

### **Policy Materials**

2022 NASDA Annual Meeting

- Committee Agendas
- Policy Amendments & Action Items
- Affiliate Reports

Please note printed policy books will NOT be available at this year's meeting. All documents are available on our app.

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

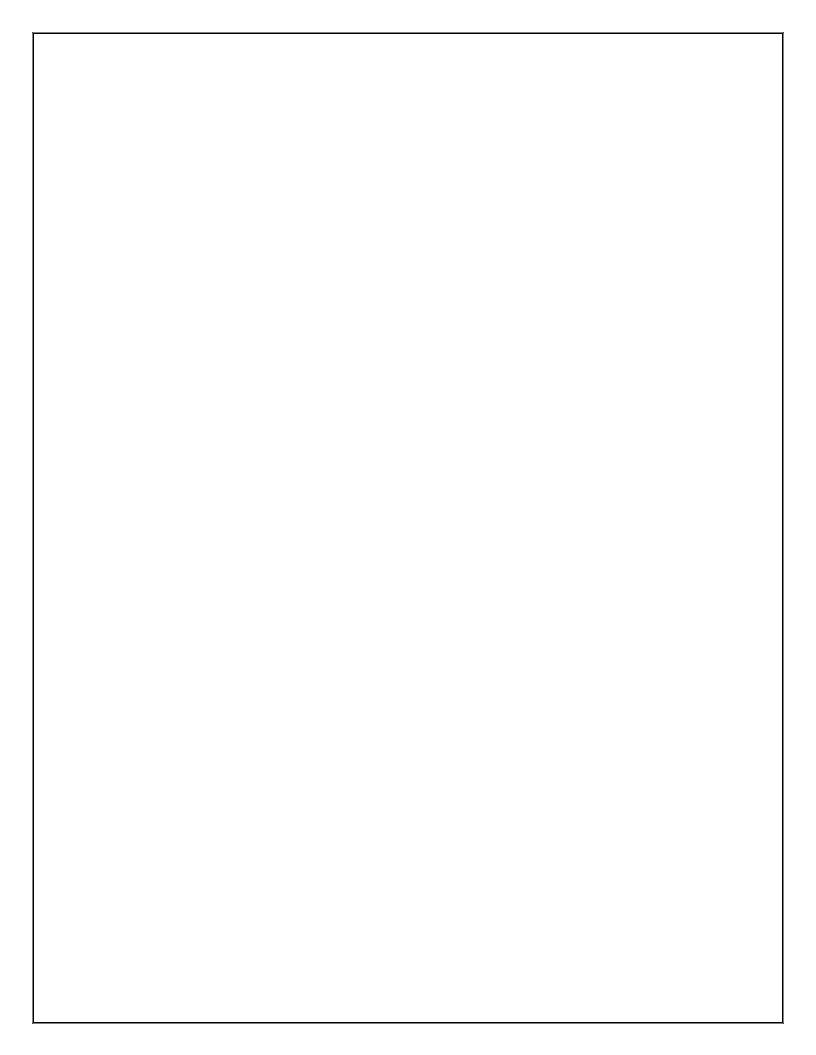
COMMITTEE AGENDAS	1
PLANT AGRICULTURE & PESTICIDE REGULATION	2
RURAL DEVELOPMENT & FINANCIAL SECURITY	3
Marketing and International Trade	4
Natural Resources & Environment	5
ANIMAL AGRICULTURE	6
FOOD SYSTEMS AND NUTRITION	7
POLICY AMENDMENTS & ACTION ITEMS	8
POLICY AMENDMENTS FOR MEMBER CONSIDERATION SUMMARY	9
ACTION ITEMS FOR MEMBER CONSIDERATION SUMMARY	10
POLICY AMENDMENTS	
Policy Amendment I: Protecting our Public Lands	11
Policy Amendment II: Food Safety PFAS	13
Policy Amendment III: Local and Regional Processing – Food Safety, Education and Training	
Policy Amendment IV: Nutrition and Food Assistance – Continued and Increased Investment	
Policy Amendment V: Eligibility of Hemp for Specialty Crop Block Grant Funding	18
Policy Amendment VI: Specialty Crop Block Grant Program - Process for the Designation of Unsp	ecified
or Ineligible Commodities	19
Policy Amendment VII: Global Market Access	20
Policy Amendment VIII: Federal Investments for Agricultural Water Supply Infrastructure	21
Policy Amendment IX: Farm Income and Production Stability	
Policy Amendment X: Mental Health	25
Policy Amendment XI: USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program	26
Policy Amendment XII: Controlled Environment Agriculture	27
ACTION ITEMS	
Action Item A: Strengthening the U.S. Animal Disease and Traceability and Disease Prevention	
RFID Infrastructure	28
Action Item B: APHIS and Avian Influenza Response	30
Action Item C: EQIP Water Quality Outcomes Based Incentive or Program	32
Action Item D: Historical Flood Maps, USACE	33
Action Item E: Hemp Fiber and Grain Exemption	34
AFFILIATE REPORTS	36
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PLANT FOOD CONTROL OFFICIALS (AAPFCO)	
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY REGULATORY OFFICIALS (NADRO)	39





### **Committee Agendas**

2022 Annual Meeting



#### **Plant Agriculture & Pesticide Regulation Committee**

Chair: Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, Connecticut Vice-Chair: Director Chris Chinn, Missouri NASDA Staff Contact: RJ Karney

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 | 12:30 – 1:30 PM ET | 2022 Annual Meeting | City Center C

#### **Roll Call and Opening Remarks** (12:30)

• Commissioner Hurlburt and Director Chinn

#### **Spotted Lantern Fly Working Group Presentation** (12:35)

- Sam Simon, Associate Deputy Administrator, Plant Protection and Quarantine, APHIS
- Matthew Travis, Spotted Lanternfly Multi-State Coordinator, Plant Protection and Quarantine, APHIS

