

**State of New Mexico
County of Grant**

R-02-28

Declaration of Local Agricultural Emergency

WHEREAS, it is the fundamental purpose and responsibility of government to protect the health and welfare of its citizens including the right to life, liberty and property, safety, and pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, economic survival of agriculture and rural communities is vitally important to the general health and welfare of New Mexico citizens and the preservation of our domestic production is a National Security Issue; and

WHEREAS, the present economic distress in rural New Mexico is a direct consequence of a severe and increasing disparity between agricultural prices and other commodities which has largely destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, has broken down the orderly exchange of commodities, and has seriously impaired the agricultural assets supporting the local and state credit structure and tax base. It is hereby declared that the economic viability of agriculture is a priority public interest at the local and state level, and these circumstances provide compelling justification for this declaration of a local agricultural emergency statewide; and

WHEREAS, this disparity has destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, severely depressed the economies of rural counties and communities, reduced the population through migration of young people to urban centers, eroded the resulting local tax base, degraded the local school and hospital districts, and placed in peril the ability of local governments to provide necessary services and other responsibilities including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act, the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act and other unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, the county commissioners find that the cumulative negative effects on agricultural producers and rural communities is a direct result of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government's failure: to execute constitutional powers pertaining to agricultural transactions; to uphold and enforce domestic anti-trust laws against corporate monopoly concentrations in agriculture; to stabilize foreign currency in relation to domestic currency in order to provide a level playing field in global trade; to negotiate foreign trade agreements for the benefit of agriculture, labor and industry; to provide compensation for trade restrictions arising from foreign policy initiatives.

WHEREAS, the persistent failure of the Executive branch of the Federal government to exercise such statutory obligations and the chronic failure of Congress to provide

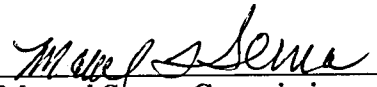
adequate oversight and intervention, establishes compelling justification for the following directives.

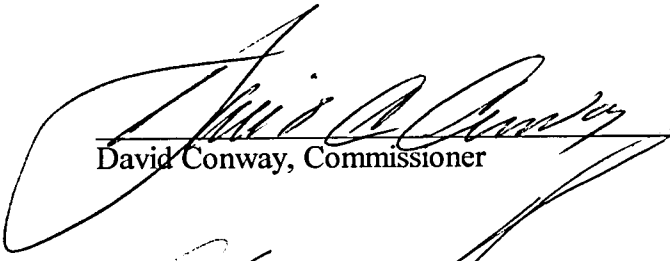
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Grant County Commission to:

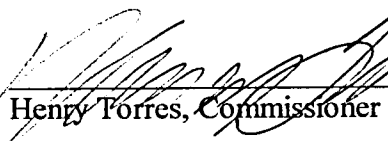
1. Urgently request the Attorney General to investigate the transparent failure by the Executive Branch of the Federal government regarding compliance with existing laws, to wit: 7 USC Section 292, 7 USC Sections 601 and 602, 7 USC Section 1301, 7 USC Section 1303, 7 USC Section 2266a, 7 USC Section 5671, 19 USC Section 1351, 31 USC Section 5301, and the 5th and 14th Amendments to the United States Constitution.
2. Urgently request the Governor to provide all necessary information through State Cabinet Agencies to the Attorney General regarding the social and economic consequences and costs of the failure to implement existing Federal Agricultural Policy.
3. Urgently request the Secretary of Agriculture to hold investigative hearings and make determinations to be forwarded to the offices of the Governor, Attorney General and Legislative Interim Committee. Further, to supply requested historical data and statistics as needed to the appropriate agencies and committees.
4. Urgently request the Legislative Council to provide supplemental investigation regarding limitations or absence of authority in state statutes regarding intrastate agricultural policy, monetary policy, trade agreements, foreign commerce, and foreign policy. To transmit those findings to the Governor, Attorney General and Interim committee.
5. Urgently request the New Mexico Legislature to establish a Legislative Interim Committee to hold hearings in rural areas statewide to document the social and economic consequences of Federal inaction.
6. Urgently request adequate Legislative appropriation to carry out the foregoing directives.

