

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 8, 2009

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, Chairman
The Honorable Thad Cochran, Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Herb Kohl, Chairman
The Honorable Sam Brownback, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug
Administration
129 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen, Vice Chairman, and Ranking Member,

As your subcommittee begins to draft its spending bill for fiscal year 2010, I 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)

Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Program - PROGRAMMATIC

We request \$9,850,000 for the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Program. This funding will be used for coordination and implementation of programs nationwide to eliminate tuberculosis from cattle in the United States.

Cormorant Control - 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 Monitoring, Containment, and Eradication- 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.

Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

Improve Access to Fresh and Healthy Foods in Food Deserts - Statewide, MI

We request \$450,000 for the State of Michigan for their project to improve access to fresh and healthy foods in food deserts. This funding will be used to help low-income urban and rural areas access to affordable, quality and healthy food to promote community health.

Michigan Department of Agriculture Biofuels Quality Testing Equipment - Houghton, MI

We request \$790,000 for the Michigan Department of Agriculture's Biofuels Quality Testing Equipment. This funding will be used to acquire specific testing equipment in order to provide biofuels quality testing at the Michigan Department of Agriculture's Motor Fuels Quality Laboratory, which is critical for the biofuel industry's long-term success.

Wayne State University - Center for Renewable Transportation Fuel - Detroit, MI

We request \$2,000,000 for Wayne State University for their Center for Renewable Transportation Fuel. This funding will be used to create a center that will foster collaboration between the University and agricultural industry to advance the application of technology used for renewable transportation fuels through research and development of fuels from alternative sources.

Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES)

Department of Natural Resources VHS Surveillance Program - Statewide, MI

We request \$600,000 for the State of Michigan's Department of Natural Resources for a VHS Surveillance Program. This funding will be used for surveillance, management, outreach, and education activities to combat Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS), an OIE reportable disease that has caused widespread fish mortalities since 2005 and is detrimental to the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Hatch Act Funds - PROGRAMMATIC

We request \$225,000,000 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 - PROGRAMMATIC

We request \$30,000,000 for the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forest Program. This funding will be used to continue forestry research at educational institutions across the country.

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station in Traverse City, Michigan - Traverse City, MI

We request \$100,000 for the Cherry Marketing Institute for the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station in Traverse City, MI. This funding will be used for innovative research projects and programming to provide cutting edge information to Michigan growers and support a laboratory upgrade with current technology.

Pasteurization of Shell Encased Foods - Ann Arbor, MI

We request \$2,500,000 for the Michigan Research Institute for the Pasteurization of Shell Encased Foods project. This funding will be used to develop a microwave process that is capable

of pasteurizing foods derived from animals which are encased by an organic shell, thus helping to eradicate Salmonella and Avian Flu.

Smith-Lever - PROGRAMMATIC

We request \$300,000,000 for the Smith-Lever program. This funding will be used for delivery of Cooperative Extension System's wide array of programs.

CSREES Extension Activities Federal Administration (CS/EXFA)

Invasive Phragmites Control - Ann Arbor, MI

We request \$1,200,000 for Ducks Unlimited, Inc. for Invasive Phragmites Control. This funding will be used to address the development of long-term controls and management assistance as well as outreach and education efforts to landowners, communities and other agencies for the destruction of the invasive plant Phragmites australis. This plant has negatively impacted wetlands throughout the United States.

CSREES Special Research Grants (CS/SRG)

Apple Fire Blight - East Lansing, MI

We request \$500,000 for Michigan State University 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.

Ag Food Research Institute (AFRI) - PROGRAMMATIC

We request \$300,000,000 for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative. This funding will be used for the competitive grants program at NIFA.

Armillaria Root Rot - East Lansing, MI

We request \$150,000 for Michigan State University for Armillaria Root Rot research. This funding will be used to research the causes, distribution of the pathogen in MI, and the changes of this disease, which affects cherry and fruit trees and has a devastating impact on cherry production. It will also be used to develop sustainable management plans.