#### **Discussion with EPA on Pesticides (1:00)**

• Rod Snyder, Agricultural Advisor, EPA

#### **Committee Business** (1:15)

- Consideration of Policy Amendments and Action Items
  - o Action Item E: Hemp Fiber and Grain Exemption

#### Member Dialogue (1:20)

• Open Discussion

**Adjourn** (1:30)

#### **Rural Development and Financial Security Committee**

Chair: Commissioner Thom Petersen, Minnesota Vice-Chair: Commissioner Kent Leonhardt, West Virginia NASDA Contact: Autumn Lankford

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 | 12:30 - 1:30 PM ET | 2022 Annual Meeting | City Center B

#### **Roll Call and Opening Remarks** (12:30)

• Commissioner Petersen and Commissioner Leonhardt

#### **Topic** (12:35)

• Kellie Kubena, Rural Health Liaison, USDA, Rural Development

#### **Committee Business** (12:55)

- Consideration of Policy Amendments and Action Items
  - o Policy Amendment VII: 10, Agricultural Infrastructure, Global Market Access
  - o Policy Amendment VIII: 10, Agricultural Infrastructure, Water Supply
  - o Policy Amendment IX: 12.2, Farm Income and Production Stability
  - o Policy Amendment X: 15.8, Mental Health
  - o Policy Amendment XII: 10.8, Controlled Environment Agriculture

#### Member Dialogue (1:20)

• Open Discussion

**Adjourn** (1:30)

#### **Marketing and International Trade Committee**

Chair: Director Derek Sandison, Washington Vice-Chair: Secretary Mike Naig, Iowa NASDA Contact: RJ Karney

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 | 2:00 - 3:00 PM ET | 2022 NASDA Annual Meeting | City Center B

#### **Roll Call and Opening Remarks** (2:00)

Director Sandison and Secretary Naig

#### **North American Agricultural Marketing Officials** (2:05)

- Rianne Perry, *President*, *NAAMO*
- "Marketing Excellence Award" Presentation

#### **USTR Trade Update** (2:10)

Leslie Yang, Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Agricultural Affairs, USTR

#### **Committee Business (2:40)**

- Consideration of Policy Amendments and Action Items
  - o Policy Amendment V: Section 11.11, Specialty Crops, Hemp
  - o Policy Amendment VI: Section 11.11, Specialty Crops, SCBGP

#### Member Dialogue (2:55)

• Open Discussion

**Adjourn** (3:00)

#### **Natural Resources & Environment Committee**

Chair: Secretary Michael Scuse, Delaware Vice-Chair: Secretary Jeff Witte, New Mexico NASDA Contact: Rebecca Barnett

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 | 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET | 2022 NASDA Annual Meeting | City Center C

#### **Roll Call and Opening Remarks** (2:00)

Secretary Scuse and Secretary Witte

#### **USDA Update**

• Robert Bonnie, Under Secretary, USDA Farm Production and Conservation (2:10)

#### **Committee Business** (2:35)

- Consideration of Policy Amendments and Action Items
  - o Policy Amendment XI: USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program
  - o Action Item C: Water Quality Outcomes Based Incentive or Program
  - o Action Item D: Historical Flood Maps, USACE

#### Member Dialogue (2:55)

• Open Discussion

**Adjourn** (3:00)

#### **Animal Agriculture Committee**

Chair: Secretary Blayne Arthur, Oklahoma Vice-Chair: Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, Tennessee NASDA Contact: Rebecca Barnett

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 | 3:30 – 4:30 PM ET | 2022 NASDA Annual Meeting | City Center C

#### **Roll Call and Opening Remarks** (3:30)

• Secretary Arthur and Commissioner Hatcher

#### **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Panel**

- Developing a collaborative approach among industry stakeholders and State Animal Health Officials on lessons learned (3:35)
  - o Dr. Bret D. Marsh, DVM, State Veterinarian, Indiana State Board of Animal Health
  - o Oscar Garrison, Senior Vice President of Food Safety, United Egg Producers

#### **Committee Business** (4:05)

- Consideration of Policy Amendments and Action Items
  - o Policy Amendment I: Section 8.2 Grazing on Public Land
  - o Action Item A: Animal Disease Traceability Infrastructure
  - o Action Item B: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Response

#### Member Dialogue (4:25)

• Open Discussion

**Adjourn** (4:30)

#### **Food Systems and Nutrition Committee**

Chair: Secretary Karen Ross, California Vice-Chair: Commissioner Amanda Beal, Maine NASDA Staff Contact: Autumn Lankford

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 | 3:30 – 4:30 PM ET | 2022 Annual Meeting | City Center B

#### **Roll Call and Opening Remarks** (3:30)

Secretary Ross and Commissioner Beal

#### **Committee Business** (3:40)

- Consideration of Policy Amendments and Action Items
  - o Policy Amendment II: 4.10, Food Regulation and Safety, PFAS
  - o Policy Amendment III: 10.6, Local and Regional Processing
  - o Policy Amendment IV: 5.1, Nutrition and Food Assistance

