recovery Details | USDA

<https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2018/05/01/perdue-announces-additional-hurricane-and-wildfire-recovery-details>

Perdue Announces Additional Hurricane and Wildfire Recovery Details

Press Release

Release No. 0093.18

Contact: USDA Press
Email: press@oc.usda.gov

(Washington, D.C., May 1, 2018) – Under the direction of President Donald J. Trump, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced new details on eligibility for a new U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) disaster

program, [2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program](#) (2017 WHIP). In total, USDA's [Farm Service Agency](#) (FSA) will deploy up to \$2.36 billion that Congress appropriated through the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 to help producers with recovery of their agricultural operations in at least nine states with hurricane damage and states impacted by wildfire. Following the announcement, Secretary Perdue issued this statement:

“Last year our nation experienced some of the most significant disasters we have seen in decades, some back-to-back, at the most critical time in their production year. While USDA has a suite of disaster programs as well as crop insurance available to help producers manage their risk, Congress felt it was important to provide extra assistance to our nation’s farms and ranches that were the hardest hit last year,” **Secretary Perdue** said. “At President Trump’s direction, our team is working as quickly as possible to make this new program available to farmers in need. Our aim is to provide excellent customer service, building on efforts which began the day the storm hit.”

Key Updates Include:

- **Hurricane Recovery:** To be eligible a crop, tree, bush or vine must be located in a primary disaster county with either a Presidential declaration or a Secretarial designation due to a 2017 hurricane. Crops, trees, bushes or vines located in other counties may also be eligible if the producer provides documentation the loss was caused by a 2017 hurricane.
- **Wildfire Recovery:** Any crop, tree, bush or vine, damaged by a 2017 wildfire is eligible.
- **Eligible Producers:** Eligibility will be determined on an individual basis, using the level of insurance coverage purchased for 2017 for the total crop acres on the area for which the WHIP application is made. Eligible producers who certify to an average adjusted gross income (AGI) of at least 75 percent derived from farming or ranching, including other agriculture and forestry-based businesses during the tax years 2013, 2014 and 2015, will be eligible for a \$900,000 payment limitation with

verification. All other eligible producers requesting 2017 WHIP benefits will be subject to a \$125,000 payment limitation.

- **Crop Insurance Requirement:** Both insured and uninsured producers are eligible to apply for WHIP. However, all producers opting to receive 2017 WHIP payments will be required to purchase crop insurance at the 60% coverage level, or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) at the 60% buy up coverage level if crop insurance is not available. Coverage must be in place for the next two applicable crop years to meet program requirements.
- **Acreage Reporting Requirements:** In addition, for the applicable crop years, all producers are required to file an acreage report and report production (if applicable).
- **Payment Formula:** FSA will calculate WHIP payments with this formula:

$$\text{Payment} = \text{Expected Value of the Crop} \times \text{WHIP Factor} - \text{Value of Crop Harvested} - \text{Insurance Indemnity}$$

The WHIP factor ranges from 65 percent to 95 percent. Producers who did not insure their crops in 2017 will receive a 65 percent WHIP Factor. Insured producers, or producers who had NAP, will receive between 70 percent and 95 percent WHIP Factors; those purchasing higher levels of coverage will receive higher WHIP Factors.

Other USDA Disaster Assistance:

Drought, wildfires and other disasters continue to impact farmers and ranchers, and 2017 WHIP is just one of many programs available through USDA to help with recovery. From crop insurance to on-the-ground rehabilitation programs like the [Emergency Conservation Program](#) (ECP) and [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP), USDA is here to help. The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 provided funding for ECP and the [Emergency Watershed Protection Program](#). The [Act also provided amendments](#) to make programs like the

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-raised Fish Program, Tree Assistance Program and Livestock Indemnity Program even more responsive.

More Information:

FSA will hold a sign-up for 2017 WHIP no later than July 16. Additional information on WHIP is available on [FSA's 2017 WHIP webpage](#). For immediate assistance under any of our other disaster programs, please contact a [local USDA service center](#) or learn more at www.fsa.usda.gov/disaster.

#

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Wilson II, Anthony - FNS](#)
Bcc: [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [joseph.layman@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); [thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov](#); [Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [sally.larson@mail.house.gov](#); [caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov](#); [susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [ashley.smith1@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Jack.Overstreet@isakson.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [Jennifer.Tiller@mail.house.gov](#); [yasmin.rey@mail.house.gov](#); [Lisa.Shelton@mail.house.gov](#); [Kellie.Adesina@mail.house.gov](#); [Robert.Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine.Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn.Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie.Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie.Naessens@ag.senate.gov](#); [tom.obrien@mail.house.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [Elizabeth.Dent@apro.senate.gov](#); [Dianne.Nellor@apro.senate.gov](#)
Subject: USDA approves Hurricane Michael GA SNAP Waiver
Date: Thursday, October 18, 2018 9:42:24 AM
Attachments: [GA 10 Day Replacement Waiver Approval.pdf](#)

Good morning,

On October 17th, USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) approved Georgia's request to waive timely reporting of food loss to households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in 92 impacted counties specified in the attachment. This waiver approval will allow households in these affected counties to make a request for replacement of SNAP benefits through October 31, 2018 as result of power outages caused by Hurricane Michael.

Please let me know if you have any questions, thank you.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations

United States Department of Agriculture

Cell: (b) (6)

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Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

OCT 17 2018

SUBJECT: Georgia - The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
Waiver of Timely Reporting Requirement to State for Household
Replacement of Benefits

TO: Peggy Fouts
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)
Southeast Regional Office

FNS is approving the Georgia Department of Human Services' October 16, 2018, request to waive the 10-day reporting requirement under SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 274.6(a) for replacement of food purchased with SNAP benefits that was destroyed due to power outages and flooding caused by Hurricane Michael that began on October 11, 2018. The waiver applies to the following impacted counties: Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baker, Baldwin, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bibb, Bleckley, Brantley, Brooks, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Calhoun, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Chattahoochee, Clay, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Cook, Crawford, Crisp, Decatur, Dodge, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Glascock, Glynn, Grady, Hancock, Houston, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Jones, Lanier, Laurens, Lee, Liberty, Long, Lowndes, Macon, Marion, McIntosh, Miller, Mitchell, Montgomery, Muscogee, Peach, Pierce, Pulaski, Quitman, Randolph, Richmond, Schley, Screven, Seminole, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Tattnall, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Toombs, Treutlen, Turner, Twiggs, Upson, Ware, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkinson, and Worth.

SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 274.6(a)(3) require that replacement issuances shall be provided only if a household timely reports a loss of food purchased with SNAP benefits orally or in writing to the State. To be considered timely, the report must be made to the State agency within 10 days of the date the food purchased with SNAP benefits is destroyed in a household misfortune.

The State agency is requesting a waiver of the 10-day reporting requirement so that impacted households have until October 31, 2018, to report SNAP food loss and request replacement benefits. Multiple areas of the State have experienced extensive power outages due to high winds and storms caused by Hurricane Michael. Many residents have been without power for over one week and several local offices have been without power. Many SNAP households have been unable to contact county offices to request replacement benefits due to transportation or other hardships.

Peggy Fouts
Page 2

The waiver will allow the State to provide households in the State of Georgia additional time to report their food loss. The State agency anticipates serving approximately 235,666 households with 499,830 household members, at an estimated cost of \$62,148,440.

Approval

FNS is granting approval of this waiver for the State of Georgia to allow households sufficient time to report their loss of food. Replacements will be authorized for the amount of the loss, not to exceed the monthly allotment for the household. The waiver will take effect upon approval and will be in effect through October 31, 2018. Reports that are made by households to the State by October 31, 2018, will be considered timely.

Authority

This waiver is approved under the authority of 7 CFR 272.3(c)(1)(ii), which allows FNS to approve waivers that result in a more efficient and effective administration of the Program. Actual numbers regarding replacement values must be reported on the FNS-46 form in the Food Programs Reporting System within 90 days after issuance of the replacement benefits.

If you have any questions regarding this waiver or its implementation, please contact Georgina Castillo of my staff at (214) 290-9836.



Andrea Gold
Director
Retailer Policy and Management Division
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov
Cc: gabriele_forsyth@perdue.senate.gov; [Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: RE: Meeting w/ USDA NRE nominee Hubbard
Date: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 9:43:49 AM

Hi Daniel,

I just wanted to follow up and see if Senator Perdue might be available tomorrow for a brief meeting with our Natural Resources and Environment Under Secretary nominee. Please let me know if you can fit us in.

Thanks!

Lindsay

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, July 9, 2018 12:05 PM
To: daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov
Cc: gabriele_forsyth@perdue.senate.gov; Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC
<Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Meeting w/ USDA NRE nominee Hubbard

Good afternoon Daniel,

I hope you had a great Fourth! I'm writing to request a meeting with Senator Perdue on behalf of Mr. James Hubbard. He has been nominated for Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA.

Mr. Hubbard would like the opportunity to personally meet the Senator and answer any questions he may have regarding his confirmation. Mr. Hubbard will be in town and able to meet anytime on Thursday, preferably in the early afternoon if possible. If Thursday won't work, we would be happy to schedule something for the next time he will be in town prior to a potential hearing date.

Thank you, and I look forward to working with you on this.

Lindsay

Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)



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From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Forsyth, Gabriele \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: Meeting w/ USDA NRE nominee Hubbard
Date: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 3:12:43 PM

Thank you Gabriele!

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) [mailto:Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 10:10 AM
To: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting w/ USDA NRE nominee Hubbard

Thank you for reaching out, Lindsay. We do not feel there is a need for this meeting in the near future. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Gabriele



GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510

Direct phone: (b) (6)

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 9, 2018 12:05 PM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>; Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Meeting w/ USDA NRE nominee Hubbard

Good afternoon Daniel,

I hope you had a great Fourth! I'm writing to request a meeting with Senator Perdue on behalf of Mr. James Hubbard. He has been nominated for Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA.

Mr. Hubbard would like the opportunity to personally meet the Senator and answer any questions he may have regarding his confirmation. Mr. Hubbard will be in town and able to meet anytime on Thursday, preferably in the early afternoon if possible. If Thursday won't work, we would be happy to schedule something for the next time he will be in town prior to a potential hearing date.

Thank you, and I look forward to working with you on this.

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

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From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov; gabriele_forsyth@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: 4/27 Farm Bill Roundtable in Tifton
Date: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:39:03 AM

Greetings Daniel and Gabriele,

Unfortunately, the Secretary must decline with regret the invitation to participate in a roundtable in Tifton on April 27th. The Secretary flies to Colorado that morning for a previous engagement. Please feel free to contact me with any future meeting/event invites!

