

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

TODD STAPLES
COMMISSIONER

RECEIVED APR 02 2009



March 30, 2009

The Honorable Jim Dunnam
Chairman
House Select Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Chairman Dunnam:

On March 3, 2009, I had the pleasure of testifying before the committee regarding funding opportunities and obligations for the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In that hearing I informed you that TDA expected to receive approximately \$8.6 million in additional funding for equipment grants as a part of the National School Lunch Program. We recently received an update from the U.S. Department of Agriculture informing TDA the total allocation will be \$11.5 million. This additional funding will allow TDA to provide new equipment to more Texas schools for the effective administration of the school lunch programs.

Should TDA receive any further updates, I will inform the committee as quickly as possible. Please do not hesitate to call if you have any additional questions or if I may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Staples".

Todd Staples

TS/CJF/me

cc:

The Honorable Myra Crownover
The Honorable Garnet Coleman
The Honorable Drew Darby
The Honorable Craig Eiland
The Honorable Carol Kent
The Honorable Solomon Ortiz, Jr.
The Honorable Jim Pitts
The Honorable Vicki Truitt