BE IT FURTHER DECLARED by the elected officials of the Grant County Commission, adhering to their Oath of Office, do hereby petition the Governor of the State of New Mexico, the administrative agencies of the State Executive Branch, the New Mexico Attorney General, the New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture and the New Mexico Legislative Council; to complete investigations and file evidentiary studies; and request the elected members of the New Mexico Legislature, to adequately fund and complete these studies for delivery to the next regular or special session of the New Mexico State Legislature.

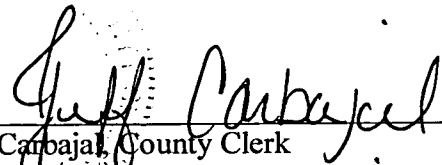
PRESENTED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of August, 2002, at a meeting of the Grant County Commission in Silver City, New Mexico.



Manuel Serna, Commissioner


David Conway, Commissioner

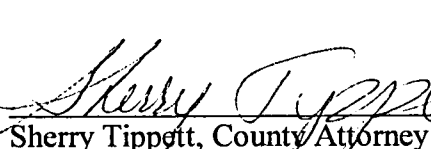

Henry Torres, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Jeff Carbajal, County Clerk

By: 

Approved as to form:


Sherry Tippet, County Attorney

PROMOTION & MARKETING
APRIL, 2002
Las Cruces, NM

NEW MEXICO CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION
DECLARATION OF LOCAL AGRICULTURAL
EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: It is the fundamental purpose and responsibility of government to protect the health and welfare of its citizens, including the right to life, liberty and property, safety, and pursuit of happiness; and:

WHEREAS: The economic survival of agriculture and rural communities is vitally important to the general health and welfare of New Mexico citizens; and:

WHEREAS: The present economic distress in rural New Mexico is a direct consequence of a severe and increasing disparity between agricultural prices and other commodities, which has largely destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, has broken down the orderly exchange of commodities, and has seriously impaired the agricultural assets supporting the local and state credit structure and tax base. It is hereby declared that the economic viability of agriculture is a priority public interest at the local and state level, and these circumstances provide compelling justification for this declaration of a local agricultural emergency in New Mexico; and:

WHEREAS: This disparity has destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, severely depressed the economies of rural counties and communities, reduced the population through migration of young people to urban centers, eroded the resulting tax base, degraded the local school and hospital districts, and placed in peril the ability of local governments to provide necessary services and other responsibilities including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act, the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act and other unfunded mandates; and:

WHEREAS: The New Mexico Cattle Growers Association finds that the cumulative negative effects on agricultural producers and rural communities is a direct result of the Executive branch of the federal government's failure: To execute constitutional powers pertaining to agricultural transactions; to uphold and enforce domestic anti-trust laws against corporate monopoly concentrations in agriculture; to stabilize foreign currency in relation to domestic currency in order to provide a level playing field in global trade; to negotiate foreign trade agreements for the benefit of agriculture, labor and industry; to provide compensation for trade restrictions arising from foreign policy initiatives; and:

WHEREAS: The persistent failure of the Executive branch of the federal government to exercise such statutory obligations and the chronic failure of Congress to provide adequate oversight and intervention, establishes compelling justification for the following requests:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the members of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association request:

- 1) that the Attorney General in New Mexico investigate the apparent purposeful abdication by the Executive branch of the federal government regarding compliance with existing laws, to wit: 7 USC Section 292, 7 Sections 601 and 602, 7 USC Section 1301, 7 USC Section 2266a, 7 USC Section 5671, 19 USC section 1351, 31 USC 5301, and the 5th and 14th Amendments to the United States Constitution.
- 2) that the Governor of New Mexico provide all necessary information through State Cabinet Agencies to the Attorney General regarding the social and Economic consequences and costs of the failure to implement existing Federal Agricultural Policy.
- 3) that the New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture hold investigative hearings and make determinations to be forwarded to the offices of the Governor, Attorney General and Legislative Interim Committees in New Mexico. Further, to supply requested historical data and statistics as needed to the appropriate agencies and committees.
- 4) that the New Mexico Legislative Councils provide supplemental investigation regarding limitations or absence of authority in state statutes regarding intrastate agricultural policy, monetary policy, trade agreements, foreign commerce, and foreign policy. To transmit those findings to the Governor, Attorney General and interim Committees of New Mexico.
- 5) that the New Mexico Legislature establish Legislative Interim Committees to hold hearings in rural areas statewide to document the social and economic consequences of federal inaction.
- 6) that adequate Legislative appropriations to carry out the foregoing directives.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NMCGA hereby petitions the Governor of New Mexico, the administrative agencies of the State

Page 3
Promotion and Marketing
Las Cruces, NM
April, 2002

Executive Branch, the New Mexico Attorney General, the New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture and Legislative Councils; to complete investigations and file evidentiary studies for delivery to the next regular or special sessions of the New Mexico State Legislature.