Thanks,

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

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From: [Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Bachmann, Peter - OCR, Washington, DC](#)
Bcc: [Michael.Defilippis@mail.house.gov](#); [karen_mccarthy@murkowski.senate.gov](#); [kate_Wolgemuth@sullivan.senate.gov](#); [jennifer.groover@mail.house.gov](#); [clay.mills@mail.house.gov](#); [miriam.fry@mail.house.gov](#); [hunter.hobart@mail.house.gov](#); [mike.albares@mail.house.gov](#); [haley.wilson@mail.house.gov](#); [cachavious.english@mail.house.gov](#); [morgan_carter@shelby.senate.gov](#); [brent_blevins@strange.senate.gov](#); [Shane.Woods@mail.house.gov](#); [sean.brady@mail.house.gov](#); [Callie.shapiro@mail.house.gov](#); [sarah.hanson1@mail.house.gov](#); [hector.arguello@mail.house.gov](#); [maurice.zelazco@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.albert@mail.house.gov](#); [mason.heilman@mail.house.gov](#); [miguel.mendoza@mail.house.gov](#); [evan.lee@mail.house.gov](#); [bradley.solyan@mail.house.gov](#); [Heather.Ham-warren@mail.house.gov](#); [matthew.price@mail.house.gov](#); [Derron.bennett@mail.house.gov](#); [evan.bergwall@mail.house.gov](#); [John.laufer@mail.house.gov](#); [christen.kapavik@mail.house.gov](#); [Andrew.Callahan@mail.house.gov](#); [kenneth.clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [Christopher.Ferrer@mail.house.gov](#); [Hailey.hart@mail.house.gov](#); [jenifer.nawrocki@mail.house.gov](#); [nicole.mclaren@mail.house.gov](#); [logan.hollers@mail.house.gov](#); [Steve.Koncar@mail.house.gov](#); [Jean.Roseme@mail.house.gov](#); [Trip.Demoss@mail.house.gov](#); [abby_tinsley@billnelson.senate.gov](#); [lauren_reamy@rubio.senate.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [Ada.bacetty@mail.house.gov](#); [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [sally.larson@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); [thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov](#); [susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov](#); [Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [dustin.davidson@mail.house.gov](#); [nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov](#); [brett_layson@isakson.senate.gov](#); [daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [lin.whitehouse@mail.house.gov](#); [david.w.jackson@mail.house.gov](#); [anna.bartlett@mail.house.gov](#); [zach.barnes@mail.house.gov](#); [walker.truluck@mail.house.gov](#); [Cameron.Morabito@mail.house.gov](#); [matt.blackwell@mail.house.gov](#); [meghan_dorn@lgraham.senate.gov](#); [jessica-phillips_tyson@lgraham.senate.gov](#); [Emily_Lavery@Scott.senate.gov](#)
Subject: USDA: Hurricane Irma Resources Webpage & Emergency Loss Procedures Issued by RMA
Date: Monday, September 25, 2017 6:02:36 PM

All,

Apologies if you've already seen this information but I wanted to make sure you were aware of Emergency Loss Procedures that USDA-RMA issued Friday that impact your state.

- RMA issued [Emergency Loss Procedures \(Sep 22, 2017\)](#) for Alabama, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina following Hurricane Irma in order to streamline determinations on specific crops and to accelerate the adjustment of losses and issuance of indemnity payments to crop insurance policyholders in impacted areas. Specifically, the procedures permitted AIPs to consider individual circumstances in accepting delayed notices of loss in accordance with the Loss Adjustment Manual (LAM) Standards Handbook (FCIC-25010) in lieu of requirements to report damage within 72 hours; and to use reported acres certified on the acreage report as determined acres for claim purposes. They also provided guidance for general loss adjustment in the impacted areas as well as specific guidance for Florida citrus fruit, Florida fruit tree, and nursery policies; and allowed the AIPs the ability to provide additional time for policyholders impacted by Hurricane Irma to make payment of premium and administrative fees.

If you have any questions, please reach out.

Also, a reminder that you can access USDA's Hurricane Irma Resources webpage here:
<https://www.rma.usda.gov/news/storm/2017/irma/>

Thanks,

Joby

Joby Young

Chief of Staff – Office of Congressional Relations



United States Department of Agriculture

Mobile: (b) (6)

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From: [Miller, Jannine - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [White, Joyce \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: IRMA HELP for two Georgians stuck in Tortola (DANGEROUS CONDITIONS)
Date: Sunday, September 10, 2017 6:44:12 PM

Fantastic, thanks Joyce! I'd be happy to speak with Jennifer directly, if that's more helpful to you both. Especially if she needs me to relay info to the stranded Georgians, about when to be at what location at what time for pick-up there on the island. Tortola is the capital island, so perhaps that increases their likelihood of getting on the next rescue mission.

Regarding a visit (during a weekday), I think I may be able to make that work in late September, but definitely in mid-October. I'll keep you posted – looking forward to catching up (in person)!

Thank you!
Jannine

From: White, Joyce (Perdue) [mailto:Joyce_White@perdue.senate.gov]
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2017 6:38 PM
To: Miller, Jannine - OSEC, Washington, DC <Jannine.Miller@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: IRMA HELP for two Georgians stuck in Tortola (DANGEROUS CONDITIONS)

So great to talk with you Jannine. I do want you to come visit when you are in town.

I am asking our Director of Constituent Services, Jennifer Hayes, for help.

If she needs more, information, I may have to come to you, but hopefully she can do us some good here.

Joyce

From: Miller, Jannine - OSEC, Washington, DC [mailto:Jannine.Miller@osec.usda.gov]
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2017 6:08 PM
To: White, Joyce (Perdue) <Joyce_White@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: IRMA HELP for two Georgians stuck in Tortola (DANGEROUS CONDITIONS)

Whoop, I put the wrong cell phone number...should be (b) (6) ...

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 10, 2017, at 6:01 PM, Miller, Jannine - OSEC, Washington, DC
<Jannine.Miller@osec.usda.gov> wrote:

Hi Joyce, so great to chat with you today, thanks again for taking my call on a Sunday. Below is info on the Georgians who are stuck on Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands. The email is from my friend Reese McCranie, who has also been in touch with Billy Kirkland at the White House, but I'm not sure how successful that avenue has been so far.

Any assistance you may be able to generate would be so wonderful! And any feedback on progress would also be so appreciated.

Thank you!

Jannine

(b) (6)

From: Reese McCranie <(b) (6)>
Date: September 10, 2017 at 4:54:17 PM EDT
To: William.H.Kirkland@who.eop.gov
Cc: (b) (6) @berkeassessment.com
Subject: IRMA HELP for two Americans stuck in Tortola (DANGEROUS CONDITIONS)

Hello Billy,

As mentioned on the phone earlier, two very good friends and other Americans are stuck in Tortola with no access to food, shelter, or security. They are quite honestly scared for their lives.

Is there anything the State Dept can do to help them? Any consular activities or flights going out? Or possibly boats to a neighboring island that hasn't been affected by the hurricane like Antigua??

Here are their names and contact details:

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

@berkeassessment.com

Anything you can do would be greatly appreciated!!!

Please let me know you received this email.

Thank you!

- Reese

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Hale, Daniel \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: Travel notification
Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 11:10:18 AM

Likely Fort Valley in the morning and Albany in the afternoon at a minimum. Should be press at both stops. I'll have details this afternoon.

Joby Young



Chief of Staff – Office of Congressional Relations

United States Department of Agriculture

Office: (b) (6)

From: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) [mailto:Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 9:30 AM
To: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC <Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Travel notification

Thanks a lot Joby. Is this something that Senator Perdue could possibly join at some point if his schedule permits?

From: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC [mailto:Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 9:23 AM
To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: Travel notification

Not 100% yet. I'll circle back with more info. Thanks Daniel.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 12, 2017, at 5:53 PM, Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

Any idea where specifically he'll be going?

From: Young, Joby - OSEC, Washington, DC [mailto:Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 4:37 PM
To: hart.thompson@mail.house.gov; Ada.bacetty@mail.house.gov;
marydee.beal@mail.house.gov; brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov;
thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov; nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov;
Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov; sally.larson@mail.house.gov;
caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov; susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov;
zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov; gary.woodward@mail.house.gov;

Dustin.Davidson@mail.house.gov; Hale, Daniel (Perdue)
<Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Layson, Brett (Isakson)
<Brett_Layson@isakson.senate.gov>; jason.lawrence@mail.house.gov; Reed, Michael
<Michael.Reed@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Travel notification

All:

Wanted to send you all an initial notification that the Secretary will be traveling to GA on this Friday, September 15th to survey Hurricane Irma damage. We anticipate that he will be in middle and south Georgia. We'll follow up with more details when we have them.

-Joby

Joby Young

Chief of Staff – Office of Congressional Relations

<image001.jpg> United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)

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From: [Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Galante, Dan \(Perdue Fellow\)](#)
Subject: RE: Coffee
Date: Monday, March 18, 2019 8:50:29 AM

No worries, that's what I had on my calendar just wanted to reconfirm.

Ken Barbic
Assistant Secretary-Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Cell (b) (6)

From: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 8:50 AM
To: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Coffee

Yep, coming to your office. Sorry didn't see this until now.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 18, 2019, at 7:16 AM, Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov> wrote:

Just confirming that you're coming to my office today, right?

Ken Barbic
Assistant Secretary
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Cell (b) (6)

From: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2019 1:25:16 PM
To: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Coffee

You bet, see attached. Have a great weekend!

Dan Galante
U.S. Senator David Perdue
455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(b) (6)

From: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2019 1:09 PM

To: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: Coffee

(b) (6) Thanks!

Ken Barbic
Assistant Secretary
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 9:30:37 AM
To: Lindsay, Sally - OSEC-OCR, Washington, DC
Cc: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Coffee

Great, I can come to your office, we could meet at Cups in the Senate Russell building or elsewhere on the hill.

Dan Galante
U.S. Senator David Perdue
455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(b) (6)

From: Lindsay, Sally - OSEC-OCR, Washington, DC <Sally.Lindsay@usda.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 9:16 AM
To: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Coffee

Dan-

Ken can meet you Monday, March 18th at 9:00 a.m. Where would you like to meet Ken?

Sally

Sally Lindsay
U. S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 9:00 AM
To: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Lindsay, Sally - OSEC-OCR, Washington, DC <Sally.Lindsay@usda.gov>
Subject: Re: Coffee

Sally, can you help find time for me to have coffee with Dan? Thanks!

Ken Barbic
Assistant Secretary
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 8:58:41 AM
To: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Coffee

Either day is good except I can't do Tuesday from 10-11 am. Let me know what is best for you and I'll make it work.

