



# *National Association of Wheat Growers*

415 Second St. NE, Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20002 • (202) 547-7800 • [www.wheatworld.org](http://www.wheatworld.org)

June 24, 2008

The Honorable «FIRST\_NAME» «LAST\_NAME»  
«ROOM\_BUILDING»  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
FAX: «DC\_FAX»

Dear Representative «LAST\_NAME» :

On behalf of the members of the National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG), I am writing to ask you to support a provision that will promote U.S. agriculture's current and future sales to Cuba. The language, currently included in the FY09 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations legislation would restrict funding for the Office of Foreign Assets Control's enforcement of the "payment of cash in advance" rule for trade with Cuba.

As you are aware, on February 22, 2005, OFAC issued a regulation narrowing the application of the term "payment of cash in advance" for sales to Cuba. Under the new OFAC definition, cash payments for U.S. agricultural goods sold to Cuba are restricted to those received prior to shipment of the goods from U.S. ports. This restriction is contrary to the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 (Export Enhancement Act), which allows for the shipment of agricultural goods under a broader interpretation of the rule, consistent with practices successfully used by U.S. exporters for many years. Agricultural sales to Cuba steadily decreased under the new restrictions, and not until 2007 did U.S. agriculture see a rebound in exports to Cuba.

NAWG supports the funding restrictions on OFAC for enforcement of the cash payment rule, and I ask that you support this provision as this legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

David Cleavinger  
President  
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