

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 26, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
S 128, United States Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
S 128, United States Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Herb Kohl
Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee
on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and
Related Agencies
184 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sam Brownback
Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee
on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and
Related Agencies
184 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen, Vice Chairman, and Ranking Members:

As your subcommittee begins to draft its appropriations bill for fiscal year 2011, we respectfully request your consideration of the following projects. These projects meet a local, state or national public need and maintain or create jobs.

Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

Cormorant Control - \$450,000

Programmatic

We request \$450,000 for Cormorant Control in the State of Michigan. This funding will be used to control the Cormorant population which is affecting the Great Lakes fish supply and vegetation.

Emerald Ash Borer - \$50,000,000

Programmatic

We request \$50,000,000 for Emerald Ash Borer monitoring, containment, and eradication. This funding will be used to combat and contain the emerald ash borer that is currently threatening 7.5 billion trees with an economic value of over \$300 billion.

State of Michigan Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication – \$9,600,000

Michigan Department of Agriculture - Lansing, MI

We request \$9,600,000 for Michigan Department of Agriculture for the state of Michigan bovine tuberculosis eradication program. The Bovine TB Eradication Project incorporates expertise from the Michigan Departments of Agriculture (MDA), Community Health, and Natural Resources in cooperation with the USDA and Michigan State University. This disease eradication project pulls together stakeholders and community members and sets the national standard for multi-agency cooperation. The goal to eradicate bovine TB from Michigan requires continual financial support from Congress, active cooperation with federal partners, and unrelenting efforts at the state level. The consequences if these plans are not implemented will be additional bovine TB-positive herds.

Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) -- \$6,000,000

Programmatic

We request \$6,000,000 for monitoring, research, and management of VHS. This funding will be used by APHIS in Michigan and the Great Lakes region to prevent the movement of this deadly fish disease.

Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory - \$1,000,000

Programmatic

We request \$1,000,000 for the Avian Disease and Oncology Lab. This funding will be used to update and improve the facilities and equipment at the lab, much of which is old and out of date. The lab is partnered with Michigan State University and is involved with a number of avian disease prevention programs important to the commercial poultry industry.

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Grassroots Source Water Protection – \$6,400,000

Programmatic

We request \$6,400,000 for the Grassroots Source Water Protection Program. This funding will be used to organize and assist rural communities, farmers, and other land-use interests in the implementation of source water protection plans including non-point source protection practices in agricultural regions.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

International Food Protection Training Institute - \$8,000,000

Programmatic

We request \$8,000,000 for the International Food Protection Training Institute. This funding will be used to train state and local food safety professionals by providing first-in-class, career

spanning curriculum. A safe food supply is an essential component in building a healthy environment for children, families, and communities. Annually, 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations, and 5,000 deaths occur due to food pathogens.

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) – \$176,800,000

Programmatic

We request \$176,800,000 in programmatic funding for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program. This funding will be used to provide a monthly nutritious food supply to low-income senior citizens, pregnant and post-partum mothers, and children under the age of six.

Wayne County, Urban Horticulture – \$300,000

Wayne County - Detroit, MI

We request \$300,000 for Wayne County for the Urban Horticulture project. This funding will be used to increase the accessibility of fresh produce to residents located in food deserts throughout the county. A total of eight to twelve urban gardens will be created to provide fresh produce for an estimated 20,000 underserved residents throughout Wayne County.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

Agricultural and Food Research Initiative – \$428,845,000

Programmatic

We request \$428,845,000 for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative. This funding will be used for the competitive grants program at NIFA.

Center for Renewable Transportation Fuel – \$3,000,000

Wayne State University - Detroit, MI

We request \$3,000,000 for Wayne State University for their Center for Renewable Transportation Fuel. This funding will be used for the development of domestic renewable transportation fuels: bio-diesel, ethanol, butane, and hydrogen. The Center for Renewable Transportation Fuel is a collaboration between Wayne State University and agricultural industry leaders to advance the application technology used for renewable transportation fuels. The Center will serve as a catalyst to accelerate the development of an alternative fuel industry in Michigan.