Dan Galante
U.S. Senator David Perdue
455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(b) (6)

From: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 10:46 PM
To: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: Coffee

I could do Monday or Tuesday next week.

Ken Barbic
Assistant Secretary
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 12:39:23 PM
To: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Coffee

Ken, how does your schedule look during recess next week?

Dan Galante

U.S. Senator David Perdue
455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

(b) (6)

From: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC <Ken.Barbic@osec.usda.gov>

Sent: Sunday, March 3, 2019 11:56 PM

To: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <Dan_Galante@perdue.senate.gov>

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Coffee

I can probably do later this week. Maybe Thursday or Friday.

Ken Barbic
Assistant Secretary
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Galante, Dan (Perdue Fellow) <dan_galante@perdue.senate.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 9:27 AM

To: Barbic, Ken - OSEC, Washington, DC

Cc: (b) (6)

Subject: Coffee

Hi Ken,

I hope you're having a great week. If you're on the hill and available I'd love to get together.

(b) (6)

(b) (6). Perhaps we can grab a coffee this week or next.

Thanks,

Dan Galante

U.S. Senator David Perdue
455 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

(b) (6)

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Randall, Kiev - FNS](#)
Bcc: [Mandy.Schaumburg@mail.house.gov](#); [Katie_Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [Robert_Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn_Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine_Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Dianne_Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [Tom.O'Brien@mail.house.gov](#); [Elizabeth_Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [Carrie.Hughes@mail.house.gov](#); [Alison.Hard@mail.house.gov](#); [Katie.Hunter@mail.house.gov](#); [Mark.Rusthoven@mail.house.gov](#); [Miriam.Fry@mail.house.gov](#); [Eric.Bagwell@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Coffman@mail.house.gov](#); [David.Voorman@mail.house.gov](#); [Steve.Ackerman@mail.house.gov](#); [Samantha.Baker@mail.house.gov](#); [Vincent.Gilierano@mail.house.gov](#); [Elaina.Murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Andrew.Christianson@mail.house.gov](#); [Helena.Shwarz@mail.house.gov](#); [Jonh.Witherspoon@mail.house.gov](#); [Aaron.Bill@mail.house.gov](#); [Alex.Makey@mail.house.gov](#); [Kenneth.Clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [Noell.Verhelst@mail.house.gov](#); [Patrick.Hester@mail.house.gov](#); [Nick.Rockwell@mail.house.gov](#); [Hilary.Ranieri@mail.house.gov](#); [Joanna.Brown@mail.house.gov](#); [Sean.McCabe@mail.house.gov](#); [Sruthi.Prabhu@mail.house.gov](#); [Adam.York@mail.house.gov](#); [Robert.Blair@mail.house.gov](#); [skylar_sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [payne_griffin@braun.senate.gov](#); [meris_petek@ernst.senate.gov](#); [cicely_batie@fischer.senate.gov](#); [lauralee_burkett@fischer.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [brita_endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [daniel_ulmer@hydesmith.senate.gov](#); [quentin_scholtz@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [ben_ayres@perdue.senate.gov](#); [will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [patrick_donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [jonathan_mccracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [adam_tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [kevin_ifeber@durbin.senate.gov](#); [Max_Kanner@durbin.senate.gov](#); [eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [jennifer_treutel@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [andrew_bahrenburg@leahy.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [kyle_varner@ag.senate.gov](#); [John.Christie@mail.house.gov](#); [Maxine.Sugarman@mail.house.gov](#); [Kaitlyn.Montan@mail.house.gov](#); [Alexa.Combelic@mail.house.gov](#); [Maria.Costigan@mail.house.gov](#); [Brandon.Mendoza@mail.house.gov](#); [Margo.Tercek@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Jackson@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Nasta@mail.house.gov](#); [Norma.Salazar@mail.house.gov](#); [adela.amador@mail.house.gov](#); [madeline.daly@mail.house.gov](#); [Jessica.Mulligan@mail.house.gov](#); [Danielle.Fulfs@mail.house.gov](#); [Nabeel.Alam@mail.house.gov](#); [Abbas.Alawieh@mail.house.gov](#); [Catherine.Rowland@mail.house.gov](#); [Lalia.Goharioon@mail.house.gov](#); [Joanne.Stiles@mail.house.gov](#); [Ben.Talus@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Reingold@mail.house.gov](#); [Yuri.Beckelman@mail.house.gov](#); [Ron.Carlton@mail.house.gov](#); [Jessica.Shemacko@mail.house.gov](#); [Caroline.Paris-Behr@mail.house.gov](#); [Dorcas.Adekunle@mail.house.gov](#); [David.Simon@mail.house.gov](#); [Vincent.Sarubbi@mail.house.gov](#); [Mahya.Sorour@mail.house.gov](#); [Jennifer.Cash@mail.house.gov](#)
Subject: USDA: Flexibility in the School Breakfast Program
Date: Monday, March 25, 2019 7:04:58 PM

Good afternoon,

Recently, USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) sent a [memo](#) to States to share that effective immediately, school food authorities (SFAs) participating in the School Breakfast Program may credit any vegetable offered, including potatoes and other starchy vegetables, in place of fruit without including vegetables from other subgroups in the weekly menus.

This flexibility is based on Section 768 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 116-6), enacted on February 15, 2019, and is effective through September 30, 2019.

This provision provides additional flexibility in planning breakfast menus but does not require SFAs to make any menu changes. This memo can also be found [here](#) on FNS's website.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Wilson II, Anthony - FNS](#)
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Subject: USDA Approves D-SNAP for Iowa
Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 12:45:15 PM

Good afternoon,

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service has approved Iowa's request to operate a Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) in 5 counties in response to recent flooding. D-SNAP provides temporary nutrition assistance benefits to eligible disaster survivors and disaster supplements to households already participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

The State agency will operate D-SNAP beginning on Monday, April 8th through Friday, April 12th in 5 counties: Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, and Woodbury. Operations will be closed during the weekend and resume Monday, April 15, through Tuesday, April 16, 2019.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

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Subject: FW: USDA to Reopen FSA Offices for Limited Services During Government Shutdown
Date: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 11:32:06 AM

Good morning – In case you missed it, the press release below announces that USDA has recalled approximately 2,500 Farm Service Agency (FSA) staff and will temporarily reopen many FSA offices to perform certain limited services for farmers and ranchers.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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Evan B. Lee
Chief of Staff
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
c: (b) (6)

From: USDA Office of Communications <usda@public.govdelivery.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 11:06 AM

To: Lee, Evan - OSEC, Washington, DC <Evan.Lee@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: USDA to Reopen FSA Offices for Limited Services During Government Shutdown

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United States Department of Agriculture



Press Release

USDA to Reopen FSA Offices for Limited Services During Government Shutdown

(Washington, D.C., January 16, 2019) – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced that many Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices will reopen temporarily in the coming days to perform certain limited services for farmers and ranchers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has recalled about 2,500 FSA employees to open offices on Thursday, January 17 and Friday, January 18, in addition to Tuesday, January 22, during normal business hours. The offices will be closed for

the federal Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Monday, January 21.

In almost half of FSA locations, FSA staff will be available to assist agricultural producers with existing farm loans and to ensure the agency provides 1099 tax documents to borrowers by the Internal Revenue Service's deadline.

“Until Congress sends President Trump an appropriations bill in the form that he will sign, we are doing our best to minimize the impact of the partial federal funding lapse on America's agricultural producers,” Perdue said. “We are bringing back part of our FSA team to help producers with existing farm loans. Meanwhile, we continue to examine our legal authorities to ensure we are providing services to our customers to the greatest extent possible during the shutdown.”

Staff members will be available at [certain FSA offices](#) to help producers with specific services, including:

- Processing payments made on or before December 31, 2018.
- Continuing expiring financing statements.
- Opening mail to identify priority items.

Additionally, as an intermittent incidental duty, staff may release proceeds from the sale of loan security by signing checks jointly payable to FSA that are brought to the county office by producers.

Information on the locations of FSA offices to be open during this three-day window will be posted:

- On the USDA [website](#).
- On Twitter at [@SecretarySonny](#) and [@USDA](#).
- On USDA's [Facebook](#).

While staff are available in person during this three-day window, most available services can be handled over the phone. Producers can begin contacting staff on

January 17 [here](#).

Additionally, farmers who have loan deadlines during the lapse in funding do not need to make payments until the government shutdown ends.

Other FSA Programs and Services

Reopened FSA offices will only be able to provide the specifically identified services while open during this limited time. Services that will ***not*** be available include, but are not limited to:

- New direct or facility loans.
- New Farm loan guarantees.
- New marketing assistance loans.
- New applications for Market Facilitation Program (MFP).
- Certification of 2018 production for MFP payments.
- Dairy Margin Protection Program.
- Disaster assistance programs, such as:
 - Livestock Indemnity Program.
 - Emergency Conservation Program.
 - Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program.
 - Livestock Forage Disaster Program.
 - Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish.

While January 15, 2019 had been the original deadline for producers to apply for MFP, farmers have been unable to apply since December 28, 2018, when FSA offices closed because of the lapse in federal funding. Secretary Perdue has extended the MFP application deadline for a period of time equal to the number of business days FSA offices end up being closed, once the government shutdown ends. These announced days of limited staff availability during the shutdown will not constitute days open in calculating the extension. Producers who already applied for MFP and certified their 2018 production by December 28, 2018 should have already received their payments.

More information on MFP is available at www.farmers.gov/manage/mfp.

Learn More



Know someone else who would be interested?

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: ben_ayres@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: State of the Rural Economy Hearing
Date: Monday, February 25, 2019 6:25:48 PM

Hi Ben,

I wanted to touch base with you to see if Senator Perdue is planning to attend the State of the Rural Economy hearing on Wednesday morning.

If so, do you know what topics or questions he plans on asking that we could flag ahead of time?

Let me know if you have any questions, thank you!

Best,

Erin

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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> OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
>
> 3280 Peachtree St NE | Suite 2640| Atlanta, GA 30305
>
> Office: (b) (6) Cell: (b) (6)
>
>
>
>

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From: [Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Waldrop, PJ \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Re: White House unveils pick for USDA assistant secretary for Hill affairs
Date: Friday, January 12, 2018 7:45:34 PM

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 12, 2018, at 7:34 PM, Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

Great nom pick.

-PJW

Begin forwarded message:

From: "POLITICO Pro" <politicoemail@politicopro.com>
Date: January 12, 2018 at 7:28:04 PM EST
To: <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: White House unveils pick for USDA assistant secretary for Hill affairs
Reply-To: "POLITICO subscriptions" <reply-fe9c13737564077e76-1187915_HTML-637936338-1376319-0@politicoemail.com>

By POLITICO Pro Staff

01/12/2018 07:26 PM EDT

President Donald Trump will nominate Ken Barbic, a senior director for federal government affairs at the Western Growers Association, for the position of assistant USDA secretary for congressional affairs, the White House announced tonight.