Biomass Conversion to Solid Fuels - Paradise, MI

We request \$1,500,000 for Enviro Industries Inc. for Biomass Conversion to Solid Fuels. This funding will be used to convert biomass materials into solid fuel in the form of wood pellets and various briquette shapes as well as exploring the potential for converting grasses and other cellulosic materials into solid fuels.

Bovine Tuberculosis - East Lansing, MI

We request \$2,000,000 for Michigan State University and University of Minnesota for Bovine Tuberculosis research. This funding will be used to research this cattle disease that has a negative impact on the livestock industry.

Development of Biobased Chemicals and Materials from Agricultural Raw Materials - East Lansing, MI

We request \$625,000 for Michigan State University for the Development of Biobased Chemicals and Materials from Agricultural Raw Materials. This funding will be used to develop technologies for the conversion of biomass to fuels, chemicals, and materials in order to replace current petroleum based products and reduce dependence on foreign oil.

Improved Fruit Practices - East Lansing, MI

We request \$212,000 for Michigan State University for their Improved Fruit Practices research. This funding will be used to develop dry bean breeding lines and varieties with increased resistance to white mold infection, optimize sugar beet production, and examine pest issues in search of reduced-risk pest management tree fruits. This work will include laboratory studies, field trials, and breeding and genetic enhancement.

Phytophthora Research (MI) - East Lansing, MI

We request \$500,000 for Michigan State University 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.

Sustainable Agriculture - East Lansing, MI

We request \$387,000 for Michigan State University for Sustainable Agriculture research. This funding will be used to support research that enhances economic, social, and environmental sustainability of our food and agricultural systems and facilitate communication of the research results with entities that can apply the findings.

Wood Utilization (OR, MS, NC, MN, ME, MI, ID, TN, AK, WV) - East Lansing, MI

We request \$6,850,000 for Michigan State University for their 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.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

International Food Protection Training Institute – Battle Creek, MI

We request \$5,000,000 for Battle Creek Unlimited 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.

Office of Generics - PROGRAMMATIC

We request \$55,000,000 for the Food and Drug Administration for the Office of Generic Drugs. This funding will be used for the specific purpose of "reviewing and approving generic drug applications."

Food and Nutrition Service (FNS)

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) - Detroit, MI

We request \$203,000,000 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.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control - PROGRAMMATIC

We request \$5,000,000 for the State of Michigan for the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil and 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 at Michigan Technological University - Houghton, MI

We request \$1,800,000 for Michigan Technological University for their 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)

Rural Entrepreneurs Revitalization Fund (RERF) - Marquette, MI

We request \$1,000,000 for the non-profit Northern Initiatives for their Rural Entrepreneurs Revitalization Fund. This funding will be used to recapitalize businesses in northern, rural Michigan that have been adversely impacted by the economic downturn through warrants, royalty agreements, and other non-debt investments to support their future growth and create jobs.

Rural Community Advancement Program (RCAP)

City of Sault Ste Marie - Ashmun Bay Boat Access and Channel Dredging Project - Sault Ste Marie, MI

We request \$105,000 for the City of Sault Ste Marie, MI 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. Mary's River to provide safe access to the channel.

Rural Housing Service (RHS)

City of Munising Fire/Police Building - Munising, MI

We request \$1,600,000 for the City of Munising for their Fire and Police building. This funding would be used to replace a deteriorated fire hall and provide inside parking facilities for police vehicles.

Siena Heights University Community Center - Lenawee County, MI

We request \$5,000,000 for Siena Heights University for their Community Center. This funding will be used to create a community center that will promote and deepen the relationships at the university internally and will engage the external rural community in Lenawee County.

Keweenaw National Historic Park - Village of Calumet Theater Building - Calumet, MI

We request \$1,135,000 for the Village of Calumet for their Theater Rebuilding Project. This funding will be used to renovate and add handicapped accessibility to a theater that is on the National Register of Historic Places and is an economic driver for the community.

Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

Circuit Rider Program – Nationwide Funding

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

Grassroots Source Water Protection Program - Harrison, MI

We request \$6,100,000 for the National Rural Water Association 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.