DEGC Fresh Food Access Initiative - \$1,000,000

Detroit Economic Growth Corporation - Detroit, MI

We request \$1,000,000 for the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation for DEGC Fresh Food Access Initiative. This funding will be used for business attraction and retention, capacity building, and innovative marketing strategies to establish or expand over 20 fresh food grocery outlets in Detroit while promoting linkages to local growers and strengthening the overall food system. Currently, about 550,000 Detroit residents live in food deserts with limited access to nutritious food options.

Emergency Food Access Integration Initiative – \$1,000,000

United Way for Southeastern Michigan - Detroit, MI

We request \$1,000,000 for United Way for Southeast Michigan for the Emergency Food Access Integration Program. This funding will be used to bridge the lack of information among volunteer food pantries and connect emergency food distributors to existing formal resources as well as other local food networks that may be able to help meet emergency food needs. There has been an unprecedented rise in demand for food assistance and pantry operators face limited supplies and poor networks in terms of accessing donated surplus and other affordable supply. United Way as an umbrella non-profit will coordinate between a variety of agricultural producers intermediaries and emergency distributors to help meet food supply needs, expand client choice pantries, and address food hardship issues.

Great Lakes VHS Prevention Program with Three Universities (Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron) – \$325,000

Superior Watershed Partnership - Marquette, MI

We request \$325,000 for the Superior Watershed Partnership for the Great Lakes VHS Prevention Program. This funding will be used to reduce the spread of the Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) virus and other aquatic invasive species in the upper Great Lakes and inland lakes by installing boat disinfection stations and public information kiosks at 30 public boat launches in the Upper Peninsula. The Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) virus has been documented to cause large scale fish-kills in priority Great Lakes commercial fisheries.

Hatch Act – \$240,000,000

Programmatic

We request \$240,000,000 under the Hatch Act for State Agricultural Experiment Stations for agricultural research. These funds will be used for a variety of agricultural research including: conservation, health, safety, land management, sustainability, and biotechnology.

McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forest Program - \$35,000,000

Programmatic

We request \$35,000,000 for the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forest Program. This funding will be used to continue forestry research at educational institutions across the country.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture - Extension (NIFA-Extension)

Michigan Wetland Extension Program - Phase II – \$250,000

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. Great Lakes/Atlantic Region - Ann Arbor, MI

We request \$250,000 for Ducks Unlimited for phase two of the Michigan Wetland Extension Program. This funding will provide biological and engineering technical assistance for wetland restoration and control of invasive species. This project will advance Michigan's wetland conservation efforts and improve and leverage additional funding and cooperation among all levels of stakeholders.

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station in Traverse City, Michigan – \$100,000

Cherry Marketing Institute - Traverse City, MI

We request \$100,000 for the Cherry Marketing Institute for the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station. This funding will be used to support research and outreach into sustainable pest and disease management of cherries in Michigan. Michigan grows 75% of the nation's tart cherries and is the third largest producer of sweet cherries in the United States. However, regulatory restrictions, lack of technological improvements, and basic biological mechanisms at the pest and disease level have greatly increased the risk of producing cherries and have moderated competitive advantages of growing these fruits in the state.

Smith-Lever – \$350,000,000**Programmatic**

We request \$350,000,000 for the Smith-Lever program. This funding will be used for delivery of Cooperative Extension System's wide array of programs.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture – Special Research Grants (NIFA-SRG)**Apple Fire Blight – \$500,000 - MSU/Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station****East Lansing, MI**

We request \$500,000 for the Michigan State University, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station for Apple Fire Blight research. This funding will be used to combat a devastating and highly resistant disease that affects apples in Michigan and other apple growing regions of the Eastern United States.

Bovine Tuberculosis, MI, MN – \$2,000,000**MSU/Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station - East Lansing, MI**

We request \$2,000,000 for the Michigan State University, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station for Bovine Tuberculosis research. This funding will be used to research this cattle disease that has a negative impact on the livestock industry. Areas of focus include epidemiology, risk assessment, modeling, improved diagnostic tests, vaccine development and social aspects.