#### FDA Cooperative Agreements Update (4:10)

• Joe Reardon, Senior Director Food Safety, NASDA

**Adjourn** (4:30)



# Policy Amendments & Action Items

2022 Annual Meeting



### Policy Amendments for Member Consideration 2022 NASDA Annual Meeting

#### **Proposed Policy Amendments** Policy Policy Book Passed with **Amendment** Title Submitted By Committee **Passed Failed** Page Number **Amendment** Number Animal Grazing on Public **Secretary Hunter Roberts** Agriculture 11 Land (SD) Committee Secretary Jeff Witte (NM) & Food Systems Food Safety PFAS II. Commssioner Amanda Beal 13 and Nutrition (ME) Local and Regional Secretary Karen Ross (CA) & Processing - Food Food Systems III. Commissioner Amanda Beal 15 Safety, Education and Nutrition (ME) & Training **Nutrition and Food** Assistance -Secretary Karen Ross (CA) & **Food Systems** Commissioner Amanda Beal IV. Continued and 16 and Nutrition (ME) Increased Investment Eligibility of Hemp Marketing and Director Celia Gould (ID) & for Specialty Crop ٧. International 17 **Block Grant** Secretary Karen Ross (CA) Trade **Program Funding Specialty Crop Block Grant** Marketing and Program - Process Secretary Karen Ross (CA) & VI. for the Designation **Director Derek Sandison** International 18 Trade of Unspecified or (WA) Ineligible Commodities Rural Commissioner Mike Strain Global Market Development & VII. 19 Financial Access (LA) Security Federal Rural Investments for Commissioner Kate Development & VIII. Agricultural Water 20 Greenberg (CO) Financial Supply Security Infrastructure Rural Farm Income and Secretary Jeff Witte (NM) & Development & IX. Production 22 Director Alexis Taylor (OR) Financial Stability Security Rural **Secretary Hunter Roberts** Development & Mental Health (SD) & Commissioner Thom 24 Financial Petersen (MN) Security USDA NRCS Commissioner Steve Troxler (NC), Commissioner Charlie Emergency Natural Watershed Hatcher (TN), Secretary Wes XI. Resources & 25 Protection Ward (AR) & Commissioner Environment Program Rick Pate (AL) Rural Controlled Secretary Russell Redding Development & XII. Environment 26 (PA) Financial Agriculture Security



### Action Items for Member Consideration 2022 NASDA Annual Meeting

Proposed Action Items							
Action Item Letter	Title	Submitted By	Committee	Policy Book Page Number	Passed	Passed with Amendment	Failed
А.	Strengthening the U.S. Animal Disease and Traceability and Disease Prevention RFID Infrastructure	Secretary Blayne Arthur (OK)	Animal Agriculture Committee	28			
В.	APHIS and Avian Influenza Response	Secretary Michael Scuse (DE) & Secretary Joseph Bartenfelder (MD)	Animal Agriculture Committee	30			
C.	Water Quality Outcomes Based Incentive or Program	Secretary Mike Naig (IA)	Natural Resources & Environment	32			
D.	Historical Flood Maps, USACE	Commissioner Steve Troxler (NC), Commissioner Charlie Hatcher (TN), Secretary Wes Ward (AR) & Commissioner Rick Pate (AL)	Natural	33			
E.	Hemp Fiber and Grain Exemption	Secretary Russell Redding (PA)	Plant Agriculture & Pesticide Regulation	17			





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: 8.2 Grazing on Public Land

Subject of Policy Amendment: Protecting our Public Lands

**Submitted By:** Secretary Hunter Roberts (SD)

1 Text of Policy Amendment:

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26 27

28

29

#### Section 8.2 Grazing on Public Land

- Established decades ago, public lands grazing supports many family-based operations and is vital to the culture, customs and economies of many regions. Ranching operations and public land grazing provide needed food for a growing population. These operations also maintain open spaces and important habitat conditions benefiting wildlife and recreation. Restrictions in public lands grazing have negative ecological impacts and dramatic negative economic impacts on ranchers and ranch dependent communities. Land management decisions are most effective when made through collaborative, cooperative and coordinated efforts. A majority of the land in the West is managed by the federal government, making public lands vital to Western agriculture. Continued grazing on public lands is essential to the future of ranching and farming in the West.
  - NASDA supports the multiple resource use of federal lands, including livestock grazing.
  - NASDA believes that proper land management is the responsibility of all stakeholders, including but not limited to, livestock grazing permittees and local, state and federal agencies, and that coordination, cooperation and or collaboration between all stakeholders throughout the land management decision making process is necessary for effective land use management.
  - NASDA advocates for the use of sound, thorough, science-based processes in management decisions for federal lands.
  - NASDA advocates for consistency between permittees, ranchers, farmers, and agricultural operations in the application of federal land management policies.
  - NASDA believes appropriate management of livestock grazing on federal lands is compatible with recreation, conservation, wildfire control and wildlife management.
  - NASDA maintains that water rights, which are granted by the states for livestock grazing, be used by the right holder for beneficial use for grazing and other appropriate uses.
  - NASDA supports livestock grazing permittees and their desire to be good stewards of our public lands. NASDA opposes any effort that seeks to transfer stewardship responsibilities of public lands to any party that would negatively impact our public lands or existing livestock grazing permittees. NASDA supports public grazing land remaining public and strongly urges the federal





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

government and congress to reject any effort that would transfer control of public grazing land to another organization.

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

In South Dakota, the Lower Brule Sioux Trible is seeking to acquire 71% of the Fort Pierre National Grassland by entering into a co-stewardship arrangement with the USDA. A land transfer of this scale would remove over 80,000 acres from the public domain and may result in livestock grazing permittees losing their ability to utilize and manage critical grassland.

Similar efforts are underway to remove farmland from the public domain in other states. The American Prairie is a conservation project in Montana led by the American Prairie Foundation (APF). The APF plans to stitch together 3.2 million acres of public and private land to create a nature reserve resulting in a considerable amount of farm and ranch land being taken offline. APF is in the process of buying private farmland and leasing acres from the federal government. This effort will take key farm and ranch lands out of production harming surrounding communities' economic interests.

Farmers and ranchers in the western United States rely heavily on access to well-managed public lands to maintain viable operations. Their success is critical to our food supply and our national interests. It is essential that farmers and ranchers continue to have access to reliable grazing on federal lands.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: Section 4.10 Food Regulation and Safety

Subject of Policy Amendment: Food Safety PFAS

Submitted By: Sectary Jeff Witte (NM) and Commissioner Amanda Beal (ME)