PASSED

Eastern Plains Council of Governments

RESOLUTION 2002 - 1

DECLARATION OF LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Local Agricultural Emergency has been presented and reviewed by all District IV counties including Curry, DeBaca, Guadalupe, Harding, Quay, Roosevelt and Union; and

WHEREAS, the economic survival of agriculture and rural communities is vitally important to the general health and welfare of the citizens in District IV; and

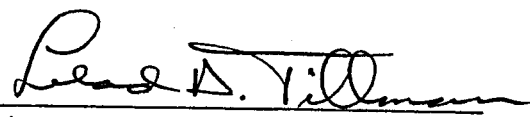
WHEREAS, the economic distress in rural counties is a consequence in part of increasing disparity between agricultural prices and other projects which diminishes the purchasing power of farmers and impairs the agricultural assets supporting the local credit structure and tax base; and

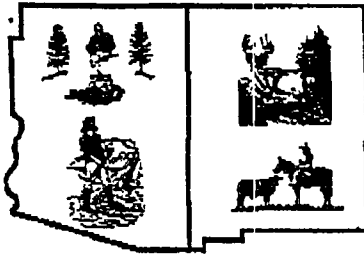
IT IS HEREBY DECLARED that the economic viability of agriculture is a priority public interest at the local and state level, and these circumstances provide compelling justification for this declaration of a local agricultural emergency statewide.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eastern Plains Council of Governments supports member governments in Curry, DeBaca, Guadalupe, Harding, Quay, Roosevelt and Union in their support of this declaration of local agricultural emergency.

PRESENTED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of March, 2002 at a meeting of the Eastern Plains Council of Governments Board of Directors in Tucumcari, New Mexico.


EPCOG Chairman


Attest



**Coalition Of Arizona/
New Mexico Counties
For Stable Economic
Growth**

*"Working together for responsible
management."*

DECLARATION OF LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is the fundamental purpose and responsibility of government to protect the health and welfare of its citizens, including the right to life, liberty and property, safety, and pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, the economic survival of agriculture and rural communities is vitally important to the general health and welfare of ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico citizens; and

WHEREAS, the present economic distress in rural ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico is a direct consequence of a severe and increasing disparity between agricultural prices and other commodities, which has largely destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, has broken down the orderly exchange of commodities, and has seriously impaired the agricultural assets supporting the local and state credit structure and tax base. It is hereby declared that the economic viability of agriculture is a priority public interest at the local and state level, and these circumstances provide compelling justification for this declaration of a local agricultural emergency in ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, this disparity has destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, severely depressed the economies of rural counties and communities, reduced the population through migration of young people to urban centers, eroded the resulting tax base, degraded the local school and hospital districts, and placed in peril the ability of local governments to provide necessary services and other responsibilities including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act, the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act and other unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties' (Coalition) finds that the cumulative negative effects on agricultural producers and rural communities is a direct result of the Executive branch of the federal government's failure: To execute constitutional powers pertaining to agricultural transactions; to uphold and enforce domestic anti-trust laws against corporate monopoly concentrations in agriculture; to stabilize foreign currency in relation to domestic currency in order to provide a level playing field in global trade; to negotiate foreign trade agreements for the benefit of agriculture, labor and industry; to provide compensation for trade restrictions arising from foreign policy initiatives.

WHEREAS, the persistent failure of the Executive branch of the federal government to exercise such statutory obligations and the chronic failure of Congress to provide adequate oversight and intervention, establishes compelling justification for the following requests:

¹ The Coalition is comprised of Arizona Counties: Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, and Navajo, and; New Mexico Counties: Catron, Chaves, Eddy, Harding, Hidalgo, Lincoln, Luna, Otero, Sierra, Socorro and Rio Arriba; and the Towns of Sierra Vista and Benson, Arizona, along with representation from livestock, timber, mining, sportsmen, outfitter, farming and small business industries, as members of the Coalition of Arizona/New Mexico Counties (Coalition). The population of the combined membership exceeds 593,000.