Development of Biobased Chemicals and Materials from Agricultural Raw Materials - \$625,000**Michigan Biotechnology Institute – Lansing, MI**

We request \$625,000 for the Michigan Biotechnology Institute for the development of biobased chemicals and materials from agricultural raw materials. Targeted products are being developed to produce replacements or current petroleum based products. This includes products such as organic acids for use in polymers and plastics as well as cellulose conversion technologies for the production of chemicals, fuels and animal feeds.

Microbial Food Safety Research, MI – \$750,000**MSU/Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station - East Lansing, MI**

We request \$750,000 for the Michigan State University, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station for Microbial Food Safety research. This funding will be used to create an integrated, systems-based research program for improving microbial food safety. Food safety remains a major public health threat in the U.S. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates

that there are more than 76 million cases annually, causing 325,000 hospitalizations, 5,000 deaths and costing more than \$6 billion in medical expenses/productivity.

Phytophthora Research, MI – \$500,000

MSU/Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station - East Lansing, MI

We request \$500,000 for the Michigan State University, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station for Phytophthora Research. This funding will be used to manage Phytophthora capsici on vegetable crops by developing resistant varieties and identifying the disease in surface irrigation waters to limit the spread of Phytophthora and give an overall economic benefit to vegetable producers.

Potato Breeding Research, – \$2,800,000

MSU/Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station - East Lansing, MI

We request \$2,800,000 for the Michigan State University, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station for Potato Breeding Research. This funding will be used to support potato breeding and variety development at the land grant universities in over twelve states that are the major potato producers. The research in Michigan supports breeding for greater insect and disease resistance combined with greater potato quality.

Wood Utilization, AK, ID, LA, ME, MI, MN, MS, NC, OR, TN, WV – \$6,435,000

MSU/Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station - East Lansing, MI

We request \$6,435,000 for the Michigan State University, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station for Wood Utilization research. This funding will be used to develop innovative technology for the manufacture of products from eastern hardwood species in order to enhance economic opportunities for rural and urban communities.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control - \$5,000,000

Great Lakes Commission

We request \$5,000,000 for the Great Lakes Commission for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. This funding will be used to protect and improve water quality in the Great Lakes through financial incentives, education and professional assistance.

Improved Natural Resources Conservation Services – \$2,500,000

Michigan Technological University - Houghton, MI

We request \$2,500,000 for Michigan Technological University for Improved Natural Resources Conservation Services. This funding will be used to design, develop, and deploy a new set of program management tools for achieving conservation goals, integrating a wide array of newly available data and information technologies into program management needs.

Rural Business Cooperative Service (RBCS)

Ashmun Bay Boat Access and Channel Dredging Project – \$100,000

City Of Sault Sainte Marie - Sault Sainte Marie, MI

We request \$100,000 for the City of Sault Ste. Marie for the Ashmun Bay Boat Access and Channel Dredging Project. This funding will be used to dredge from the existing boat ramp at Ashmun Bay to the Upper St. Marys River to provide safe access to the channel.

Lake Superior State University, Creation of a Community Outdoor Recreation and Education Area - \$1,800,000

Lake Superior State University - Sault Sainte Marie, MI

We request \$1,800,000 for Lake Superior State University for the Creation of a Community Outdoor Recreation and Education Area. This funding will be used to create a meandering stream, kid's fishing/skating pond, community area and nature interpretive stations on six and a half acres along the historic St. Mary's riverfront. Local attractions now feature Tower of History and Museum Ship Valley Camp. Redevelopment of this parcel will revitalize an economically depressed community by increasing tourism revenue, while providing an educational environment for community schools and visitors.

Lake Superior State University Aquatic Research Laboratory, Development of a Fish Disease Laboratory and Bio-secure Fish Hatchery – \$3,000,000

Lake Superior State University - Sault Sainte Marie, MI

We request \$3,000,000 for Lake Superior State University, Aquatic Research Lab (ARL) for the development of a Fish Disease Laboratory and Bio-secure Fish Hatchery. This funding will be used for the renovation to expand the ARL's capacity to protect the region's natural resources, including water quality, fisheries, invasive species control, and habitat. It will allow improved monitoring and treatment of emerging diseases. Fishing is a multi-billion dollar industry in Michigan that supports over 27,000 jobs.