51 Text of Policy Amendment:

52 53

54

55

56

57 58

59

60

61 62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72 73

74

#### 4.10 Food Regulation and Safety (New)

- NASDA supports federal legislation that increases state funding and resources for responding to identified and emerging toxic pollutants, particularly per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), that impact farm and range lands, groundwater, surface water, livestock, and the nation's food supply.
- NASDA encourages interagency collaboration between the USDA, EPA, and FDA in their
  collective efforts to support mitigation and response efforts as it relates to PFAS. NASDA also
  stresses the importance of establishing a universal response framework that collaboratively
  supports states responding to PFAS and minimizes impacts on interstate commerce while
  protecting public health.
- NASDA encourages the use of the best available science and appropriate risk assessment in
  establishing any regulatory standards of threshold levels for PFAS in food products. In
  connection to PFAS thresholds, NASDA supports federal funding of research into and strategies
  to mitigate the risk of PFAS contaminants in the food supply and cleanup efforts.
- NASDA supports federal funding for PFAS response, including testing and sampling, state
  staffing, enhanced DIPP and additional federal programmatic support, agronomic research, and
  other timely and effective actions to remediate or prevent contamination (including water
  filtration, waste/nutrient management, livestock management, and other effective systems to
  bring contaminated water, products, livestock, and soil below federally established threshold
  levels). We encourage the federal establishment of threshold levels for PFAS in food products
  and robust financial support for impacted farmers. We encourage complete toxicological
  evaluations and interpretations prior to any relevant federal agency releasing the data.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

75 76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

EPA has released new advisory levels of PFAS class compounds and intends to establish regulatory levels in the near future. These new levels are far below existing levels and will require significant investments in testing, laboratory capacity and education and outreach. There will need to be strong coordination with agencies related to response and mitigation and in the establishment of a uniform response framework. The policy amendment captures updated information and needs for strong local, state and federal collaboration in addressing this emerging contaminant.





To be completed by NASDA Staff: Autumn Lankford

Date Submitted: 08/19/2022

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

Committee: Food Systems and Nutrition

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

Additional Notes:

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: Section 10.6 Local and Regional Processing

Subject of Policy Amendment: Local and Regional Processing – Food Safety, Education & Training

**Submitted By:** Secretary Karen Ross (CA) and Commissioner Amanda Beal (ME)

1 Text of Policy Amendment:

2

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16 17

18

#### **10.6 Local and Regional Processing**

Demand for locally-produced food is creating jobs and opportunities for farms, ranches, and businesses that produce, store, process, market and distribute food locally and regionally. To meet consumer demand and realize the potential economic gains from locally-produced foods, policies must support new and expanded local and regional processing facilities.

- NASDA believes local and regional processing is essential to a resilient and vibrant agricultural sector.
- NASDA supports policies and practices that put processors of all sizes on equal footing by ensuring equitable access to inspections, technical support, and financial resources.
- NASDA supports the timely investigation and enforcement of laws and regulations targeting anti-competitive practices to ensure equitable market access for producers and fair prices for consumers.
- NASDA supports cost-share federal grant funding for the purchase and/or upgrade of food safety equipment for small farm/ranch producers, including historically underserved farmers, in urban and rural communities.
- NASDA supports further federal funding for food safety research, education and training to assist local and regional processing capacity.

19 20 21

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

222324

25 26

27

28

A significant challenge in expanding local and regional food processing capacity among small farms and historically underserved farmers is the purchase/upgrade costs related to food safety equipment (processing, preservation, packaging). In addition, increased funding for food safety research, education and training should be expanded to benefit local and regional processing capacity in urban and rural areas.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

**Date Submitted**:08/19/2022

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

Committee: Food Systems and Nutrition

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

Additional Notes:

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: Section 5.1 Nutrition and Food Assistance Introduction

Subject of Policy Amendment: Nutrition and Food Assistance – Continued and Increased Investment

**Submitted By:** Secretary Karen Ross (CA) and Commissioner Amanda Beal (ME)

1 **Text of Policy Amendment:** 

2 3

#### 5.1 Introduction

- 4 (Updated February 2020)
- 5 As state officials and agriculture advocates, NASDA members stand in the nexus between agriculture,
- hunger, and nutrition. As the status of food and nutrition policy is constantly changing, NASDA members 6
- are currently focused on connecting consumers to products from farmers and ranchers and more local 7
- 8 foods, Dietary Guidelines, food waste, labeling, and supporting programs that reduce food insecurity and
- 9 increase nutritional value in measurable ways.

10

- Federal policy related to nutrition or dietary guidelines should deliver measurable benefits to consumers 11
- health. They should be informed by the best available peer-reviewed science specific to human health and 12
  - nutrition and, should not prejudice particular agricultural commodities, food products or farming
- 14 practices.

15 16

13

- NASDA supports continued and increased investments in nutrition and food assistance programs to
- address national food insecurity, strengthen local/regional food systems and support the overall health of 17
- 18 individuals.

19 20

Background & Rationale (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

21 22

- NASDA's Nutrition and Food Assistance policies are supportive of overall USDA Programs. This Policy 23
- Amendment provides for continued and increased investments in nutrition and food assistance programs 24
- 25 allowing for greater advocacy by NASDA.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: Section 11.11 Specialty Crops

Subject of Policy Amendment: Eligibility of Hemp for Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Funding

Submitted By: Director Celia Gould (ID) and Secretary Karen Ross (CA)

1 Text of Policy Amendment:

2

#### 11.11 Specialty Crops

Delete the following statement from NASDA Policy:

5

7

4

NASDA supports the dual designation for hemp as a specialty crop based on the manner and purpose for which it is grown. NASDA supports expanding the Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG) Program funding eligibility to hemp crops with horticultural uses.

8 9 10

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

111213

14

15

16

Currently, there is insufficient National Agricultural Statistical Service data for hemp production in all states and territories. Acreage and yields attributable to eligibility for the SCBG funding formula could not be calculated equitably at this time. Data regarding "the manner and purpose for which [hemp] is grown" also are not available consistently for all states and territories.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Date Submitted: 8/19/22 Committee: Marketing and International Trade

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

Additional Notes:

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: Section 11.11 Specialty Crops

Subject of Policy Amendment: Specialty Crop Block Grant Program - Process for the Designation of Unspecified or Ineligible Commodities.