CCI

Colorado Counties, Inc.

1700 Broadway • Suite 1510 • Denver, Colorado 80290-1501

Phone: 303.861.4076 • Fax: 303.861.2818

DECLARATION OF LOCAL AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY A RESOLUTION OF THE CCI AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS STEERING COMMITTEE

Issue: That it is the fundamental purpose and responsibility of government to protect the health and welfare of its citizens including the right to life, liberty and property, safety, and pursuit of happiness; and the economic survival of agriculture and rural communities is vitally important to the general health and welfare of citizens.

Proposed Policy: That the Attorney General of the United States be encouraged to investigate the application of existing laws, to wit: 7 USC Sections 601 and 602, 7 USC Section 292, 31 USC Section 5301, 19 USC Section 1351, 7 USC Section 1301, 7 USC Section 1303, 7 USC Section 2266a, 7 USC Section 5671, and the 5th and 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution and that we encourage both Congress and the Administration to properly consider the value to the Nation of American Agriculture and offer the support that this critical industry deserves.

Background: The present economic distress in rural communities is a direct consequence of a severe and increasing disparity between agricultural prices and other commodities which has largely destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, has broken down the orderly exchange of commodities, and has seriously impaired the agricultural assets supporting the local and state credit structure and tax base.

This disparity has destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, severely depressed the economies of rural counties and communities, reduced the population through migration of young people to urban centers, eroded the resulting local tax base, degraded the local school and hospital districts, and placed in peril the ability of local governments to provide necessary services and other responsibilities including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act, the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act, the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Endangered Species Act and other unfunded mandates; and


The county commissioners find that the federal government has failed to adequately understand, value and protect this critical industry.

Urban/Rural Fiscal Impact: The economic viability of agriculture is a priority public interest at the state and local level, and these circumstances provide compelling justification for this declaration of a local agricultural emergency statewide which if not corrected, may lead to a deepening of the already existing economic degradation of rural America.


*Adopted by the CCI Agriculture, Wildlife and Rural Affairs Steering Committee on February 1, 2002

County Judges & Commissioners Association of Texas


Association Officers




Skipper Wheeler
President
Runnels County Commissioner



Robert Eckels
First Vice President
Harris County Judge




Bobby Smith
Second Vice President
Polk County Commissioner




Jim Lewis
Immediate Past President
McLennan County Judge


REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS



Joe Bobbitt
President
Hunt County Judge
Ray Meadows Secretary/Treasurer
Chris von Doehoff
Houston County Judge
Norman Henderson, Second Vice President
Nacogdoches County Commissioner
Ivan Johnson, Immediate Past President
Kaufman County Commissioner



Richard Borthard
President
Nueces County Judge
Margaret J. Gomez
First Vice President
Tavis County Commissioner
Gilbert Pergmann
Second Vice President
Dewitt County Commissioner
H.A. "Buster" Baldwin, Immediate Past President
Kerr County Commissioner



J.D. Johnson, President
Tarrant County Commissioner
Bonnie Leck
First Vice President
Winkler County Judge

John F. Kennedy once said, "We must use the time as a tool, not as a couch." I am going to use my time this month to give you some facts on a crisis in our great state. Agriculture has a profound impact on the economics of our state and nation. In rural Texas, we have seen our tax evaluations decline, while our costs of services have increased. Let me give you some facts. It takes just 39 days for most Americans to earn enough money to pay for their food supply for the entire year. It takes the average American 123 days to earn enough money to pay federal, state and local taxes for the year. Food is a bargain. While Americans must work until Feb. 8 to pay for their yearly food supply, last year they had to work until May 3 to pay for their taxes.

Texas is the No. 2 state in value of all agricultural commodities. Texas is No. 1 in cattle and calves, No. 1 in value of farmland, No. 1 in numbers of farms and ranches, No. 1 in sheep and lambs, and No. 5 in cash receipts for crops.

America's farmers and ranchers are true professionals and the most productive in the world. Their job is to provide consumers with the highest quality food possible. Growing and raising whole-some, safe food is their top goal. Twenty-four million American workers produce, process, sell and trade the nation's food and fiber.