Les Cheneaux Islands, Emergency Response Vehicle (Fire/Rescue Boat) – \$300,000

Clark Township Fire Department - Cedarville, MI

We request \$300,000 for the Clark Township Fire Department for an Emergency Response Vessel. This funding will be used to purchase a fireboat rigged with fire and rescue equipment to serve local residents and protect commercial lake traffic. There are currently thirty six islands containing about nine hundred homes under the protection of the fire department.

Shiawassee Performing Arts Center – \$750,000 - Owosso Community Players

Owosso, MI

We request \$750,000 for the Owosso Community Players for Shiawassee Performing Arts Center. This funding will be used to rebuild the Lebowski theater that burned down in a fire three years ago. The theater has been an economic anchor for the community for over 80 years.

Rural Housing Service (RHS)

Community/Senior Center – \$721,000

Germfask Township - Germfask Township, MI

We request \$721,000 for Germfask Township for the renovation of a Community/Senior Center. This funding will be used for major renovations to the building, dating from the 1960's, in order to meet ADA standards and usability. The project will include the replacement of the roof,

restroom improvements, the updating of electrical wiring, as well as updates to the heating and cooling system.

Duncan Township Hall Improvements and Historic Preservation – \$150,000

Duncan Township - Kenton, MI

We request \$150,000 for the Duncan Township for the improvement and historic preservation of the Duncan Township Hall. This funding will be used to improve the electrical system, furnace, insulation, plumbing realignment to permit use in winter, and rehabilitation of the kitchen space. The Township Hall is a 103 year old historic structure that has served as a community center and tourism base for the local community.

Duncan Township Office, Fire Hall Construction – \$150,000

Duncan Township - Sidnaw, MI

We request \$150,000 for Duncan Township for improvements to their local government building. This funding will be used to construct a new administrative space for Duncan Township, which is currently operating out of a church, and replace an obsolete fire hall in Sidnaw.

Franklin Township Fire Station – \$785,000

Franklin Township - Hancock, MI

We request \$785,000 for Franklin Township, Michigan for the construction of a new fire station. This facility would replace two existing fire stations that are both in need of major repairs. The new facility will provide increased safety for firefighters in a more energy efficient building saving the community funds in the long run.

South County Community & Fitness Center Renovation Project – \$650,000

Community Hand-UP - Skandia, MI

We request \$650,000 for the Community Hand-UP for the renovation of the South County Community & Fitness Center. This funding will be used to increase energy efficiency and sustainability for the facility . Utility costs are currently the largest expense for the center, which is the only community resource of its kind within a thirty mile radius.

Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

Circuit Rider – \$15,490,000

Programmatic

We request \$15,490,000 for Circuit Riders Program. This funding will be used to assist small communities to operate safe and clean water supplies.

GRWA Water System Improvements Lake Source – \$35,000,000

Gogebic Range Water Authority - Ramsay, MI

We request \$35,000,000 for the Gogebic Range Water Authority for GRWA Water System Improvements Lake Source. This funding will be used to deliver water from an extremely high quality source to six communities which are currently dependent on a ground water aquifer which has limited capacity and is the only source available to them. This project includes the

construction of a Lake Superior water intake, treatment facility, and 16 miles of transmission main to connect to the existing GRWA system.

Partridge Creek Diversion Project – \$2,500,000

City of Ishpeming - Ishpeming, MI

We request \$2,500,000 for the City of Ishpeming for the Partridge Creek Diversion Project. This funding will be used to replace a diversion that utilizes inactive underground mining works. Elevated mercury levels have been detected and the new diversion is needed to protect ground water.

Rural Water Infrastructure Grants and Loans – \$650,000,000

Programmatic

We request \$650,000,000 for the USDA Rural Water Grants and Loans Program. This funding will be used to assist small communities to build or extend water systems by leveraging limited resources using federal grants and loans. Without this assistance, they could not construct new systems, expand existing ones, or comply with mandates.

We certify that neither we nor our immediate families have a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that we have requested for Fiscal Year 2011, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

We further certify that we have posted a description of the items requested to our official websites, along with the accompanying justification.

