The Federal Plant Pest Act, Plant Quarantine Act, and various other statutes provide the federal
authority under which USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service labors to protect
agricultural and environmental plant resources from the introduction of plant pests and noxious
weeds. However, most of these statutes were passed early in this century and did not anticipate
more recent trends in international travel and commerce that pose heightened risk of introducing
devastating new invasive pests.

There is an urgent need to establish a single, streamlined, cohesive and comprehensive plant
protection statute in order to optimize the effectiveness of the U.S. pest safeguarding system,
facilitate international trade opportunities for U.S. producers and enhance the framework for
federal and state cooperative efforts to protect U.S. agriculture, horticulture, and the
environment. Efforts to develop such a legislative package have been underway for several
years, resulting in broad consensus. Passage of such legislation was the number one
recommendation of the Safeguarding American Plant Resources stakeholder review conducted
by the National Plant Board at the request of USDA-APHIS-PPQ.

Resolved: That the Central Plant Board at its 76th annual meeting held in Lansing, Michigan on
February 10, 2000, urges the passage of the Plant Protection Act H.R. 1504, S. 910 in the 2nd
session of the 106th U.S. Congress.

Distribution:
The Honorable Larry Combest, Chairman, House Agriculture Committee
Senator Richard Lugar, Chairman, Senate Agriculture Committee
Dan Glickman, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Craig Reed, Administrator, USDA-APHIS
Richard Dunkle, Deputy Administrator, USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Honorable Fred Dailey, President, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
Honorable Gus R. Douglass, Chairman, Animal and Plant Industries Committee, NASDA
Rick Kirchhoff, Executive Director, NASDA
Robert Balaam, President, National Plant Board
Ann Gibbs, President, Eastern Plant Board
Ken Glenn, President, Southern Plant Board
John Gerhardt, President, Western Plant Board