USDA Rural Water Grants and Loans - Statewide, MI

We request \$650,000 for the National Rural Water Association for the USDA Rural Water Grants and Loans Program. This funding will be used to build or extend water systems for small towns, and repay the loans at reasonable rates and terms. Without this assistance, they could not construct new systems, expand existing ones, or comply with mandates.

Under Secretary of Rural Development (US/RD)

76th Street Sanitary Sewer Force Main Relocation - South Haven, MI

We request \$195,000 for South Haven Township, MI for the 76th Street Sanitary Sewer Force Main Relocation project. This funding will be used to enhance an existing Sanitary Sewer Force Main and direct it to another location to increase the contributing area to an existing Sanitary Sewer Lift Station.

Buena Vista Wastewater Improvement Project - Buena Vista Township, MI

We request \$5,000,000 for Buena Vista Charter Township for their Wastewater Improvement Project. This funding will be used to upgrade its sanitary sewer overflow system, which is challenged by severe infiltration and inflow problems.

City of Coloma Water Tower Replacement - Coloma, MI

We request \$600,000 for the City of Coloma, MI for the City of Coloma Water Tower Replacement project. This funding will be used to build a new water tower to ensure there is a large enough water supply for fire flows.

Community Center Rehabilitation Project - Germfask, MI

We request \$460,000 for Germfask Township for their Community Center Rehabilitation Project. This funding will repair and rehabilitate a facility that is in need of new roofing, heating, insulation, and other structural repairs, so that it may provide added benefit to the community.

Duncan Township Office, Fire Hall Construction - Duncan Township, 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.

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Commercial Stamp Sand Reuse Project - Baraga, MI

We request \$2,800,000 for the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community for the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Commercial Stamp Sand Reuse Project. This funding will be used for phase one construction of a facility for the recycling of copper mine waste sand, in order to add value to the product.

Luce County Community Service Center - Luce County, MI (*)

We request \$400,000 for the Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action Human Resource Authority for a Community Service Center. This funding will be used to build a new service center to house all the agency's programs that benefit low income residents, as the current locations do not meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and energy efficiency standards.

** This project is also being requested through the Fiscal Year 2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill as of July 7, 2009.*

Partridge Creek Diversion - Ishpeming, MI

We request \$9,920,000 for the City of Ishpeming for the Partridge Creek Diversion project. This funding will be used to replace an existing failed brick storm sewer, which was originally constructed in the 1800's, in order to fulfill a consent agreement which ordered that Partridge Creek be diverted from underground mine works.

Renovate the 102 Year Old Township Hall in Kenton, Michigan - Duncan Township, MI

We request \$120,000 for Duncan Township to renovate their Township Hall in Kenton, MI. This funding will be used to renovate a 100 year old hall that serves as a community center, which is crucial for community development.

The Greening of the Upper Peninsula Children's Museum - Marquette, MI

We request \$468,000 for the Upper Peninsula Children's Museum for the Greening of the Upper Peninsula Children's Museum project. This funding will be used to make the facility more energy efficient and it will be a part of an "Enlightening Power" exhibit that teaches about renewable energy sources and wise energy choices.

The Lebowski Theater Rebuilding Project - Owosso, MI

We request \$3,000,000 for the Owosso Community Players for the Lebowski Theater Rebuilding Project. This funding will be used to rebuild a theater that burned down in a fire two years ago. The theater has been an economic anchor for the community for over 80 years.

Village of Dimondale sewer main replacement – Dimondale, MI

We request \$300,000 for the Village of Dimondale to replace approximately 385 feet of an iron sewer main that crosses the Grand River. This pipe is exposed during low water events and the river may be unstable in this area. The project will require a change in technology and the replacement of a lift station. This pipe and lift station will serve the entire Village and a portion of Windsor Township.

Village of Dimondale Waste Water Plant Headworks – Dimondale, MI

We request \$1,500,000 for the Village of Dimondale to upgrade and replace headworks at the Dimondale/Windsor wastewater treatment plant. All effluent entering the plant passes through this portion of the system which is critical to the process. The proposal encompasses a complete retrofit of the existing compromised infrastructure and includes components for a septage hauler discharge station.

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 2010, 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.

Sincerely,

 