



653 Constitution Avenue NE | Washington, DC | (202) 546-4046

December 7, 2016

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. President,

The clock has not yet run out on America's family farms and ranches. On behalf of the U.S. Cattlemen's Association, I write to you today to encourage the continuation of a key program developed under your Administration.

USCA and its nationwide membership of cow-calf producers, feedlot operators and backgrounders would like to thank Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack for advancing the rulemaking process for GIPSA's Farmer Fair Practices Rules. The two proposed rules and one interim rule are currently awaiting approval in the White House Office of Management and Budget. In the last Farm Bill, Congress charged USDA with defining some key terms in existing rules. The long-awaited rules will restore basic market protections and help to create true price discovery in a competitive marketplace. We urge the Administration to move forward with the publishing of these proposed rules for public comment.

During this time of transition, our businesses are still operating. U.S. cattle producers cannot afford a time of uncertainty. The Farmer Fair Practices Rules offers greater transparency in the marketplace and a simple restoration of basic market principles. We urge the incoming and outgoing administrations to develop a smooth transition plan to ensure there are no lapses in the development of this critical producer program.

USCA works every day to connect our cattle producers in the countryside with our decision-makers in Washington, D.C. We've valued and appreciated a working relationship with the Administration for the past eight years. Now is the time to secure that legacy with America's family farms and ranches by ensuring a fair marketplace for years to come.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenny Graner".

Kenny Graner  
President  
U.S. Cattlemen's Association