There are 2.9 million farms dotting America's landscape. Individual or family corporations operate almost 99 percent of U.S. farms. A 2001 survey of young farmers and ranchers revealed that computers are used on 89.2 percent of America's farms. Nearly 80 percent of today's young farmers have a cellular telephone, and nearly three-fourths have

assist our farmers and ranchers to continue to be safe, reliable suppliers of food and fiber products. Over 50 counties in the state have signed the declaration. The declaration will be presented for adoption by NACO at the annual meeting in July. These are our constituents and are an essential part of our business.

I would encourage your court to consider signing the declaration. Should you need more information or a copy of the declaration, please do not hesitate to contact me.

As always, Godspeed, be safe, and be happy!

I think it is important as leaders to assist our farmers and ranchers to continue to be safe, reliable suppliers of food and fiber products. Over 50 counties in the state have signed the declaration. The declaration will be presented for adoption by NACO at the annual meeting in July. These are our constituents and are an essential part of our business.

I would encourage your court to consider signing the declaration. Should you need more information or a copy of the declaration, please do not hesitate to contact me.

As always, Godspeed, be safe, and be happy!

From the President

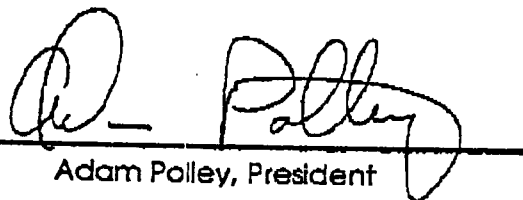
Coalition Of Counties

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the member counties of the Coalition:

1. Request ^{that} the Attorneys General in ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico investigate the apparent purposeful abdication by the Executive branch of the federal government regarding compliance with existing laws, to wit: 7 USC Section 292, 7 Sections 601 and 602, 7 USC Section 1301, 7 USC Section 2266a, 7 USC Section 5671, 19 USC Section 1351, 31 USC 5301, and the 5th and 14th Amendments to the United States Constitution.
2. Request ^{that} the Governors of ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico provide all necessary information through State Cabinet Agencies to the Attorneys General regarding the social and economic consequences and costs of the failure to implement existing Federal Agricultural Policy.
3. Request ^{that} the New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture hold investigative hearings and make determinations to be forwarded to the offices of the Governors, Attorneys General and Legislative Interim Committees in ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico. Further, to supply requested historical data and statistics as needed to the appropriate agencies and committees.
4. Request ^{that} the ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico Legislative Councils ~~to~~ provide supplemental investigation regarding limitations or absence of authority in state statutes regarding intrastate agricultural policy, monetary policy, trade agreements, foreign commerce, and foreign policy. To transmit those findings to the Governors, Attorneys General and Interim Committees of ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico.
5. Request ^{that} the ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico Legislature establish Legislative Interim Committees to hold hearings in rural areas statewide to document the social and economic consequences of federal inaction.
6. Request adequate Legislative appropriations to carry out the foregoing directives.

^{NMCGA}
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the member counties of the Coalition do hereby petition the Governor of ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico, the administrative agencies of the State Executive Branches, the ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico Attorneys General, the ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico Secretaries of Agriculture and Legislative Councils; to complete investigations and file evidentiary studies for delivery to the next regular or special sessions of the ~~Arizona and~~ New Mexico State Legislatures.

Done this 13th day of October, 2001, by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.


Adam Polley, President

Handwritten signature: Leroy Mauch
Handwritten signature: Deputy Clerk

Ted Hayden, Committee Chairman

Leroy Mauch, CCI President

**COLORADO COMMISSIONERS, INC.
AGRICULTURE STEERING COMMITTEE
Declaration of Local Agriculture Emergency**

WHEREAS, it is the fundamental purpose and responsibility of government to protect the health and welfare of its citizens including the right to life, liberty and property, safety, and pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, the economic survival of agriculture and rural communities is vitally important to the general health and welfare of Colorado citizens; and