Barbic was the deputy assistant U.S. trade representative for congressional affairs from 2007 to 2009, where he worked on issues in agriculture, labor and environmental policy, his [biography page](#) on the Western Growers site says. In that post, Barbic also worked to promote free trade agreements, including the KORUS deal between the U.S. and South Korea that is now being renegotiated at Trump's insistence.

"I am very excited by the nomination of Ken Barbic to fill this key role," Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said in a statement. "Ken will bring a wealth of knowledge, insight, and experience to USDA, and I am eager to get him on the job right away."

Perdue's statement noted that Bill Northey, the nominee for undersecretary for farm production and conservation, and Stephen Vaden, USDA's deputy general counsel and nominee for the top lawyer post, remain stalled in the Senate. "I urge the Senate to take up all three nominations as quickly as possible," Perdue said.

Barbic has been at Western Growers since 2009, and has advocated on immigration and tax reform, the effects of health care reform on seasonal agriculture and matters of agricultural trade related to overseas market development. He was also a leader in the Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance and helped to develop recommendations and advocate for the 2014 farm bill, according to the Western Growers' site.

The White House also plans to nominate Johnathan Miller for the position of assistant administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, handling the Bureau for Africa. He was most recently president of Airborne Lifeline Foundation, a charitable organization that leases aircraft to provide air transport of medical personnel to remote medical facilities in southern Africa.

To view online:

<https://www.politicopro.com/trade/whiteboard/2018/01/white-house-unveils-pick-for-usda-assistant-secretary-for-hill-affairs-390140>

You received this POLITICO Pro content because your customized settings include: Key phrase: perdue. To change your alert settings, please go to <https://www.politicopro.com/settings>



This email was sent to PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov by: POLITICO, LLC
1000 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

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From: [Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Buehler, Mary - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Bcc: ethan_gallagher@perdue.senate.gov; Richard.Vaughn@mail.house.gov; Allison.Turk@mail.house.gov; Samantha.Gottshall@mail.house.gov; AL03Scheduling@mail.house.gov
Subject: FW: Invitation to Join USDA Secretary Perdue and Vice President Mike Pence for National Ag Day on March 20th
Date: Thursday, March 15, 2018 4:07:40 PM
Attachments: [agday-vpotus-invite-2018-002.pdf](#)

Hello,

I received automatic replies for your colleagues and wanted to make sure you saw this...

Abbey L. Fretz

Director of Congressional Relations
Office of Congressional Relations



United States Department of
Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)

From: Fretz, Abbey - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 3:58 PM
Cc: Joby - OSEC Washington DC Young (Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov) <Joby.Young@osec.usda.gov>; Buehler, Mary - OSEC, Washington, DC <Mary.Buehler@osec.usda.gov>; Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: Invitation to Join USDA Secretary Perdue and Vice President Mike Pence for National Ag Day on March 20th

Good afternoon,

The Secretary would like to invite House and Senate Agriculture and Agriculture Appropriations Committee Members to join him and Vice President Pence next Tuesday, March 20th to celebrate National Ag Day with about 100 students and other guests at USDA. The event starts at 10:00 a.m., with doors opening at 9:00 and closing at 9:45 a.m. The full invitation is attached.

This event will be for Members only.

Please RSVP no later than 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 19th to Mary.Buehler@osec.usda.gov.

Any questions...let us know!

Abbey

Abbey L. Fretz



Director of Congressional Relations
Office of Congressional Relations

United States Department of
Agriculture

Office: (b) (6)

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*The Honorable Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture,
cordially invites you to attend*

National Agriculture Day

with Special Guest

*Mike Pence
Vice President of the United States*

*Recognizing the importance of agriculture
and honoring America's farmers, ranchers, and foresters,
with a special recognition of youth.*

**TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018
10:00 am — 11:00 am**

The Patio, Whitten Building
United States Department of Agriculture
12th Street and Jefferson Drive, Southwest
Washington, D.C.

From: [Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Bcc: [Carrie.Meadows@mail.house.gov](#); [stephanie.gadbois@mail.house.gov](#); [Jennifer.Platt@judiciary-dem.senate.gov](#); [Aubrey.Vaughan@paul.senate.gov](#); [Brandon.Honeycutt@mail.house.gov](#); [David.Shahoulian@mail.house.gov](#); [Jonathan.Sarager@judiciary-rep.senate.gov](#); [Hart.Thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [chandler.morse@flake.senate.gov](#); [Kevin.Bailey@ag.senate.gov](#); [casey.higgins@mail.house.gov](#); [Daniel.Hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [Torie.Ness@tillis.senate.gov](#)
Subject: FW: H-2A Agricultural Worker Visa Modernization Joint Cabinet Statement
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2018 1:13:08 PM

FYI.

Kristi J. Boswell

Senior Advisor to the Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture

Office: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

From: USDA Office of Communications [<mailto:usda@public.govdelivery.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 12:48 PM
To: Boswell, Kristi - OSEC, Washington, DC <Kristi.Boswell@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: H-2A Agricultural Worker Visa Modernization Joint Cabinet Statement

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Header Statement



You are subscribed to USDA Office of Communications.

Contact: USDA Press
Email: press@oc.usda.gov

H-2A Agricultural Worker Visa Modernization Joint Cabinet Statement
Secretary Acosta, Secretary Nielsen, Secretary Perdue, and Secretary Pompeo

(Washington, D.C., May 24, 2018) — When President Trump addressed the American Farm Bureau Federation in January of this year, he reminded the audience that his commitment to our farmers has been clear since the day his Administration began: “From that day on, we have been working every day to deliver for America’s farmers just as they work every single day to deliver for us.”

In keeping with that commitment, our Departments are working in coordination to propose streamlining, simplifying, and improving the H-2A temporary agricultural visa program – reducing cumbersome bureaucracy and ensuring adequate protections for U.S. workers.

The Trump Administration is committed to modernizing the H-2A visa program rules in a way that is responsive to stakeholder concerns and that deepens our confidence in the program as a source of legal and verified labor for agriculture – while also reinforcing the program’s strong employment and wage protections for the American workforce. In addition, by improving the H-2A visa program and substantially reducing its complexity, the Administration also plans to incentivize farmers’ use of the E-Verify program to ensure their workforce is authorized to work in the United States.

As the agencies tasked with administering or facilitating the H-2A visa program, and thus closest to farmer and labor stakeholders, the Departments of State, Agriculture, Labor, and Homeland Security are embarking

on a process to modernize the H-2A visa program by clarifying and improving the regulations governing the program. We look forward to delivering a more responsive program soon.

###

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: jody_redding@isakson.senate.gov; charles_white@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: Letter to Wayne Dillard and Phil Addy
Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 3:53:51 PM
Attachments: [WayneDillardPhilAddy_041018.pdf](#)

Jody and Charles,

Attached is a copy of a letter mailed today regarding Mr. Dillard and Mr. Addy's proposed FSA office location for the Marion/Webster County FSA office.

We have mailed hard copies for your reference as well.

If you have any questions let me know.

Thank you.

Tas Smith
State Executive Director
Georgia Farm Service Agency, USDA
tas.smith@ga.usda.gov
355 E. Hancock Ave., Stop 100
Athens, GA 30601
706-546-2266
FAX 1-855-409-5735

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Farm
Production
and
Conservation

Farm
Service
Agency

Georgia State
FSA Office
STOP 100
355 E. Hancock Ave.
Athens, GA
30601-2775

Voice: 706-546-2266
Fax: 855-409-5735

April 10, 2018

Mr. Wayne Dillard
Mr. Phil Addy
1130 Cemetery Road
Preston, GA 31824

Dear Mr. Dillard and Mr. Addy:

Your recent letter was received in my office on April 6, 2018. Thank you for your interest in locating an FSA office for Marion and Webster counties in the Webster County Courthouse Annex building. I appreciate the work you have put forth to ensure our customers and employees have accessible and properly located facilities.

At this time, USDA is undergoing a reorganization in which the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Risk Management Agency will realign as one mission area entitled the Farm Production and Conservation Service (FPAC) that will allow USDA to better serve its agricultural producers. Any future office realignments will be based on forthcoming FPAC guidelines enabling USDA to better serve our customers.

Thank you again for reaching out to me. If I can be of assistance to you in any way, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Tas Smith
State Executive Director

cc: Webster County FSA Office
Gerald Greene, Georgia House of Representatives
Tony Kennedy, Webster County Commissioners
Jody Redding, Office of Senator Johnny Isakson
Charles White, Office of U.S. Senator David Perdue
Brent Hall, District Director

From: [Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Waldrop, PJ \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Re: Board member sign-off
Date: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 4:02:38 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Yes good to go!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 23, 2018, at 4:02 PM, Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

I'll relay that exactly unless you want me to say something else.

Thanks!

-PJW

From: Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC [<mailto:Heidi.Green@osec.usda.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Hancock, Lauren (Perdue) <Lauren_Hancock@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Board member sign-off

Hoping to have members selected by the end of this week. We have been working our way through the check-off programs as quick as possible.

Heidi Green

Chief of Staff – Office of the Secretary

<[image001.png](#)> United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (b) (6)
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) [mailto:PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2018 3:18 PM
To: Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC <Heidi.Green@osec.usda.gov>
Cc: Hancock, Lauren (Perdue) <Lauren_Hancock@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Board member sign-off

Do you have a moment to talk about the Paper Check-off Program? If you are already aware of the issue, we don't need to discuss, but otherwise I just wanted to make you aware of a concern from the industry about timing of their board meeting and USDA sign off on the board members.

