



Colorado Livestock Association
2425 35th Avenue, Suite 202
Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 378-0500
www.coloradolivestock.org

March 20, 2020

To the Honorable Colorado Senators and Congressional Delegation:

Colorado Livestock Association is a multi-species membership organization representing beef, dairy, swine and sheep operations across the state of Colorado. These industries combined represent a \$4.6 billion impact to our state economy. As we all do our part to deal with the current COVID-19 pandemic we ask that you give serious consideration to the following:

- A one-time “stimulus” payment, that is managed by USDA, to those men and women who have dealt with a rapid decline in market value for their livestock and continue to deal with unprecedented volatility in the prices they are receiving and the prices of the inputs they are purchasing. This payment will and should help livestock operators, who have a demonstrated need, to mitigate the drain on their farm/ranch equity.
- All Federal agencies who have the capability to do so, should provide loan guarantees, low interest or zero interest loans for a long period of time to get producers back on their feet.
- Increase Federal assistance to our rural communities and specifically our rural health care needs, both medical and mental health.
- Explore modifications to current and /or new risk mitigation programs to increase affordability and participation.
- Ensure that all federal agencies remain operational to keep packing and processing facilities functioning to allow all segments of the livestock supply chain to continue to market livestock in an orderly manner.
- Demand that USDA increase monitoring of packer bids and take swift action if there is evidence of price manipulation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Veeman".

Mike Veeman, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Hammerich".

William Hammerich, Chief Executive Officer