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September 28, 2009

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Mr. Stephen Haterius  
Executive Director  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
1156 15<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 1020  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Haterius:

On behalf of the National Plant Board, I am requesting your assistance in directly working with staff to initiate and to support an amendment to the 2008 Farm Bill that would provide CCC funding for Sections 10201 and 10202 for the life of the Farm Bill. Further, as a part of this amendment, there must be authorization to utilize a portion of the CCC funds for salaries and administration through the remainder of the 2008 Farm Bill.

As background, Section 103 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Stimulus Bill) modified the 2008 Farm Bill to allow a portion of the CCC funding provided for Sections 10201 and 10202 to be used for administrative expenses. Section 103 identifies the limiting language in the CCC Charter that was problematic and allows access and use of CCC funds. However, this authorization for access and use of these CCC funds is currently limited to the 2009 and 2010 fiscal years only. The current Farm Bill authorizes CCC funding for Section 10201 and 10202 through FY13 and permanent language is needed to ensure there is full flexibility for the remainder of the Bill.

The language of Section 103 which provides for the temporary fix (2009 -10) is noted below and may be utilized in preparation of the permanent text:

*SEC. 103. For fiscal years 2009 and 2010, in the case of each program established or amended by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110\*246), other than by title I of such Act, that is authorized or required to be carried out using funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation\**

*(1) such funds shall be available for the purpose of covering salaries and related administrative expenses, including technical assistance, associated with the implementation of the program, without regard to the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i); and*

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*(2) the use of such funds for such purpose shall not be considered to be a fund transfer or allotment for purposes of applying the limitation on the total amount*

Thank you in advance for your attention with this critical issue. If I can provide additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl P. Schulze". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "C".

Carl Schulze  
NPB President

cc: Rebecca Bech, Deputy Administrator, USDA-APHIS-PPQ  
Paul Eggert, Associate Deputy Administrator, USDA-APHIS-PPQ  
Craig Reggelbrugge, ANLA  
Lin Schmale, SAF  
NPB Regional Plant Board Presidents