PJ Waldrop
Deputy Chief of Staff

U.S. Senator David Perdue

(b) (6)

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Randall, Kiev - FNS](#)
Bcc: [tom.obrien@mail.house.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [Dianne_Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [Elizabeth_Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [daniel_ulmer@hydesmith.senate.gov](#); [katelyn_conner@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [Skylar_Sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [brita_endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [michael_dolch@ernst.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [jessica_clowser@fischer.senate.gov](#); [dan_gerig@daines.senate.gov](#); [daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov](#); [Alex_piper@leahy.senate.gov](#); [jonathan_mccracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [Brian_werner@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [patrick_donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [chase_kitchen@donnelly.senate.gov](#); [Jared_Henderson@heitkamp.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [adam_schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [carson.middleton@mail.house.gov](#); [taylor.andreae@mail.house.gov](#); [aaron.bill@mail.house.gov](#); [john.busovsky@mail.house.gov](#); [jonathan.hirte@mail.house.gov](#); [elani_murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [alex.osborne@mail.house.gov](#); [kevin.okeefe@mail.house.gov](#); [domonique.yantko@mail.house.gov](#); [miriam.fry@mail.house.gov](#); [hugh.fike@mail.house.gov](#); [Chris.Grawien@mail.house.gov](#); [patrick.hester@mail.house.gov](#); [marek.laco@mail.house.gov](#); [kenneth.clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [hallie.pence@mail.house.gov](#); [Darcy.mclaughlin@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [Tanner.Tempel@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [John.wilson@mail.house.gov](#); [evan.chatman@mail.house.gov](#); [ian.staples@mail.house.gov](#); [norma.salazar@mail.house.gov](#); [alexa.combelic@mail.house.gov](#); [felix.muniz@mail.house.gov](#); [Tom.Clancy@mail.house.gov](#); [seth.maiman@mail.house.gov](#); [Jean.Roseme@mail.house.gov](#); [sarah.round@mail.house.gov](#); [chay.halbert@mail.house.gov](#); [evan.smith@mail.house.gov](#); [katherine.stewart@mail.house.gov](#); [Alexander.krupnick@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.kaissi@mail.house.gov](#); [Tony.Hobbs@mail.house.gov](#); [Elba.castro@mail.house.gov](#); [Elizabeth.connolly@mail.house.gov](#); [nick.rockwell@mail.house.gov](#)
Subject: USDA's Child Nutrition Final Rule
Date: Thursday, December 6, 2018 3:16:48 PM

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to make you aware that USDA's Food and Nutrition Service published *The Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements* final rule this afternoon on its website and will be published in the Federal Register early next week.

The final rule offers schools new options as they serve meals under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) and other federal child nutrition programs. Specifically, the new rule provides schools flexibility around offering flavored, low-fat milk, the amount of grains required to be whole grain-rich, and the timeline by which schools are required to reduce sodium levels in meals.

For more information, please see the [press release](#) below and visit our [website](#) to read the text of the rule. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

Responding to the Needs of Local Schools, USDA Publishes School Meals Final Rule

More Flexibility on Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Provides Options to Schools

Release & Contact Info

Press Release

Release No. 0263.18
Contact: USDA Press
Email: press@oc.usda.gov

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6, 2018 – Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue today empowered local schools with additional options to serve healthy and appealing meals. A final rule on school meal flexibilities, [to be published later this month](#) in the *Federal Register*, increases local flexibility in implementing school nutrition standards for milk, whole grains, and sodium. Secretary Perdue said the final rule will deliver on the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) promise, made in a [May 2017 proclamation](#) (PDF, 123 KB), to develop forward-thinking strategies that ensure school nutrition standards are both healthful and practical.

“USDA is committed to serving meals to kids that are both nutritious and satisfying,” said Perdue. “These common-sense flexibilities provide excellent customer service to our local school nutrition professionals, while giving children the world-class food service they deserve.”

The actions taken today will benefit nearly 99,000 schools and institutions that feed 30 million children annually through USDA’s school meal programs. This rule is part of USDA’s Regulatory Reform Agenda, developed in response to President Trump’s Executive Order to eliminate unnecessary regulatory burdens.

The *Child Nutrition Programs: Flexibilities for Milk, Whole Grains, and Sodium Requirements* final rule offers schools new options as they serve meals under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP) and other federal child nutrition programs. The rule:

- Provides the option to offer flavored, low-fat milk to children participating in school meal programs, and to participants ages six and older in the Special Milk Program for Children (SMP) and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP);
- Requires half of the weekly grains in the school lunch and breakfast menu be whole grain-rich; and
- Provides more time to reduce sodium levels in school meals.

Perdue said schools have faced challenges serving meals that both are appetizing to students and meet the nutrition standards. “If kids are not eating what is being served, they are not benefiting, and food is being wasted,” said Perdue. “We all have the same goals in mind -- the health and development of our young people. USDA trusts our local operators to serve healthy meals that meet local preferences and build bright futures with good nutrition.”

“We will continue to listen to schools, and make common-sense changes as needed, to ensure they can meet the needs of their students based on their real-world experience in local communities,” said Perdue.

USDA’s FNS works to reduce food insecurity and promote nutritious diets among the American people. The agency administers 15 [nutrition assistance programs](#) that leverage American’s agricultural abundance to ensure children and low-income individuals and families have nutritious food to eat. FNS also co-develops the [Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), which provide science-based nutrition recommendations and serve as the cornerstone of federal nutrition policy.

#

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From: [Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Waldrop, PJ \(Perdue\)](#); [Forsyth, Gabriele \(Perdue\)](#)
Cc: [Hale, Daniel \(Perdue\)](#); [Lightfoot, Stephanie \(Perdue\)](#); [Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp
Date: Friday, August 31, 2018 9:57:20 AM

Greetings PJ,

Ms. Earp will be back in DC on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of next week- please let me know some days/times that work for a meeting!

Best,

Lindsay

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 11:27 AM
To: 'Waldrop, PJ (Perdue)' <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>; Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue) <Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>; Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

No problem, thank you PJ!

From: Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 9:48 AM
To: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue) <Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>; Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

Lindsay,

Unfortunately, both Daniel and I are out of town for the rest of the week. We'll try again next week.

-PJW

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>; Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue) <Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>; Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC

<Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

PJ and Daniel,

11:30am today unfortunately no longer works. Please let me know if you have availability tomorrow or Friday.

Thanks,

Lindsay

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC

Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 9:30 AM

To: 'Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue)' <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>; Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>

Cc: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue) <Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>; Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

Thanks Gabriele!

PJ and Daniel, please let me know what works for you. If you can keep 11:30am today, that would be great. If not, she has availability tomorrow as well, so just let me know what works best!

Lindsay

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 9:07 AM

To: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Waldrop, PJ (Perdue) <PJ_Waldrop@perdue.senate.gov>

Cc: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue) <Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>; Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: Re: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

Let me add PJ Waldrop as well. He is our Deputy Chief of Staff. He and Daniel could answer back about their schedules.

Gabriele Forsyth
Scheduler
US Senator David Perdue
Direct: (b) (6)

On Aug 29, 2018, at 8:41 AM, Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov> wrote:

Hi Gabriele,

Thank you for letting me know. Would staff still be available to meet? If not, we can look for another day when the nominee is back in DC.

Best,

Lindsay

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 6:07 PM
To: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue) <Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

We are adjourning tonight for the week – I need to postpone our meeting tomorrow. I am sorry for the inconvenience this is causing the schedule.

GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

<image001.gif>

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510
Direct phone: (b) (6)

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 1:28 PM
To: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>; Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue) <Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>
Cc: Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

Hi Gabriele,

Tomorrow at 11:30am works great. Ms. Earp will be joined by Ken Barbic and/or Brock Densel. Thank you so much!

Lindsay

From: Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue) <Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 1:24 PM
To: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>; Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue)

<Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>

Cc: Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

Any chance Ms. Earp could come by our office tomorrow at 11:30am?

GABRIELE FORSYTH
Scheduler

<image001.gif>

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510
Direct phone: (b) (6)

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC <Lindsay.Moore@osec.usda.gov>

Sent: Friday, August 24, 2018 2:13 PM

To: Hale, Daniel (Perdue) <Daniel_Hale@perdue.senate.gov>; Forsyth, Gabriele (Perdue)

<Gabriele_Forsyth@perdue.senate.gov>; Lightfoot, Stephanie (Perdue)

<Stephanie_Lightfoot@perdue.senate.gov>

Cc: Densel, Brock - OSEC, Washington, DC <Brock.Densel@osec.usda.gov>

Subject: Meeting with nominee Naomi Earp

Good afternoon all,

I hope you are doing well! Naomi Earp, who has been nominated to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at USDA, will be in DC next week and would like to set up a meeting with the Senator and/or staff if possible. She will be available any time Monday through Friday. Please let me know if any of these options would work for your boss or staff. If not, I will circle back when she returns to DC and we can try again at that time.

Best,

Lindsay

Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant

Office of Congressional Relations

United States Department of Agriculture

<image002.jpg>

Office: (b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

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From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Wilson II, Anthony - FNS](#)
Bcc: [Jennifer.Tiller@mail.house.gov](#); [yasmin.rey@mail.house.gov](#); [Lisa.Shelton@mail.house.gov](#); [Kellie.Adesina@mail.house.gov](#); [Robert.Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine.Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn.Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie.Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [katie_naessens@ag.senate.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [tom.obrien@mail.house.gov](#); [Dianne.Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [Elizabeth.Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [hart.thompson@mail.house.gov](#); [joseph.layman@mail.house.gov](#); [marydee.beal@mail.house.gov](#); [brian.duckworth@mail.house.gov](#); [thomas.dorney@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.jordon@mail.house.gov](#); [nicholas.scoufaras@mail.house.gov](#); [Craig.Anderson@mail.house.gov](#); [sally.larson@mail.house.gov](#); [caryn.hamner@mail.house.gov](#); [susannah.johnston@mail.house.gov](#); [zellie.duvall@mail.house.gov](#); [ashley.smith1@mail.house.gov](#); [jason.murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Jack.Overstreet@isakson.senate.gov](#); [daniel.hale@perdue.senate.gov](#)
Subject: GA Receives SNAP ABAWD Waiver
Date: Thursday, December 6, 2018 4:59:56 PM
Attachments: [GA 2150036 ABAWD 135 Areas 11.18-10.19.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out to inform you that moving forward, USDA's Office of Congressional Relations will notify the respective State delegations as well as the committees of jurisdiction when USDA approves requests from States to waive the time limit and work requirement for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Generally speaking, an ABAWD is a person aged 18 through 49 who has no dependents and is not disabled. As you may be aware, if the data supporting a State's ABAWD waiver request meet certain criteria, these waiver requests are considered to be 'readily approvable,' and the Secretary does not have discretion to deny these waiver requests. USDA will continue to approve ABAWD waiver requests where FNS confirms that the data supporting the requests meet the required criteria until there is a change in law or regulation.

Attached is USDA's approval of Georgia's (GA) request to waive SNAP work requirements in 135 counties in GA from January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019 based on an average unemployment rate.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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Date: November 29, 2018

Jon Anderson
Chief Deputy Division Director
Division of Family and Children Services
Georgia Department of Human Services
2 Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – Georgia Request to Waive Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents Time Limit – Approval

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This is in response to the Georgia State agency's request to waive the SNAP time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents in 135 counties.

Georgia is currently approved to waive the time limit in 66 counties through December 31, 2018. On October 16, 2018, the State agency requested a new waiver for 135 counties effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. Then, on November 16, 2018, the State agency requested that the new waiver be effective November 1, 2018, replacing the State's current waiver before it expires.

