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NATIONAL PLANT BOARD

August 8, 2016

Wilmington, DE

RESOLUTION No. 3

Funding to Support Training for State Departments of Agriculture

WHEREAS, the member states of the National Plant Board (NPB) desire to improve the professional expertise of staff and managers that administer plant protection inspection, certification, regulatory and export certification programs.

WHEREAS, states desire to ensure as much consistency and uniformity as possible between themselves and with USDA APHIS PPQ (APHIS) efforts.

WHEREAS, other federal agencies such as EPA, FDA, and USDA Forest Service provide and sponsor professional and scientific training for their state partners.

WHEREAS, the EPA directs \$500,000 of state cooperative agreement funding appropriated to support state pesticide programs to support their highly acclaimed and very successful Pesticide Regulatory Education Program (PREP) and Pesticide Inspector Regulatory Program (PIRT) courses.

WHEREAS, APHIS has an existing Professional Development Center (PDC) that currently has limited curriculum for state personnel and limited resources to fully support state training needs.

WHEREAS, there is a need for sustainable funding to fully support quality training for states.

RESOLVED, by the National Plant Board at its annual meeting in Wilmington, Delaware on August 4, 2016 that the National Plant Board:

1. requests that USDA APHIS PPQ explore utilization of some portion of the approximately \$80 million in appropriated cooperative agreement funding they provide to support state plant protection programs, to support the professional and scientific development of state staff, including curriculum development and delivery, travel and administration of the program.
2. will create a standing committee charged with providing administrative oversight of a potential training program and identifying training priorities for its members.
3. requests that USDA APHIS PPQ develop options to provide administrative support, coordinate a state training program and work with the Strategic Alliance Training

Committee in the development and delivery of potential annual training at the PDC, other locations or through contracted public universities.

Distribution:

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