Submitted By: Secretary Karen Ross (CA) and Director Derek Sandison (WA)

#### **Text of Policy Amendment:** 1

2 3

4

5

6

7

8

9 10

14

15

16

17

#### **Section 11.11 Specialty Crops**

- NASDA supports a defined process for presently unspecified or ineligible commodities to receive consideration for specialty crop designation as part of the SCBGP.
  - NASDA recognizes that the addition of new SCBGP designation commodities impacts available federal funding and advocates that the addition of new commodities be accompanied by an appropriate increase in federal funding.

Background & Rationale (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

11 12 Currently, a formal process to include unspecified or ineligible commodities with the SCBG does not 13

exist. This policy amendment supports the established of a legislative/administrative process to include new commodities and advocates for additional federal funding to accompany the inclusion of new products. A defined process for considering unspecified or ineligible commodities should include: (1) Approval of the Food and Drug Administration for the consumption as a food or beverage; (2)

consistent and harmonious regulation for the commodity both Federally and among states; and (3) 18 19 sufficient National Agricultural Statistic Service data for all states and territories to ensure acreage and 20

yield attributable to the eligible purpose affects the SCBG funding formula.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Date Submitted: 8/19/22 Committee: Rural Development and Financial Security

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: Section 10. Agriculture Infrastructure

Subject of Policy Amendment: Global Market Access

Submitted By: Commissioner Mike Strain, DVM (LA)

1 Text of Policy Amendment:

2

4

5

6 7

#### **Section 10 Agriculture Infrastructure**

Farmers and ranchers depend on reliable infrastructure to deliver their products and expand their operations. Out-of-date, underfunded transportation systems and a lack of available labor hinder agriculture production, while advancing technology encourages growth. NASDA believes in maintaining fairness and equity within the agriculture community through the development of a strong agriculture infrastructure, including export grain elevators for increasing access to the global market.

8 9 10

11

- **Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):
- 12 This addition will highlight the need for development of grain elevators to increase access by American
- 13 farmers to the global market.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

**Section Number and Title to be Amended:** Section 10 - Agriculture Infrastructure and New Section 10.7 Federal Investments for Agricultural Water Supply Infrastructure

Subject of Policy Amendment: Federal Investments for Agricultural Water Supply Infrastructure

**Submitted By:** Commissioner Kate Greenberg (CO)

1 Text of Policy Amendment:

#### Section 10 Agriculture Infrastructure

Farmers and ranchers depend on reliable infrastructure to deliver their products and expand their operations. Out-of-date, underfunded transportation and water supply systems, and a lack of available labor hinder agriculture production, while advancing technology encourages growth. NASDA believes in maintaining fairness and equity within the agriculture community through the development of a strong agriculture infrastructure.

#### Section 10.7 Federal Investments for Agricultural Water Supply Infrastructure

Aging water supply infrastructure coupled with ongoing and long-term droughts and a changing climate impacts local communities and agricultural production in much of the country. NASDA supports federal investments to update and expand water supply infrastructure on private and public lands to sustain agricultural production, provide safe drinking water to communities and maintain healthy ecosystems. In addition to funding large infrastructure projects, federal programs should support local and regional infrastructure for communities as well as producers and agricultural water organizations (such as water districts, ditch companies, and acequias, among other entities) in upgrading on- and off-farm and ranch infrastructure to increase efficiencies, maintain agricultural production, and increase resilience to drought and other climate impacts.

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

Water supply infrastructure is critical to agriculture and is increasingly becoming one of the most important issues for sustaining agricultural production in much of the country, but particularly in the arid West. It is important that NASDA policy recognize agricultural water supply infrastructure as





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Date Submitted: 8/19/22 Committee: Rural Development and Financial Security

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

27

28

29

30

31

"Agricultural Infrastructure" the same way we do with our transportation systems. In recognizing the importance of water supply infrastructure, it is also critical that we advocate for federal support at every step and scale of our water supply infrastructure, from large reclamation projects all the way to on-farm and ranch systems. It is also necessary to acknowledge the need for both sustaining agricultural production and maintaining the ecosystems upon which we rely for our water supply





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Committee: Rural Development and Financial Security Date Submitted: 8/19/22

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: Section 12.2 Farm Income and Production Stability

Subject of Policy Amendment: Farm Income and Production Stability

**Submitted By:** Secretary Jeff Witte (NM), and Director Alexis Taylor (OR)

#### **Text of Policy Amendment:**

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

NASDA recognizes the opportunities and risks of the market economy and uncontrollable conditions that threaten farm income and production stability. We encourage Modern, modern comprehensive risk management tools programs are vital to maintaining an affordable, reliable food supply. Risk management encompasses encompassing commodity programs, marketing, and crop insurance programs vital to maintaining an affordable, reliable food supply. We encourage comprehensive and reliable disaster assistance programs that cover all segments of agriculture using the best available data for declared disasters. U.S. farm policy must balance the cost of agricultural production, [and] the need for a market-driven safety net, and the compounding impacts of declared disasters, while finding innovative ways to support producers and provide a consistent, affordable food supply. NASDA encourages Congress and USDA to work with state departments of agriculture in the development and implementation of new products and programs. NASDA believes federal policies should support and ensure farm profit viability and production

14 15

12

13

1 2

> stability. NASDA believes financial tools that assist beginning and financially distressed producers should be developed and enhanced through federal, state, and private resources.

16 17 18

#### [Farm Service Agency] Farm Bill Programs

20 21

19

NASDA encourages adequate funding for all FSA loan programs. NASDA supports wide access to FSA programs and encourages FSA to develop materials to help producers graduate to commercial credit.

22 23 24

• NASDA believes the FSA beginning farmer down payment program should be improved by extending the program's current loan amortization to 30 years. NASDA recommends removing "Aggie Bonds" from the individual state limits on bond volumes.

25 26 • NASDA recommends reviewing the eligibility criteria for all Farm Bill programs.

27 28 • NASDA supports the equitable and timely administration of disaster response and recovery programs that are nimble enough to address the numerous dynamic variables of agricultural production such as localized price, transportation, and production standards.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

Additional Notes:

- NASDA believes crop and livestock insurance and disaster programs must complement one another to ensure adequate coverage for producers, while working with risk management programs.
- NASDA supports specialty crop insurance development that indemnifies growers based on quality or price of the intended market and allows use in alternative markets. Specialty crop insurance products should be made available to commodity specific producers who request coverage.