The State agency's request meets the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f) and relevant Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) guidance. Therefore, FNS approves the State to waive the time limit in the requested 135 counties. However, FNS does not approve the requested start date of November 1, 2018. Instead, FNS approves the waiver effective from November 16, 2018 (the date the request was made by the State) through October 31, 2019.

FNS understands that the State agency is in the process of modifying its eligibility system and infrastructure, including modifications aimed at addressing flaws in its ability to accurately track ABAWDs. The State has shared that once these modifications are completed, it plans to end the ABAWD time limit waiver in all counties in the State. The State has discretion to modify its waiver to reduce the number of waived areas as described at any time, but the State must inform FNS of its plan to do so, including where and when, prior to making such a change. Until then, the State must apply the waiver in-line with the FNS waiver approval.

The attached waiver response includes the approved areas, the supporting evidence used, and the conditions of approval. Please contact your FNS Regional Office with any questions.

FNS is reviewing its policies regarding waivers of the SNAP time limit for able-bodied adults without dependents. Moving forward, FNS will be taking actions to support the Administration's priority to provide able-bodied Americans a path to self-sufficiency. This goal requires that we establish a clear and mutual commitment to moving SNAP participants to meaningful employment.

Waiver # 2150036

Page 2

Sincerely,

Justin Gentin Paal

Chief
Certification Policy Branch
Program Development Division

Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) Waiver Response

1. **Serial Number:** 2150036
2. **Request Type:** Extension and amendment
3. **Statutory Citation:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008
4. **Regulatory Citation:** 7 CFR 273.24
5. **State:** Georgia
6. **Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Region:** Southeast
7. **Requirement:** Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and regulations at 7 CFR 273.24 provide that no individual shall be eligible to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as a member of any household if the individual received program benefits for more than 3 months during any 3-year period in which the individual was subject to but did not comply with the ABAWD work requirement. Section 6(o) and 7 CFR 273.24 also provide that, upon the request of the State agency, the Secretary may waive the applicability of the 3-month ABAWD time limit for any group of individuals in the State if the Secretary makes a determination that the area in which the individuals reside has an unemployment rate of over 10 percent, or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for the individuals.
8. **Requested Area(s) and Support:** The Georgia State agency has requested to waive the ABAWD time limit in 135 contiguous counties. The State agency has grouped the counties for consideration as a combined area, and has supported its request based upon the combined area having an average unemployment rate 20 percent above the national average for a recent 24-month period. The State agency selected March 2016 through February 2018 for these areas. During this time period the national average unemployment rate was 4.5 percent; 20 percent above that rate is 5.4 percent. As shown in the following table, the aggregate unemployment rate for the requested area was 5.4 percent during the selected time period.

Table 1: Combined Area (Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment Data March 2016 through February 2018)

Counties
1. Appling County
2. Atkinson County
3. Bacon County
4. Baker County
5. Baldwin County
6. Bartow County
7. Ben Hill County
8. Berrien County

Counties
9. Bibb County
10. Bleckley County
11. Brantley County
12. Brooks County
13. Bryan County
14. Bulloch County
15. Burke County
16. Butts County
17. Calhoun County
18. Camden County
19. Candler County
20. Carroll County
21. Charlton County
22. Chatham County
23. Chattahoochee County
24. Chattooga County
25. Clay County
26. Clayton County
27. Clinch County
28. Coffee County
29. Colquitt County
30. Cook County
31. Crawford County
32. Crisp County
33. Dade County
34. Decatur County
35. DeKalb County
36. Dodge County
37. Dooly County
38. Dougherty County
39. Douglas County
40. Early County
41. Echols County
42. Effingham County
43. Elbert County
44. Emanuel County
45. Evans County
46. Fannin County
47. Floyd County
48. Franklin County
49. Fulton County
50. Gilmer County

Counties
51. Glascock County
52. Glynn County
53. Gordon County
54. Grady County
55. Greene County
56. Habersham County
57. Hancock County
58. Haralson County
59. Hart County
60. Heard County
61. Henry County
62. Houston County
63. Irwin County
64. Jeff Davis County
65. Jefferson County
66. Jenkins County
67. Johnson County
68. Lamar County
69. Lanier County
70. Laurens County
71. Lee County
72. Liberty County
73. Lincoln County
74. Long County
75. Lowndes County
76. Macon County
77. Marion County
78. McDuffie County
79. McIntosh County
80. Meriwether County
81. Miller County
82. Mitchell County
83. Monroe County
84. Montgomery County
85. Morgan County
86. Murray County
87. Muscogee County
88. Newton County
89. Oglethorpe County
90. Peach County
91. Pierce County
92. Pike County

Counties	
93.	Polk County
94.	Pulaski County
95.	Putnam County
96.	Quitman County
97.	Rabun County
98.	Randolph County
99.	Richmond County
100.	Rockdale County
101.	Schley County
102.	Screven County
103.	Seminole County
104.	Spalding County
105.	Stephens County
106.	Stewart County
107.	Sumter County
108.	Talbot County
109.	Taliaferro County
110.	Tattnall County
111.	Taylor County
112.	Telfair County
113.	Terrell County
114.	Thomas County
115.	Tift County
116.	Toombs County
117.	Towns County
118.	Treutlen County
119.	Troup County
120.	Turner County
121.	Twiggs County
122.	Upson County
123.	Walker County
124.	Walton County
125.	Ware County
126.	Warren County
127.	Washington County
128.	Wayne County
129.	Webster County
130.	Wheeler County
131.	Whitfield County
132.	Wilcox County
133.	Wilkes County
134.	Wilkinson County

Counties
135. Worth County
Combined Area Unemployment Rate: 5.4%
Data extracted from http://www.bls.gov on October 18, 2018

- 9. FNS Action and Justification:** FNS is approving the State agency to waive the ABAWD time limit as requested. The State agency's request meets the requirements for approval provided at 7 CFR 273.24(f) and relevant FNS guidance.
- 10. Authority:** The waiver is approved pursuant to section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and 7 CFR 273.24(f).
- 11. Implementation Date:** November 16, 2018
- 12. Expiration Date:** October 31, 2019
- 13. Information Required for Amendment or Extension:** To receive an amendment or extension the State agency must provide FNS with a formal request supported by data or other information as described in 7 CFR 273.24(f). Any request based upon unemployment rates must include data spreadsheets and supporting documentation.
- 14. State Agency Contact Information:**
- Name: Kimberlin Donald
Phone Number: (b) (6)
Email: kimberlin.donald@dhs.ga.gov
- Name: Tatrina Young
Phone Number: (b) (6)
Email: tatrina.young@dhs.ga.gov
- 15. FNS Regional Office Contact Information:**
- Name: Yolaunda Daniel
Phone Number: (b) (6)
Email: yolaunda.daniel@fns.usda.gov

From: [Miller, Jannine - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Hayes, Jennifer \(Perdue\)](#)
Cc: [White, Joyce \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Re: Follow Up
Date: Monday, September 11, 2017 12:21:01 AM

Hi Jennifer,

Thank you so much for passing along the request to State. It's such a blessing to have devoted public servants such as yourself, bringing efforts to these dire situations caused by the recent hurricanes, especially for fellow Georgians. And especially on a Sunday night!

I also appreciate you reaching out to (b) (6) via email. I will share with Reese that (b) (6) (b) (6) should make all efforts to access his inbox.

And as you may learn about the ability of State and other federal resources ability to assist, it would be wonderful to know. Even if rescue is several days away, Reese can pass that along to them, which I believe Reese may be able to do via cell phone call/text.

Thank you so much!
Jannine

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 10, 2017, at 11:22 PM, Hayes, Jennifer (Perdue)
<Jennifer_Hayes@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

Dear Ms. Miller,

Thank you for reaching out to our office on behalf of (b) (6) and (b) (6) (b) (6). I have reached out to the Task Force at the Department of State regarding their urgent situation. I also followed up with (b) (6) via email. I will keep you all updated as our office receives updated information. Praying for all who have been affected by this devastating storm. I can't imagine how scary this whole situation has been. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Jennifer

Jennifer Hayes
Director of Constituent Services
Office of United States Senator David Perdue
3280 Peachtree Road NE
Suite 2640
Atlanta, GA 30305
(b) (6) cell
(b) (6) office
404-865-0311 fax



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From: [Green, Heidi - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Hancock, Lauren \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: Re: Tas Smith Letter
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2017 5:02:58 PM

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 27, 2017, at 5:01 PM, Hancock, Lauren (Perdue) <Lauren_Hancock@perdue.senate.gov> wrote:

As promised, letter from DP and Senator Isakson supporting Tas Smith for Exec Director of GA Farm Service Agency attached.

--LNH

 **LAUREN HANCOCK**
Counsel to the Chief of Staff
OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Office Building | Washington, DC 20510-1009
phone: (b) (6) | fax: 202.228.1031

<4.27.17 Tas Smith.pdf>

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: daniel_hale@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: FW: Early UGA Blueberry Numbers
Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018 2:44:36 PM
Attachments: [crop letter.pdf](#)

Did you receive this?

From: Robert Redding (b) (6) @reddingfirm.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2018 12:57 PM
To: Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA <Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov>
Subject: Early UGA Blueberry Numbers

>
>

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UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

EXTENSION

Blueberry Research &
Demonstration Farm

July 16, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

The 2017 freeze affected many blueberry growers, both with and without crop insurance. There were many young, newly established fields that were not eligible or had not been in production long enough to receive crop insurance. According to USDA Risk Management Agency, producers have to show a record of the crop reaching at least 1,000 pounds per acre in at least 1 of the 3 previous crop years. As for those producers who were eligible for crop insurance and did have it insured, the amount of money paid out to growers can be misleading. Growers are required to report on acreage and production each year, and those records are used to calculate an average of the actual production history yields. That means a grower may have a mature field producing 8,000 pounds per acre but since they have had insurance since it was only producing 1,000 pounds per acre when it was younger, then it brings down the average yield to 4,500 pounds per acre. That average production history yield is then multiplied by the coverage level percentage, for example 0.60 for 60% coverage. The 60% coverage in this example is an average of the percent coverage most growers would select. Growers will often go with a high level of coverage to help protect an operating loan since the crop insurance can serve as a form of collateral for lenders (source: AgSouth, Jon Harris). Now we are only at 2,700 pounds per acre guaranteed. Then the actual pounds of production are subtracted, say only 500 pounds per acre given the freeze event. Pounds loss are 2,200 in this example. Keep in mind that the grower actually had 8,000 pounds production per acre before the freeze event, but the way crop insurance calculations work, they are only viewing it as 2,200 pounds loss. Now the pounds loss are multiplied by the price election which is the value per pound of fruit used to determine premium and indemnity under the policy. Take 2,200 pounds loss and multiply by \$0.81 price election, assuming rabbiteye crop. This gives \$1,782 indemnity per acre.