We appreciate the subcommittee's consideration of our requests. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Harold Chase of Senator Levin's staff at 202-224-6221 or Douglas Messana of Senator Stabenow's staff at 202-224-4822.

Sincerely,



Senator Debbie Stabenow



Senator Carl Levin

March 26, 2010

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Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
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Dear Chairmen, Vice Chairman, and Ranking Members:

The following is a list of my support for additional programmatic requests for the fiscal year 2011 Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill. These requests have a nationwide impact, meet a local, state or national public need, and maintain or create jobs:

Animal Disease Traceability - \$14,241,000 - Nationwide

This funding will support a national tracking system which will allow a quicker more accurate response to animal disease outbreaks.

Animal Health Research, Section 1433 Formula Funds - \$10,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will provide veterinary science departments at universities and colleges the ability to conduct research into the health and productivity of domestic livestock and other income-producing animals.

Animal Welfare Programs - \$135,430,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used to protect the welfare of millions of animals across the country and decrease food safety risks to consumers.

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Individual Development Account Program - \$5,000,000 - Nationwide

This funding will be used for competitive matching grants that enable beginning farmers and ranchers to open individual development accounts in order to save for farming-related asset such as farmland, equipment, and breeding stock.

Biorefinery Assistance Program - \$17,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will provide critical financing for our nation's first generation of commercial-scale advanced biorefineries, reducing investor risk and providing well-paying construction and operation jobs in rural communities.

Demonstration Grants for Improving Pediatric Device Availability - \$6,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used to provide grants to non-profit pediatric medical device consortia, which would assist scientists and innovators, particularly small businesses, with technical and financial resources to improve the number of medical devices available to children.

Emergency Food Assistance Program - \$115,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used to help food banks and emergency feeding agencies with the infrastructure funds needed to maintain and update equipment and facilities.

Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank - \$2,500,000 – Nationwide

This funding will support an extension of an applied research program that provides required scientifically valid information on how to avoid drug, environmental and pesticide contaminant residues in food animals.

Healthy Food Financing Initiative – \$50,000,000 - Nationwide

This funding will be used to bring healthy food choices to low income and low access regions.

Lacey Act Implementation – Nationwide

Support for adequate funding for the enforcement of trade regulations of wood and other plants and their associated products in violation of national, state, or foreign laws.

Minor Use Animal Drug Program – \$1,000,000 - Nationwide

This funding will be used to identify animal drug needs for minor species and minor drug uses in major species. This program will generate and disseminate data for safe and effective therapeutic applications, and to facilitate FDA approval for drugs identified as priorities.

National Institute for Food and Agriculture – Nationwide

This funding will be used by a variety of programs to strengthen the research, extension, and higher education programs conducted at land-grant universities and related institutions.

Office of Generic Drugs - \$55,000,000 - Nationwide

This funding will be used for the specific purpose of "reviewing and approving generic drug applications."

Pollinator Research Funding - \$20,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used to increase the resiliency and security of our farming system by supporting research Colony Collapse Disorder and managed honeybee and native bee ecology.

State Rural Development Council - \$5,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used to support non-partisan coalitions of State, Federal, non-profit, business, local, and Tribal leaders in each state collaborating on advancing rural communities.

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program - \$30,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used competitive grants to support programs that work to develop and improve sustainable agriculture practices.

Rural Conservation and Development Councils - \$56,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used to help plan and carry out activities that increase conservation of natural resources, support economic development, and enhance the environment and standard of living in local communities.

Rural Energy for America Program - \$39,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used for the installation of clean and renewable energy sources by rural producers and rural small businesses, as well as to improve their energy efficiency;

Rural Utility Service, Electric Loan Program – \$6,500,000,000 – Nationwide

This funding will be used to provide rural electric cooperatives with the capital necessary to upgrade, expand, maintain, and replace their electric infrastructure.

Veterinary Medical Loan Repayment Program - \$6,000,000– Nationwide

This funding will increase the number of food animal veterinarians by incentivizing them to specialize in food animal medicine, food safety, and public health.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that I have requested for Fiscal Year 2011, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

I appreciate the subcommittee's consideration of my requests. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Douglas Messana on my staff at 202-224-4822.

Sincerely,



Senator Debbie Stabenow