

American Association of Avian Pathologists

Publisher of
AVIAN DISEASES

February 26, 1979

TO: Board of Directors, AAAP *C.F.H.*
FROM: C. F. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer

The following is a copy of a mailgram sent Friday, February 23, to Secretary of Agriculture Robert Bergland and other appropriate individuals:

The Honorable Robert Bergland
Secretary of Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Administration Building
Washington, DC

Dear Sir:

The American Association of Avian Pathologists is alarmed over USDA's proposal to substantially reduce the APHIS-Veterinary Services poultry disease program in the 1979-80 fiscal budget. Specifically, we understand the following programs are to be deleted:

- 1) Salmonella serotyping and feasibility studies;
- 2) Non-enteric bacteria identification, such as Pasteurella and ornithosis;
- 3) Diagnostic antigen production and standardization, and;
- 4) Newcastle disease surveillance and regional epidemiologist positions.

The current budget for these programs, we understand, is \$1,325,000.

We are opposed to this precipitous program deletion. The current APHIS poultry disease program is a bare-boned minimum, and there is no ready alternative means to provide these services at the state and industry level. The APHIS program is a vital and functional part of our nation's efficient, but fragile, industry- state- federal poultry health program. Severe disruptions to the delivery of essential health services to poultry populations throughout the United States will result if these APHIS programs are suddenly curtailed. Such actions would ultimately result in a lack of awareness to major diseases and loss of productivity. We wish, if at all possible, to discuss this issue with you or your representatives prior to the House and Senate appropriations subcommittee hearings on the APHIS budget during the week of March 5. Dr. B. S. Pomeroy and myself could visit Washington, DC during the week of February 26 or March 5 at your convenience.

Copies of this letter are going to key industry and other House and Senate leadership.

Sincerely,

R. H. McCapes, DVM
President, American Assn. of Avian
Pathologists
21 Meadowbrook; Davis, CA 95616
Office Phone: (916) 752-2732
Home phone: (916) 756- 4284

Copies to:

1. Mr. George Watts; National Broiler Council; The Madison Bldg.; 1155 - 15th St. NW, Washington, DC 20005
2. Mr. Lee Campbell - Poultry and Egg Institute of America; Suite 801; 1815 North Lynn Street; Arlington, VA 22209
3. Poultry Breeders of America; Suite 801; 1815 North Lynn Street; Arlington, VA 22209
4. Mr. Lou Walts - National Turkey Federation; Suite 302, Reston International Center, Reston, VA 22091
5. Mr. Carl Nall - Pacific Egg and Poultry Association; 9800 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 618; Los Angeles, CA 90045
6. Mr. John F. Yarbrough - The Poultry Times; P.O. Box 1338; 345 Green St. NW, Gainesville, GA 30501
7. Feedstuffs - P.O. Box 67, Minneapolis, MN 55440
8. Dr. B. S. Pomeroy - 1443 Raymond Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108
9. Dr. Gary Edwards; Route 1, Box 206A; Newark, AR 72562
10. Dr. Carl Weston, Hubbard Farms, Walpole, NH 03608
11. Dr. F. J. Mulhern, Administrator; Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service; USDA, Washington, DC 20250

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Congressman Jamie L. Whitten, Chairman
House Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Bill D. Burlison
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Bob Traxler
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman Bill Alexander
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman Matthew F. McHugh
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman William H. Natcher
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman Jack Hightower
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman John W. Jenrette, Jr.
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman Mark Andrews
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman J. Kenneth Robinson
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

Congressman John T. Myers
(Address same as Congressman Burlison)

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The American Association of Avian Pathologists encourages you to work for the retention of these programs.

Sincerely,

Richard H. McCapes, DVM
President, American Assn. of Avian
Pathologists
21 Meadowbrook; Davis, CA 95616
Office Phone: (916) 752-2732
Home Phone: (916) 756-4284

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The Honorable Thomas F. Eagleton, Chairman
Senate Subcommittee on Agricultural Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John C. Stennis
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable William Proxmire
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Birch Bayh
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Lawton Chiles
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Quentin Burdick
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Jim Sasser
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Henry Bellman
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Milton R. Young
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable James A. McClure
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Jake Garn
(Address same as Stennis)

The Honorable Harrison J. Schmitt
(Address same as Stennis)

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