The current USDA RMA report of monies given to growers in indemnity payments is not a true representation of the loss. If you took 8,000 pounds per acre that was the actual loss and multiplied that loss by \$0.81 price election, then the amount of indemnity per acre would be \$6,480, which is more representative of the loss incurred by the grower. Multiply \$6,480 by 16,000 acres of blueberries reported by NASS and the total indemnity needed for the state of Georgia would be over \$103 million. This total does not include growers who were not eligible for crop insurance.

In 2017, we produced 28 million pounds multiplied by \$1.75 average price per pound, then the crop harvested was worth about \$49 million to the growers. One could estimate the total loss to the grower for 2017 by taking the \$49 million from the portion of the crop that was harvested plus \$24 million in indemnity payments to growers and subtract that from the \$103 million needed in indemnity for the

state of Georgia and potentially there would be \$30 million less to the growers than what you would have in a normal production year.

Sincerely,

Renée Allen

Renée Allen
Area Blueberry Agent
UGA Extension – Bacon County
203 S. Dixon St., Suite 3 | Alma, GA 31510
(b) (6) Office | (b) (6) Cell
reneemh@uga.edu

From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Wilson, II, Anthony - FNS](#); [Randall, Kiev - FNS](#)
Bcc: [Jennifer.Tiller@mail.house.gov](#); [Lisa.Shelton@mail.house.gov](#); [Kellie.Adesina@mail.house.gov](#); [Jasmine.Dickerson@mail.house.gov](#); [Robert.Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine.Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn.Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie.Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [Tom.O'Brien@mail.house.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [Elizabeth.Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [Dianne.Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [patrick.donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [jonathan.mccracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [adam.tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [kevin.lefeber@durbin.senate.gov](#); [eric.deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [Adam.Schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [brian.werner@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [kyle.varner@ag.senate.gov](#); [skylar.sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [payne.griffin@braun.senate.gov](#); [meris.petek@ernst.senate.gov](#); [cicely.batie@fischer.senate.gov](#); [lauralee.burkett@fischer.senate.gov](#); [andrew.brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [brita.endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [daniel.ulmer@hydesmith.senate.gov](#); [quentin.scholtz@mcconnell.senate.gov](#); [ben.avres@perdue.senate.gov](#); [will.stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Lynn.Tieerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [katherine.stewart@mail.house.gov](#); [zaakary.barnes@mail.house.gov](#); [robert.dougherty@mail.house.gov](#); [steffanie.bezruki@mail.house.gov](#); [jeremy.tittle@mail.house.gov](#); [ben.goldeen@mail.house.gov](#); [jared.henderson@mail.house.gov](#); [will.mitchell@mail.house.gov](#); [jessie.andrews@mail.house.gov](#); [Felix.Muniz@mail.house.gov](#); [adela.amador@mail.house.gov](#); [madeline.daly@mail.house.gov](#); [lisa.walker@mail.house.gov](#); [derron.bennett@mail.house.gov](#); [molly.carey@mail.house.gov](#); [john.swords@mail.house.gov](#); [paul.babbitt@mail.house.gov](#); [joel.bailey@mail.house.gov](#); [rebekah.solem@mail.house.gov](#); [Kelliann.Blazek@mail.house.gov](#); [jennifer.cash@mail.house.gov](#); [maryam.janani@mail.house.gov](#); [javier.gamboa@mail.house.gov](#); [ed.kaczmarksi@mail.house.gov](#)
Subject: USDA: Farm Bill Section 4005 Informational Memo
Date: Friday, March 8, 2019 12:06:21 PM
Attachments: [Informational Memo for Section 4005 of the Agriculture Act of 2018.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service sent the attached informational memo to its Regional administrators to be distributed among State commissioners regarding section 4005 of the 2018 Farm Bill.

This memorandum describes the various provisions of section 4005 of the 2018 Farm Bill and the implementation action required. The memo places the provisions of section 4005 into four categories based on when they are to be implemented or what agency action needs to occur. The categories are provisions requiring immediate implementation (self-executing); provisions States may implement immediately, but require State Plan approval; provisions requiring rulemaking before implementation; and FNS action only.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations

United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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Food and
Nutrition
Service

Park Office
Center

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria
VA 22302

MAR 06 2019

SUBJECT: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Section 4005 of the
Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 – Informational Memorandum

TO: Regional Administrators
Food and Nutrition Service
All Regions

On December 20, 2018, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) was reauthorized as part of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the Act) (P.L. 115-334). Attached is an informational memorandum describing section 4005 of the Act and implementation dates. Regulations reflecting revisions to SNAP made by the Act will be published as soon as possible. Please forward the attached memorandum to your State commissioners.

Please keep us advised of any challenges faced by States in implementing these changes. If you have questions, please reach out to Moira Johnston who is the contact for this section of the Act.

Jessica Shahin
Associate Administrator
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Attachment

Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 – Informational Memorandum

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) was recently reauthorized as part of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the Act), [P.L. 115-334], enacted on December 20, 2018. The law contains various provisions that affect SNAP eligibility, benefits, and program administration, including changes mandated by the law and those that provide additional flexibility for State agencies. All provisions of the Act related to SNAP are effective as of the date of enactment, unless otherwise stated.

This memorandum describes the various provisions of section 4005 of the Act and the implementation action required. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) issued a memorandum on April 8, 2018, regarding section 4004, Simplified Homeless Housing Cost. FNS will soon issue an information memorandum that describes most of the other SNAP related provisions and implementation actions required.

The memo places the provisions of section 4005 into four categories based on when they are to be implemented or what agency action needs to occur. The categories are provisions requiring immediate implementation (self-executing); provisions States may implement immediately, but require State Plan approval; provisions requiring rulemaking before implementation; and FNS action only.

As with previous legislative changes to the program, FNS will, as appropriate, hold States harmless for Quality Control (QC) purposes for 120 days from the implementation date, following requirements outlined in SNAP regulations at 7 CFR 275.12(d)(2)(vii).

PROVISIONS AND EFFECTIVE DATES

A. Self-executing provisions - States must implement immediately

Under this heading, FNS describes provisions of section 4005 that States must implement immediately. However, FNS recognizes that States will need time to make changes to their existing programs in order to come into compliance. Therefore, starting in fiscal year (FY) 2020, FNS will begin holding States accountable for changes associated with these requirements. FNS will provide more information on these requirements as soon as possible, including modifying the E&T State Plan Handbook. FNS will not approve any State plans that are not in compliance with these requirements. FNS will also begin to take actions to codify these provisions through the rulemaking process.

Consultation with State Workforce Development Boards or Employers: This provision requires States to design their SNAP E&T programs in consultation with State workforce development boards or with private employers or employer organizations and requires that they include in their E&T State Plan the extent to which they are coordinating with Title I of Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act. States must include a description of their consultation and coordination in their FY 2020 E&T State Plan.

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Mandatory Case Management: This provision requires States to include case management services in their E&T program. Case management includes such things as comprehensive intake assessments, individualized service plans, progress monitoring, or coordination with service providers. States must include a description of their case management process in their FY 2020 E&T State Plan.

Definition of a Work Program: This provision expands the definition of a work program for purposes of meeting the work requirement for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs) by explicitly adding employment and training programs for veterans operated by the Department of Labor or the Department of Veterans Affairs. The provision also adds workforce partnerships to the definition of work program, but this portion will not be implemented until FNS completes rulemaking (see Part C. Provisions effective after rule making occurs).

Advising Households of Available Employment and Training Services: This provision requires States to advise individuals who are not exempt from the general work requirements about the availability of employment and training services, if these individuals are members of households containing at least one adult, with no elderly or disabled individuals, and with no earned income at their last certification or required report. Employment and training services are not limited to SNAP E&T. These services include those offered by other public or private organizations such as the American Job Centers, or community-based organizations.

B. Provisions States may implement immediately – Require State plan approval

Because States have tremendous flexibility in designing their E&T programs, including determining what programs or activities to offer, the changes described below are only relevant in the situation where a State chooses to offer the program or activity as part of its E&T program. In other words, the statutory changes *do not require* States to offer these components or activities, but if a State *chooses to*, it must do so in compliance with the statute. States that choose to offer any of these programs or activities must include them in future E&T State Plans. FNS will not approve any FY 2020 State plan that is not in compliance with these provisions.

The addition of subsidized employment and successful SNAP E&T pilot activities as allowable E&T components are covered under Heading C – Provisions effective after rule-making occurs.

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E&T Programs and Activities:

- ***Supervised Job Search Program:*** This provision replaces job search programs with supervised job search programs. A *supervised* job search program is described as job search occurring at State approved locations and where activities are supervised and tracked in accordance with guidelines issued by the State. States that plan to offer a supervised job search program must include it in their E&T State Plan and describe the guidelines developed by the State to ensure compliance with this requirement.
- ***Job Finding Clubs/Job-Skills Assessment/Employability Assessment:*** This provision removes job finding clubs and job skills assessment as allowable activities under a job skills training program, but adds employability assessment as an allowable activity.
- ***Job Retention Programs:*** This provision requires job retention services to be provided for a minimum of 30 days and not more than 90 days.
- ***Apprenticeships:*** This provision specifies that apprenticeships are an allowable work experience activity.

C. Provisions effective after rulemaking occurs

E&T Pilot Activities: This provision adds a new E&T program that incorporates activities from the 2014 Farm Bill Pilots that FNS determines have the most demonstrable impact on an individual's ability to find and retain employment and that lead to increased household income and reduced reliance on public assistance. FNS will issue regulations after publication of the final report from the evaluation.

Subsidized Employment: This provision allows subsidized employment as an allowable E&T activity. Subsidized employment was an allowable activity in the 2014 Farm Bill Pilots and has been implemented by other Federal and State programs. FNS will issue regulations taking into consideration best practices and lessons learned from these other sources.

Workforce Partnerships: This provision allows States to certify workforce partnerships as a new way of meeting the ABAWD work requirement or E&T requirements of SNAP households through cooperation with private employers, or other workforce development organizations. A State agency must certify the workforce partnerships, and provide households with information about those partnerships. FNS will issue regulations defining workforce partnerships and related State agency responsibilities.

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Referral of Individuals Ill-Suited for an E&T Program Component: This provision requires that if an E&T provider determines an individual is ill-suited to participate in an E&T program component, the State must refer them to a more appropriate component or workforce partnership; reassess their physical or mental fitness; or coordinate with other workforce or assistance programs to find assistance. During this time, the participant will have good cause for non-participation. FNS will issue regulations implementing this provision.

