

May 14, 2021

*Via Electronic Mail*

Melissa R. Bailey, Ph.D.  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Room 2055-S, STOP 0201,  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW,  
Washington, D.C. 20250-0201

Re: Docket Number: AMS-TM-21-0034

Dr. Bailey:

The undersigned agricultural trade and commodity organizations respectfully request that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) extend the deadline for the comment period on the “Notice; request for public comments” re: President Biden’s Executive Order on “America’s Supply Chains,” (Docket Number: AMS-TM-21-0034), by at least sixty (60) days. As the notice states, comments and information will assist USDA in preparing a report to be submitted by the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) within one year of the order’s issuance.

Considering the significance of the topic and the complexities and breadth of information requested, we are concerned that the existing comment deadline will not provide us with sufficient time to perform the level of analysis that this request for information warrants. USDA is also planning to use public comments received through this notice to study how stimulus relief programs and spending related to food supply chain resilience authorized in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (CAA), and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) can help to increase durability and resilience within the U.S. food supply. To this end, we may not have the time to produce helpful comments in the prescribed timeframe.

Additionally, the spring planting, farmed fish spawning and crop input application season is an incredibly active time of year for many of our organizations’ members and we want to include them in the information collection process. Our goal is to develop carefully considered and well-informed comment letters that will be constructive to USDA’s future efforts on supply chain activities, and we believe this additional time is necessary in order for us to achieve that goal. For these reasons, we respectfully request that USDA extend the deadline for comments on the request for information for at least an additional sixty (60) days.

If you have any questions, please contact Hunter Carpenter at (202) 595-1705 ([hunter@aradc.org](mailto:hunter@aradc.org)) or Lisa Kelley Van Doren at (202) 879-0811 ([lvandoren@ncfc.org](mailto:lvandoren@ncfc.org)).

Respectfully Submitted,

Agricultural & Food Transporters Conference of ATA  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Feed Industry Association  
American Mushroom Institute  
American Seed Trade Association  
American Soybean Association  
Biotechnology Innovation Organization  
California Specialty Crops Council  
Consumer Brands Association  
Corn Refiners Association  
CropLife America  
Far West Agribusiness Association  
Florida Fertilizer & Agrichemical Association  
FMI – the Food Industry Association  
Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
National Aquaculture Association  
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture  
National Association of Wheat Growers  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Cotton Council  
National Council of Agricultural Employers  
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives  
National Farmers Union  
National Milk Producers Federation  
National Onion Association  
National Pasta Association  
National Pest Management Association  
National Potato Council  
Nebraska Agri-Business Association  
North American Meat Institute  
North American Millers' Association  
Northeast Dairy Farmers Cooperatives  
Ohio AgriBusiness Association  
Renewable Fuels Association  
South Dakota Agri-Business Association  
The Fertilizer Institute  
U.S. Apple Association  
United Egg Producers  
United Fresh Produce Association  
United States Cattlemen's Association