#### [Risk Management]

- NASDA believes risk management tools must be flexible, comprehensive, and readily available
  to producers. Programs should allow for frequent updating of production data and utilize sound
  actuarial practices.
- Crop and livestock insurance and disaster programs must complement one another to ensure adequate coverage for producers, while working with risk management programs.
- In addition, the federal government should provide a commodity safety net in a manner that minimizes production distortion.

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

Agriculture has seen unprecedented disasters during the period of the existing farm bill. Floods, wildfire and drought to name a few. The existing programs have fallen short in compensating producers for actual impacts to their production and infrastructure. The amended policy language is designed to give NASDA the flexibility to work with congress in establishing parameters that will appropriately cover agriculture losses due to natural or man-made disasters and reflect local costs and infrastructure needs.

32 33 34

35

29

30 31

363738

39

40 41 42

44 45

> 46 47

43

52

53





To be completed by NASDA Staff: Autumn Lankford

Date Submitted: 8/19/22 Committee: Rural Development and Financial Security

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

1

2

4 5

6 7

8 9

10

11 12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19 20

21

22 23 Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: New Section 15.8 Mental Health

Subject of Policy Amendment: Mental Health

Submitted By: Secretary Hunter Roberts (SD) and Commissioner Thom Petersen (MN)

#### **Text of Policy Amendment: New Section 15.8 Mental Health**

- NASDA supports strong funding for mental health programs and research that targets farmers and ranchers.
- NASDA urges the USDA and NIFA to make long term grant funding available exclusively to state
  departments of agriculture to combat farm stress. Specifically, NASDA encourages CONGRESS to
  fund additional noncompetitive grants supporting Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network
  (FRSAN) State Department of Agriculture projects.

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

Suicide among farmers and ranchers is a critical issue. The loss of life due to suicide ripples through rural communities across our country. It is felt in our homes, schools, places of worship, and throughout our everyday life. NASDA supports policies and programs that promote awareness of mental health issues in our communities.

In 2021, USDA's NIFA announced an investment of \$25 million for 50 grants supporting FRSAN. As a result, state departments of agriculture were offered noncompetitive grants up to \$500,000 to combat farm stress. This funding was offered as a one-time grant.

This policy amendment will encourage NASDA staff to advocate for this funding, or other similar funding opportunities, to become reoccurring and offered to state departments of agriculture on a noncompetitive basis.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Date Submitted: 8/19/22

Committee: Natural Resources and Environment

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

Additional Notes:

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

**Section Number and Title to be Amended:** Section 7.1 Agriculture Conservation

Subject of Policy Amendment: USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program

**Submitted By:** Commissioner Steve Troxler (NC), Commissioner Charlie Hatcher (TN), Secretary Wes Ward (AR), Commissioner Rick Pate (AL)

#### **Text of Policy Amendment:**

#### Section 7.1 Agriculture Conservation – New Bullet

 NASDA supports the improvement for the USDA NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program.

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

USDA NRCS interprets federal law such that EWPP funding can only be used where a disaster-related watershed impairment is creating an immediate and imminent danger to life or property. Prevention of crop loss due to impaired drainage or flooding caused by storm-related stream debris is not considered an eligible purpose for EWPP. Federal law regarding EWPP should be revised to specifically authorize the use of EWPP funding to remove storm-related stream debris necessary to prevent crop loss from flooding or impaired drainage on agricultural lands.

There is no annual appropriation for EWPP. Particularly for large disaster events, this can cause significant delays while awaiting funding for EWPP. Congress should provide annual funding for EWPP so that initial recovery efforts are not delayed while awaiting the passage of a federal disaster recovery bill. Additionally, the program should support funding for local sponsors to receive technical assistance funding to implement the program elements.

USDA NRCS should streamline the process for authorizing the use of EWPP fund by states for exigent circumstances. NRCS should authorize repairs as soon as a site is determined to be exigent, and the State Conservationist should be granted the authority to guarantee a minimum level of funding for needed repairs at these sites.

1 2 3

4

5

6 7

8 9 10

11 12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19 20

21 22

23

24

25 26





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Date Submitted: 8/19/22

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

Committee: Rural Development and Financial Security

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

Additional Notes:

Policy Amendments (PA) either create a new section or amend an existing section of NASDA's Policy Statements. PAs establish general policy principles of the association and guide NASDA's policy prioritization process and engagement.

Section Number and Title to be Amended: New Section 10.8 Controlled Environment Agriculture

Subject of Policy Amendment: Controlled Environment Agriculture

**Submitted By:** Secretary Russell Redding (PA)

1 Text of Policy Amendment:

2

4

5

6

#### **Section 10.8 Controlled Environment Agriculture**

Controlled environment agriculture (CEA) represents a diverse group of indoor agricultural production methods that utilize innovative technologies including, but not limited to, hydroponics, aeroponics, and aquaponics to grow a wide variety of specialty crops. These operations occur indoors or under glass with systems that ensure optimal growing conditions.

7 8 9

• NASDA supports federal investment for infrastructure costs associated with controlled environment agriculture through tax credits, grants, etc.

10 11 12

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Policy Amendment or appear in the NASDA Policy Handbook):

131415

#### Importance of CEA

Funding of CEA

16 17 18  Indoor farming and controlled environmental agriculture offer a solution to many of the problems facing our Nation. Whether is the lack of water quantity in the west or water quality in the east, CEA provides another method to produce fresh food.

19

 These controlled facilities can serve as a means of resilience to the shocks and stresses of climate change.

20 21

CEA facilities can maximize energy, water, land efficiencies.

22

CEA facilities can provide local jobs and address concerns with supply chains.

23

CEA facilities can provide off season products domestically.

