

## CALL TO ACTION - FY 2021 Appropriations Requests

As the House and Senate begin the FY 2021 appropriations process, APLU's Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) must begin advocating for our FY 2021 NIFA priorities in order to have maximum impact in a difficult environment. As such, we ask that you contact your Congressmen and Senators as soon as possible and deliver our FY 2021 priority requests. In addition, for those attending the CARET/AHS fly-in next week, this is a good opportunity to reiterate next week's meeting requests.

### Action Items:

#### CARET/AHS FLY-IN PARTICIPANTS

1. Follow your university's standard procedures for making congressional contacts.
2. Call the scheduler and confirm your meeting with the Member of Congress and/or the legislative assistant handling agriculture appropriations issues. (For guidance on setting such a meeting see: [Best Practices: Face-to-Face Meetings](#))
3. Email the BAA's NIFA priorities for FY 2021: [APLU FY 2021 One-Pager](#) to the staffer in charge of agriculture appropriations and ASK that they submit requests for ALL of our priorities to the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee.
4. The office may require you to submit a form or request letter (or both). The information needed to submit most of these is included on the back of the [APLU FY 2021 One-Pager](#). If you need further assistance, feel free to contact one of the Cornerstone Team Members.

#### EVERYONE

1. Follow your university's standard procedures for making congressional contacts.
2. Contact your Senators and Congressmen's legislative assistant handling agriculture appropriations issues and email the BAA's NIFA priorities for FY 2021: [APLU FY 2021 One-Pager](#) and ASK that they submit requests for ALL of our priorities to the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee.
3. The office may require you to submit a form or request letter (or both). The information needed to submit most of these is included on the back of the [APLU FY 2021 One-Pager](#). If you need further assistance, feel free to contact one of the Cornerstone Team Members.

Below is a sample email to help. Please note that it includes blanks for you to include information specific to your state and institution.

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Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am reaching out to stress the importance of funding for the agricultural research and extension programs that UNIVERSITY X uses to positively impact the lives of STATE X's farmers, ranchers and consumers.

Funding for the important capacity programs (Hatch, Smith-Lever, Evans-Allen, 1890 Extension, McIntire Stennis, 1994 Extension, and Payments to 1994 Institutions) that are funded in the agriculture appropriations bill via USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). NIFA provides resources needed for universities to maintain Extension (Smith-Lever, 1890 Extension, and 1994 Extension),

opportunity (Payments to 1994 Institutions), and research (Evans-Allen and Hatch) capabilities to address the food, natural resource, and energy needs of the nation. Extension funding ensures that the products of this research are distributed to stakeholders, and its application informs further, future research.

The funding provided through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative provides competitive funding for innovative research to address the emerging issues affecting numerous sectors of our economy. Funding for Research Grants at 1994 Institutions provide competitively awarded grants for high-priority projects that address student educational needs and meet community, reservation or regional challenges.

I would like to ask REPRESENTATIVE/SENATOR Y to support the request of UNIVERSITY X and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities of additional funding to support these nine core priorities. Specific information on each line and the information needed to submit this request to the Appropriations Committee can be found on our website, [land-grant.org](http://land-grant.org), or on our [APLU FY 2021 One-Pager](#).

Thank you in advance for supporting the key programs used by our Land-grant universities to feed, fuel, and clothe the world.

Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

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Thanks for your continued assistance. We continue to face an extremely challenging federal funding situation that can ONLY be overcome through your sustained and cohesive advocacy.

If you have any questions or need any help with the process, please let us know.

Jim Richards: [jrichards@cgagroup.com](mailto:jrichards@cgagroup.com)

Hunt Shipman: [hshipman@cgagroup.com](mailto:hshipman@cgagroup.com)

Vernie Hubert: [vhubert@cgagroup.com](mailto:vhubert@cgagroup.com)

Maggie Earle: [mearle@cgagroup.com](mailto:mearle@cgagroup.com)

**THE CORNERSTONE TEAM**