Support of the Chief Executive Officer of the State for Waivers of the ABAWD Time Limit: This provision requires that States requesting waivers of the ABAWD time limit have the support of the chief executive officer of the State. A similar provision is included in the proposed rule, *SNAP Requirements for Able-bodied Adults without Dependents* (RIN: 0584-AE57). FNS intends to implement this provision after finalization of the rule.

D. Provisions requiring FNS action

E&T Funding: This provision increased the total amount of E&T 100 percent funds to \$103,900,000 annually, and increases the minimum amount of 100 percent funding available to a State agency for SNAP E&T to \$100,000 annually. FNS will implement these changes starting in FY 2019.

Reallocation of 100 Percent Administrative Funds: This provision created a new reallocation formula for unused 100 percent funds. FNS will begin using this formula in FY 2020 for FY 2019 funds. FNS will provide additional guidance to States. If a State would like to receive additional 100 percent funds, it must submit a request explaining how the additional funds will be used in accordance with the new funding formula.

ABAWD Time Limit Percentage Exemptions: This provision changed current law regarding the amount of ABAWD time limit percentage exemptions allocated to State agencies. Starting in FY 2020, the allocation of percentage exemptions will be reduced from the current 15 percent of covered individuals to 12 percent of covered individuals. FNS will continue to issue memoranda to inform State agencies of the availability of percentage exemptions each year and will reflect the changes from this provision in future rulemaking.

From: [Wilson, Erin E. - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
Cc: [Fink, Katherine - FNS](#); [Carter, Scott - FNS](#); [Randall, Kiev - FNS](#)
Bcc: [patrick_donovan@bennet.senate.gov](#); [jonathan_mccracken@brown.senate.gov](#); [adam_tarr@casey.senate.gov](#); [kevin_lefeber@durbin.senate.gov](#); [eric_deeble@gillibrand.senate.gov](#); [Adam_Schiff@smith.senate.gov](#); [brian_werner@klobuchar.senate.gov](#); [kyle_varner@ag.senate.gov](#); [skylar_sowder@boozman.senate.gov](#); [payne_griffin@braun.senate.gov](#); [meris_petek@ernst.senate.gov](#); [cicely_batie@fischer.senate.gov](#); [lauralee_burkett@fischer.senate.gov](#); [andrew_brandt@grassley.senate.gov](#); [brita_endrud@hoeven.senate.gov](#); [daniel_ulmer@hydesmith.senate.gov](#); [quentin_scholtz@mccconnell.senate.gov](#); [ben_ayres@perdue.senate.gov](#); [will_stafford@roberts.senate.gov](#); [Lynn_Tjeerdsma@thune.senate.gov](#); [Jacqlyn_Schneider@ag.senate.gov](#); [Robert_Rosado@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie_Bergh@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katherine_Thomas@ag.senate.gov](#); [Katie.Hunter@mail.house.gov](#); [Mark.Rusthoven@mail.house.gov](#); [Miriam.Fry@mail.house.gov](#); [Eric.Bagwell@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Coffman@mail.house.gov](#); [David.Voorman@mail.house.gov](#); [Steve.Ackerman@mail.house.gov](#); [Samantha.Baker@mail.house.gov](#); [Vincent.Gilierano@mail.house.gov](#); [Elaina.Murphy@mail.house.gov](#); [Andrew.Christianson@mail.house.gov](#); [Helena.Shwarz@mail.house.gov](#); [Jonh.Witherspoon@mail.house.gov](#); [Aaron.Bill@mail.house.gov](#); [Alex.Makey@mail.house.gov](#); [Kenneth.Clifford@mail.house.gov](#); [Noell.Verhelst@mail.house.gov](#); [Patrick.Hester@mail.house.gov](#); [Nick.Rockwell@mail.house.gov](#); [Hilary.Ranieri@mail.house.gov](#); [Joanna.Brown@mail.house.gov](#); [Sean.McCabe@mail.house.gov](#); [Sruthi.Prabhu@mail.house.gov](#); [Adam.York@mail.house.gov](#); [Robert.Blair@mail.house.gov](#); [John.Christie@mail.house.gov](#); [Maxine.Sugarman@mail.house.gov](#); [Kaitlyn.Montan@mail.house.gov](#); [Alexa.Combelic@mail.house.gov](#); [Maria.Costigan@mail.house.gov](#); [Brandon.Mendoza@mail.house.gov](#); [Margo.Tercek@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Jackson@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Nasta@mail.house.gov](#); [Norma.Salazar@mail.house.gov](#); [adela.amador@mail.house.gov](#); [madeline.daly@mail.house.gov](#); [Jessica.Mulligan@mail.house.gov](#); [Danielle.Fulfs@mail.house.gov](#); [Nabeel.Alam@mail.house.gov](#); [Abbas.Alawieh@mail.house.gov](#); [Catherine.Rowland@mail.house.gov](#); [Lalia.Goharioon@mail.house.gov](#); [Joanne.Stiles@mail.house.gov](#); [erin.oquinn@mail.house.gov](#); [Ben.Talus@mail.house.gov](#); [Sarah.Reingold@mail.house.gov](#); [Yuri.Beckelman@mail.house.gov](#); [Ron.Carlton@mail.house.gov](#); [Jessica.Shemacko@mail.house.gov](#); [Caroline.Paris-Behr@mail.house.gov](#); [Dorcas.Adekunle@mail.house.gov](#); [David.Simon@mail.house.gov](#); [Martha.Foley@mail.house.gov](#); [Tom.O'Brien@mail.house.gov](#); [Dianne.Nellor@appro.senate.gov](#); [Elizabeth.Dent@appro.senate.gov](#); [Carrie.Hughes@mail.house.gov](#); [Alison.Hard@mail.house.gov](#); [Mandy.Schaumburg@mail.house.gov](#)
Subject: USDA: Flexibility Around 3-Year Administrative Review Cycle
Date: Friday, March 22, 2019 11:11:14 AM

Good morning,

I am reaching out to make you aware that USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) recently provided State agencies and School Food Authorities (SFAs) participating in USDA's school meals programs with flexibility around the 3-year administrative review cycle requirement.

As you are aware, the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, as amended by the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA), required a unified accountability system designed to ensure that participating school food authorities (SFAs) comply with National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) requirements. The Act also required an accountability system that conducts Administrative Reviews to evaluate Program requirements for NSLP and SBP during a three-year cycle.

The purpose of this [memorandum](#) is to provide guidance to State agencies who have determined that the 3-year review cycle hinders effective allocation of the State agency's resources, and effective and efficient program management. To improve customer service, FNS is allowing State agencies to request waivers of the 3-year review requirement and extend the review cycle up to an additional two years.

Memorandum at:
<https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/SP12-2019os.pdf>

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Erin Wilson

Office of Congressional Relations

United States Department of Agriculture

(b) (6) (Direct)

(b) (6) (Work Cell)

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From: [Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA](#)
To: sam_tostensen@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: FW: Wednesday
Date: Friday, September 14, 2018 1:43:10 PM

FYI:

From: Richey Seaton (b) (6) @georgiacotton.org>
Sent: Friday, September 14, 2018 1:40 PM
To: Smith, Tas - FSA, Athens, GA <Tas.Smith@ga.usda.gov>
Subject: Wednesday

Tas,
Spoke with Lee and let's meet at his farm office and then go to the gin. The address is:

(b) (6)
(b) (6)

Richey Seaton, Executive Director
Georgia Cotton Commission
P.O. Box 1464
401-A Larry Walker Parkway
Perry, Georgia 31069
478-988-4235 Office
(b) (6) Cell
(b) (6) @georgiacotton.org

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From: [Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC](#)
To: [Johnston, Emma \(Perdue\)](#)
Subject: RE: Connect
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2019 10:03:32 AM

Hi Emma – Great chatting with you as well. Don't hesitate to reach out if I can be a resource.

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 5:36 PM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Anna, thanks so much for meeting with me on Monday! Enjoyed talking with you and learning about your role at the USDA. Have a great rest of the week!

Best,

Emma Johnston



Emma Johnston
Staff Assistant

OFFICE OF SENATOR DAVID PERDUE
455 Russell Senate Office Building | Washington, DC 20510

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 1:01 PM
To: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: Re: Connect

Yes, does that still work? My cell phone is (b) (6) if you have trouble finding me.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 12:58:58 PM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Subject: RE: Connect

Still available to grab coffee at 2 today in Cups?

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 4:12 PM
To: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Done. Chat then. Thanks, Emma.

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 4:12 PM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

No worries I was fine walking to House side! Yeah Cups is open at 2, wanna do that?

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 4:10 PM
To: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Oops – I don't know why I suggested Dunkin. I was thinking Cups. Is Cups open at that time or would you prefer Senate Chef?

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 4:09 PM
To: 'Johnston, Emma (Perdue)' <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Likewise! If you have any trouble finding me, my cell phone is (b) (6).

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 11:37 AM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Great! Looking forward to it.

-Emma

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 11:30 AM
To: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Let's say, 2pm Monday at Dunkin'?

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 11:17 AM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Yeah that sounds great! About what time is good for you?

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 11:15 AM
To: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Hi Emma,

I'm on the Hill most days, so can be fairly flexible. Maybe Monday afternoon?

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2019 10:53 AM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Do you have any time that next week that you will be on the Hill? Otherwise I could meet you during lunch one day.

-Emma

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2019 6:19 PM
To: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Next week is fairly flexible. Let me know if there's a day/time that works best.

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2019 11:29 AM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Hey Anna,

Thanks to Lindsay for connecting us! Yes would love to meet you sometime soon. This week is pretty wild, what is your schedule like next week?

Best,

Emma

Emma Johnston | Staff Assistant
Senator David Perdue

From: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2019 11:09 AM
To: Johnston, Emma (Perdue) <Emma_Johnston@perdue.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Connect

Thanks, Lindsay. Kicking you to BCC.

Emma – Super nice to meet you over email. Would love to chat or grab coffee at your convenience. Let me know if there's a time that works best on your end.

--

Anna Osterlind
Office of Congressional Relations
U.S. Department of Agriculture
(b) (6)

From: Moore, Lindsay - OSEC, Washington, DC
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2019 11:01 AM
To: Osterlind, Anna - OSEC, Washington, DC <Anna.Osterlind@usda.gov>
Cc: emma_johnston@perdue.senate.gov
Subject: Connect

Hi Anna,

I want to connect you with Emma Johnston, a UGA gal who recently started working in Senator Perdue's office. She is interested in a few topics that you cover, particularly food safety, and I think it would be great for you to find a time to chat!

Thanks!!

Lindsay



Lindsay Moore

Staff Assistant
Office of Congressional Relations
United States Department of Agriculture
Cell: (b) (6)

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