2425

26

27

 CEA facilities face significant upfront capital costs. The high capital costs are exacerbated by indoor farming companies not being eligible for the same federal support programs that traditional agriculture utilizes.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Date Submitted: 8/19/22

Committee: Rural Development and Financial Security

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

28
29
30
31
32
33

- Despite some states providing financial incentives, CEA producers usually do not have sufficient tax liability to use tax credits offered at the state level.
- A federal tax credit would allow producers to go to the tax equity markets, where they
  trade the tax credits for a lesser amount of cash up front could be one means of
  capitalization. Tax credits that would allow for a "direct pay" option from the federal
  government in addition to direct transferability would also be favorable.





Date Submitted:07/27/2022

Committee: Animal Agriculture

To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Action Items (AI) highlight a specific current issue Members feel NASDA should act on or other priority issues. Als do not establish NASDA policy and must comply with existing policy or be accompanied by a corresponding Policy Amendment.

**Subject of Action Item:** Strengthening the U.S. Animal Disease and Traceability and Disease Prevention RFID Infrastructure

**Submitted By:** Secretary Blayne Arthur (OK)

#### **Text of Action Item:**

2 3 4

1

NASDA supports increased dedicated funding available to states to facilitate the build-out of critical Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) radio-frequency identification (RFID) infrastructure.

5 6

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Action Item):

7 8

9

10

11 12

13 14 The threat of a foreign animal disease impacting the United States protein market is real and tangible, recently evidenced by the outbreak of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza and ongoing concern of African Swine Fever. A robust disease traceability system and corresponding action from states and their partners is critical to the United States' response in protecting our food supply, as well as domestic and export markets. While states have taken steps to improve their ability to detect and trace animal diseases, there are still significant gaps in the overall infrastructure. With a production value well over \$100 billion, providing tools and resources to the states to protect the livestock industry is a top priority.

15 16 17

18

NASDA has been a long-time advocate of funding and resources needed to maintain a robust state and federal animal health infrastructure necessary to facilitate early detection, surveillance, response, and control activities to prevent and mitigate both domestic and foreign animal diseases.

control activities to prevent and mitigate both domestic and foreign animal diseases.

Increased funding would allow further development of RFID infrastructure at the state-level and
enhance the overall US animal disease traceability system. States would be able to utilize the existing
Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) Cooperative Agreement program, which is a familiar platform, and
have the ability to focus funding requests to meet their individual needs.

2425

26 27

28

29

The ADT Cooperative agreements establish strong standards to ensure interoperability across all participants and protection of the data collection and utilization process. While the ADT Cooperative Agreement program is already established, states would be heavily encouraged to look beyond just department needs and engage with key partners within their state, including auction barns, livestock producers and processing facilities to facilitate their participation.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

30 A strong disease traceability system is an insurance plan for our livestock industry, but also assures

31 American consumers and global trading partners that the US has a safe and sustainable food supply.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

Date Submitted:08/19/2022

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

Committee: Animal Agriculture

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Action Items (AI) highlight a specific current issue Members feel NASDA should act on or other priority issues. Als do not establish NASDA policy and must comply with existing policy or be accompanied by a corresponding Policy Amendment.

Subject of Action Item: APHIS and Avian Influenza Response

**Submitted By:** Secretary Michael Scuse (DE), Secretary Joseph Bartenfelder (MD) & Commissioner Steve Troxler

**Text of Action Item:** 

In light of the outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in states throughout the country, NASDA urges USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to be more inclusive of state officials in the decision-making process during an outbreak. APHIS should coordinate with state officials when determining the type of allowable depopulation method and when determining appropriate instances to use its existing authority to leverage indemnity payments.

NASDA also urges APHIS to continue to look into science based humane depopulation methods including advanced system foaming, carbon dioxide gassing, and Ventilation Shutdown Plus (VSD+). While NASDA understands that VSD+ is permitted in constrained circumstances, NASDA encourages APHIS to conduct scientific review on VSD+ as one of the preferred depopulation methods to rapidly eradicate highly contagious diseases.

Background & Rationale (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Action Item):

During the 2022 HPAI Incident, the States of Delaware and Maryland established a joint incident command to address the risks and threats of the outbreak on farms, operations, and companies that crossed state lines. Delays and negligence of an individual operation to execute virus elimination processes in a timely and complete manner led to setbacks and heightened risks for other operations in proximity and nearly jeopardized the security of the industry at large.

 During animal disease outbreaks secretaries, commissioners, directors, and veterinary leadership within departments of agriculture lead states' emergency management and response efforts. A critical point of collaboration for state officials, is working with APHIS to eliminate virus as quickly and thoroughly as possible. This also requires the cooperation of individual producers, growers, and farm operations. Animal disease outbreaks affect multiple farms, growers, producers, and industry companies. This means that the capacity of an individual producer or operation to adequately respond – contain and eradicate an outbreak – influences the response of other operations and the toll that the outbreak can take on other operations.





**Date Submitted**:08/19/2022 Committee: Animal Agriculture

[ ] Adopted by NASDA

[ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

As part of APHIS efforts to eradicate and control foreign animal diseases, emerging diseases, and program diseases as authorized by title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (9 CFR), APHIS provides indemnity and compensation to producers to remove animals APHIS classifies as affected, suspect, or exposed to diseases of concern, and to eliminate dangerous viruses from the environment. Indemnity payments are a useful tool to incentivize producers to respond as quickly and thoroughly as possible during an outbreak. APHIS should be more inclusive of leadership at the state level to provide input on releasing indemnity funds and other funds related to cleaning and virus elimination. Allowing states to provide input will ensure that state personnel, with first-hand intel and situational reports of the incident, can use indemnity payments as leverage to move eradication processes forward.

To be completed by NASDA Staff:

40 41 42

32

33

34

35 36

37

38

39

When necessary, this is a tactic that can help states avoid the inaction of one operation adversely impacting other operations and impeding the local, regional, national, and international interests of the industry.

44 45 46

47

48

49

50 51

43

USDA used nationally recognized data sources to estimate commercial indemnity values for 2022. These estimates are based on observable market transactions available from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), and the Livestock Marketing Information Center (LMIC). When a poultry facility becomes infected with avian influenza or another animal disease deemed high impact/high consequence by the Secretary of Agriculture, virus elimination is a crucial step in the recovery process. The cleaning and disinfection practices used to achieve virus elimination should be cost effective.