WHEREAS, the present economic distress in rural Colorado is a direct consequence of a severe and increasing disparity between agricultural prices and other commodities which has largely destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, has broken down the orderly exchange of commodities, and has seriously impaired the agricultural assets supporting the local and state credit structure and tax base. It is hereby declared the economic viability of agriculture is a priority public interest at the state and local level, and these circumstances provide compelling justification for this declaration of a local agricultural emergency statewide; and

WHEREAS, this disparity has destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, severely depressed the economies of rural counties and communities, reduced the population through migration of young people to urban centers, eroded the resulting local tax base, degraded the local school and hospital districts, and placed in peril the ability of local governments to provide necessary services and other responsibilities including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act, the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act, the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Endangered Species Act and other unfunded mandates; and

WHEREAS, the CCI Agriculture Steering Committee finds that the cumulative negative effect on agricultural producers and rural communities is a direct result of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government's failure to execute constitutional powers pertaining to agricultural transactions; to uphold and enforce domestic anti-trust laws against corporate monopoly concentrations in agriculture; to stabilize foreign currency in relation to domestic currency to provide a level playing field in global trade; to negotiate foreign trade agreements for the benefit of agriculture, labor and industry; and to provide compensation for trade restrictions arising from foreign policy initiatives.

WHEREAS, the persistent failure of the Executive branch of the Federal Government to exercise such obligations and the failure of Congress to provide adequate oversight and intervention, which establishes compelling justification for the following directives.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the CCI Agriculture Steering Committee, of Colorado:

1. Direct the Attorney General to investigate the apparent abdication by the Executive Branch of the Federal government regarding compliance with existing laws, to wit: 7 USC Sections 601 and 602, 7 USC Section 292, 31 USC Section 5301, 19 USC Section 1351, 7 USC Section 1303, 7 USC Section 226a, 7 USC Section 5671 and the 5th and 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution.
2. Direct the Governor to provide all necessary information through State Cabinet Agencies to the Attorney General regarding the social and economic consequences and cost of the failure to implement existing Federal Agricultural Policy.
3. Request the Legislative Council to provide supplemental investigation regarding limitations or absence of authority in state statutes regarding intrastate agricultural policy, monetary policy, trade agreements, foreign commerce, and foreign policy.
4. Request the Colorado Legislature to establish a legislative interim committee to hold hearings in rural areas state wide to document the social and economic consequences of Federal inaction.
5. Request adequate Legislative appropriation to carryout the foregoing directives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the members of the CCI Agriculture Steering Committee, of Colorado, adhering to their Oath of Office, hereby petition the Governor of the State of Colorado, the administrative agencies of the Executive Branch, the State Commissioner of Agriculture and the elected members of the Colorado Legislature, to adequately fund and complete these studies for delivery to the next regular or special session of the Colorado State Legislature, and that this Declaration be further distributed to Colorado Representatives in Congress, President of the United States, United States Secretary of Agriculture, United States Secretary of State, United States Attorney General.

Dated this 3 day of OCT, 2001

David S. Marshall



AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS STEERING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON A DECLARATION OF AGRICULTURAL EMERGENCY

Issue: The economic survival of agriculture and rural communities is vitally important to the general health and welfare of citizens.

Adopted Policy: That the Attorney General and Congress of the United States be encouraged to properly consider the value to the Nation of American Agriculture and offer the support that this critical industry deserves.

Background: The present economic distress in rural communities is a direct consequence of a severe and increasing disparity between agricultural prices and other commodities which has largely destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, has broken down the orderly exchange of commodities, and has seriously impaired the agricultural assets supporting the local and state credit structure and tax base.

This disparity has destroyed the purchasing power of farmers, severely depressed the economies of rural counties and communities, reduced the population through migration of young people to urban centers, eroded the resulting local tax base, degraded the local school and hospital districts, and placed in peril the ability of local governments to provide necessary services and other responsibilities including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act, the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act, the Clean Air Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Endangered Species Act and other unfunded mandates; and the county commissioners find that the federal government has failed to adequately understand, value and protect this critical industry.

Fiscal/Urban/Rural Impact: The economic viability of agriculture is a priority public interest at the state and local level, and these circumstances provide compelling justification for this declaration of an agricultural emergency nationwide which if not corrected, may lead to a deepening of the already existing economic degradation of rural America.

Adopted by Agriculture and Rural Affairs Steering Committee

Unanimous

March 2, 2002

Adopted by the NACO Board of Directors

March 4, 2002