

February 7, 2006

**AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMITTEE REQUESTS DUE MARCH 16TH
MEMBER LETTER AND ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUIRED**

Dear Colleague:

It is an honor and a privilege for us to serve as the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies in the 2nd session of the 109th Congress.

As we begin to develop the fiscal year 2007 Agriculture Appropriations bill, we would seek input from member offices interested in expressing their views on matters under the Subcommittee's purview. The Subcommittee will collect member requests via an electronic form posted on the House Intranet. We will collect this information in order to evaluate the need and/or merits of particular projects and programs. The due date is **March 16, 2006**. Your office may access the electronic request form at the following link: <http://onlinecao.house.gov/appropriations/AGApprops.asp>.

As all of you are well aware, the Appropriations Committee faces a tight discretionary allocation in fiscal year 2007. As a result, we cannot guarantee that a particular project or program will be funded, either in part or in full. If your office is requesting funding for specific projects or programs, it is essential that your office assigns a priority number to each project or program for which you are requesting funding. Each member office should prioritize its requests amongst the total number of requests (i.e., a member's office cannot have a number one priority for projects under the Agricultural Research Service and then another number one priority under the Natural Resources Conservation Service.) The Subcommittee **will only accept requests for project/program funding or bill/report language from a Member's office**. A signed letter **MUST** accompany the electronic submission from the Member of Congress to the Subcommittee Chairman that briefly mentions, in priority order, EACH of the items submitted electronically. Please note that any change that the House may adopt to this process could change the manner in which the Subcommittee manages member requests. No electronic file submissions will be considered without delivery of a signed letter that references each submission.

The Subcommittee will not consider any funding request for projects or programs that are unauthorized. Additionally, any authorizing language that a member requests for Subcommittee consideration must be accompanied by a letter of approval from the chairman of the committee of jurisdiction.

If you or an outside party are interested in providing written testimony for the record in connection with our fiscal year 2007 budget hearings, please provide three copies to the Subcommittee at 2362A Rayburn House Office Building no later than March 30, 2006, or the testimony can be submitted by email to: approp.ag@mail.house.gov. Testimony is limited to not more than five single-spaced, letter-size pages, typed on only one side of each page. Although maps, pictures, graphs, letters, petitions and the like may be submitted to the Subcommittee, it is not feasible to include them in the printed hearing record.

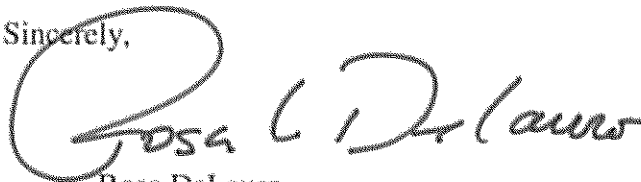
Of course, all testimony will be thoroughly reviewed by the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee will also review and consider all information received by Members at any time, whether or not submitted for publication in the formal hearing record.

We hope that this process will help expedite our hearing schedule and result in fewer disruptions and inconveniences for Members. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Subcommittee staff at (202) 225-2638.



Henry Bonilla
Chairman
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug
Administration and Related
Agencies

Sincerely,



Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural
Development, Food and Drug
Administration and Related
Agencies