52 53 54

55

56 57

58 59 Currently, APHIS determines the type of depopulation method that can be used during an outbreak. States are required to submit a request for special permission to use VSD+. During the 2022 incident, this process was cumbersome. The time spent to gain approval was costly to the Delaware and Maryland joint command while managing the emergency as quickly and thoroughly as possible. In addition, obtaining carbon dioxide in some parts of the country is challenging, with delivery taking up to four days and costs of upwards of \$40,000 per load compared to VSD+ which is less expensive and can be done in a timely manner.

60 61 62

63

64

During an outbreak, state officials can examine on-the-ground circumstances in real time, while APHIS cannot. State agriculture departments with veterinary professionals are equipped to assess the most humane depopulation methods and need the flexibility to do so.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Action Items (AI) highlight a specific current issue Members feel NASDA should act on or other priority issues. Als do not establish NASDA policy and must comply with existing policy or be accompanied by a corresponding Policy Amendment.

Subject of Action Item: Water Quality Outcomes Based Incentive or Program

Submitted By: Secretary Mike Naig (IA)

#### **Text of Action Item:**

NASDA encourages Congress to include in the next Farm Bill a Water Quality Outcomes based incentive or program that either incentivizes state and local governments to invest in outcome-based water quality programs or allows USDA to work with eligible partners to produce water quality outcomes, specifically nitrogen and phosphorus reductions, in priority watersheds or regions, with the goal of incentivizing state and local governments to invest in water quality outcomes and match their dollars with USDA funding.

Background & Rationale (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Action Item):

Nutrient pollution is the most widespread issue affecting rivers and streams across the United States. States, including Iowa and others, have been leading the way on creating outcomes-based water quality programs to address the issue in line with NASDA policy supporting "voluntary, outcome-based programs". In outcomes-based conservation programs, farmers are directly compensated for the water quality benefits they produce, just like governments purchase office supplies and just like farmers sell grain. This approach reduces paperwork and allows a competitive market to drive down costs, saving taxpayers money. But for many states, changing their existing conservation programs requires a significant investment. A Water Quality Outcomes matching incentive or program in the 2023 Farm Bill could provide exactly the necessary nudge to encourage states to implement water quality outcomes purchasing programs and would get more money in the pockets of American farmers who go above and beyond to improve water quality.





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Action Items (AI) highlight a specific current issue Members feel NASDA should act on or other priority issues. Als do not establish NASDA policy and must comply with existing policy or be accompanied by a corresponding Policy Amendment.

Subject of Action Item: Historical Flood Maps, USACE

**Submitted By:** Commissioner Steve Troxler (NC), Commissioner Charlie Hatcher (TN), Secretary Wes Ward (AR), Commissioner Rick Pate (AL)

#### Text of Action Item:

2 3 4

1

NASDA supports Congressional action to direct the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) to address flooding issues to protect agriculture in States where historical flood maps are generally thought to be out-of-date.

5 6 7

Background & Rationale (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Action Item):





To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA [ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

Action Items (AI) highlight a specific current issue Members feel NASDA should act on or other priority issues. Als do not establish NASDA policy and must comply with existing policy or be accompanied by a corresponding Policy Amendment.

Subject of Action Item: Hemp Fiber and Grain Exemption

Submitted By: Secretary Redding, Pennsylvania

#### Text of Action Item:

1 2 3

NASDA supports amending the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to exempt industrial hemp from certain requirements under the hemp production program. These changes will enable fiber and grain producers to be exempt from both background checks and THC testing. Farmers would sign a declaration that they will only harvest grain/fiber hemp, continue to be permitted, face severe consequences for intentional violations, and be required to have a visual inspection. NASDA encourages Congress to implement this into the 2023 Farm Bill.

8 9 10

**Background & Rationale** (Note: Information in this section will not be included in the final text of the Action Item): This separate designation can be completed through 2023 Farm Bill. NASDA to update 2023 Farm Bill materials to reflect the fiber/grain exemption for hemp. NASDA to continue support of a 1 percent THC limit for cannabinoid hemp.

13 14 15

16 17

11

12

In the 2018 Farm Bill, hemp became legal to cultivate. However, the Bill did not differentiate between the different purposes and varieties of hemp that could be grown. Therefore, the rules meant to address concerns around cannabinoid hemp negatively impacted both fiber and grain hemp adoption and production.

18 19 20

21

By supporting a hemp fiber and grain exemption, significant barriers can be removed to enable farmers to approach hemp fiber and grain production like any other commodity crop.

22 23  Same 2018 Farm Bill licensing with added designation for only grain/fiber production & harvest (including GPS coordinates of land on which hemp is produced)

24 25  Signed declaration that producer will only harvest grain/fiber and will not harvest or sell floral material or extract any resin from crop (note-full use of hemp seed/grain authorized)

26

No background check required

27 28  Required visual inspection (i.e. in person, aerial with drones, or unmanned aircraft) to confirm uniform crop production consistent with production designation on license

29

• No sampling or testing for uniform production consistent with designation





[ ] Not Adopted by NASDA

To be completed by NASDA Staff:

[ ] Adopted by NASDA [ ] Adopted with Amendment by NASDA

**Additional Notes:** 

34

35

36

30	•	If visual inspection reveals inconsistent crop production with designation, documented
31		verification required(i.e. seed/variety receipts, sales contract, planting report) and the
32		Department of Ag reserves right to require harvest inspection.
33	•	Intentional violations: crop destruction, fine/civil penalty, restricted from program

- Intentional violations: crop destruction, fine/civil penalty, restricted from program participation, potential criminal charges for high-THC production.
- All regulation will remain the same with cannabinoid hemp (pending the push for a 1 percent THC limit.



### **Affiliate Reports**

2022 Annual Meeting



### SARATOGA SPRINGS NIEW YORK

