



NATIONAL GRANGE

1616 H ST. NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20006 | PHONE (202) 628-3507 | FAX (202) 347-1091

WWW.NATIONALGRANGE.ORG | INFO@NATIONALGRANGE.ORG

American Values. Hometown Roots.

Extend Paycheck Protection (PPP) to 501(c)5 Ag Organizations

June 10, 2020

Dear Senator,

I am writing you on behalf of grassroots Grange members all across rural and small town America. We urge you to extend the Paycheck Protection Program to 501(c)(5) agricultural groups in the CARES 2 relief package you will be considering soon in the Senate.

You undoubtedly have seen reports of vegetables rotting in the field, milk being dumped at the farm and meat processing plants closing down, all as a direct result of the pandemic. These events and many others have taken a serious economic as well as emotional toll on America's farmers and ranchers.

Last season's flooding and natural disasters, the trade wars, and now supply chain disruptions due to Covid-19 have stressed the nation's agricultural producers as never before. Suicide rates for farmers have risen greatly and mental health providers are less available in rural areas. Agricultural groups like the Grange help farm families with emotional and social support.

As agriculture and its small community suppliers struggle to regain some semblance of financial recovery, producers will depend heavily upon their general farm, commodity and other agricultural organizations for news, advice, communication, information, best practices, production strategies, demand analysis, market intelligence and more.

By expanding PPP eligibility, you will help rebuild and strengthen 501(c)(5) agricultural organizations. Strong agricultural organizations will be in much better positions to assist agriculture producers with their much needed economic recovery and emotional support.

Thank you for your attention and consideration. Please let me know if I can assist you further.

Respectfully,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Betsy Huber'.

Betsy Huber, President
The National Grange