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WOMEN INVOLVED IN FARM ECONOMICS (WIFE)

WIFE was organized in December 1976 at Sidney, Nebraska as a non-profit agricultural association and quickly emerged as one of the most respected and viable agricultural organizations in the nation. The WIFE organization is what it is today due to the nurturing, attention and undying determination on the part of each and every member throughout the country.

Red is the official color of WIFE.

WIFE is:

- A Grassroots Organization open to anyone involved or interested in agriculture
- An Independent Entity of its own with a national structure composed of state associations and local chapters
- Energetic, pursuing its objectives and purposes in a positive manner and promoting all agricultural commodities
- Policy oriented and non-partisan
- Dedicated to improving profitability in production agriculture through educational, legislative, communicative and cooperative efforts.
- WIFE will continue to work as a catalyst to bring about cooperation between farm organizations.

COALITION MEMBERSHIPS *(WIFE belongs to the following coalitions or alliances)*

Coalition for a Prosperous America
Family Farm Alliance
Agriculture Council of America

WIFE POLICY SUMMARIES

GENERAL

1. WIFE believes it is the right of every farm family to improve their financial situation, standard of living or status in life, through their own investments, management decisions, determination and dedication. Profit is necessary if the farm is to succeed from generation to generation.
2. WIFE recommends that Congress, the USDA, and all other federal agencies adopt the following comprehensive definition of a family farm. "A family farm is a form of business enterprise in which the management decisions are made by a family engaged in the production of food, fuel, and fiber for profit, which is intended to provide the major source of income and capital for investment." WIFE strongly opposes the use of "gross" income as a measure of size or wealth.
3. WIFE supports 100% of parity for all agricultural commodities, to be received from the market place, not from government payments. WIFE promotes parity for the American producer in order to keep our agricultural economy strong and ensure a safe, reliable source of food, fuel, and fiber for our nation and urges all members to join together to promote parity. (2013)
4. WIFE holds accountable all public officials to honor all provisions of the Constitution of the United States. (2013)
5. WIFE urges all branches of government should enforce the protection of human rights and private property rights. (2013)
6. WIFE supports discretionary use of the Presidential Executive Order. Its use should be limited to true emergencies and not used to circumvent the wishes of Congress.
7. WIFE believes in the sovereign right of the United States to set its own agricultural policy and is opposed to any agreements or treaties, which would give up sovereign right.
8. WIFE supports a competitive marketplace for farmers and ranchers. (2013)
9. WIFE shall urge the United States Justice Department to utilize its full authority to enforce the Anti-Trust Laws.
10. WIFE opposes the unfair banking fees banks impose on both the payee and payer involving insufficiently funded transactions. (2013)
11. WIFE supports the ownership of agricultural land by family farm and ranch operations. (2009)
12. WIFE supports the continuation of Rural Free Delivery of mail. (2013)
13. WIFE urges all university agricultural research funded by public dollars remain in the public, not the private domain. (2013)
14. WIFE recommends immediate and periodic producer review referenda on all existing national commodity check-off programs in order to increase the accountability of these programs and to protect

these valuable self-help programs from constitutional challenges. Following the initial review referenda, periodic review referenda shall be held on all national check-off programs no less than once every five (5) years. (2013)

15. WIFE encourages the implementation of the following rules before the commodity check-offs are allowed to continue: 1.) Make the check-offs voluntary. 2.) Allow producers to vote for members of all check-off boards—one vote per producer. 3.) Limit tenure on the boards. 4.) Allocation of check-off funds shall be directed at point of collection to a national commodity organization of the producer's choice. 5.) No producer funds should be used to educate the producers within six months preceding the periodic referendum. 6.) The payment of mandatory commodity check-off must not constitute membership in a producer organization. 7.) Producer-funded research should remain the property of the producers. Patents granted as a result of the research should also belong to the producers.

16. WIFE supports legislation that would provide rights, protection, and bargaining obligations for agricultural producers and member controlled cooperatives entering into contract considerations.

17. WIFE urges the proper display and respect of the United States flag and supports the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America (U.S.A.) as currently written. (2013)

18. WIFE opposes foreign outsourcing of American jobs and the continued preferential federal tax advantages for those companies guilty of outsourcing and moving overseas to avoid tax liabilities. (2007)

19. WIFE opposes unfair regulations that hold agriculture liable for damages which occur to air, water, soil, or animals if all labels and regulations are properly observed.

20. WIFE requests when any rules and regulations are imposed upon individual states to implement federal government programs, funds to carry out all aspects of those programs shall be provided by the federal government.

21. WIFE opposes any regulations which add costs to the agricultural industry, directly or indirectly. (2013)

22. WIFE supports requiring Congressional Legislation to be in its final form at least twenty-four hours before a vote can be taken. (2009)

23. WIFE believes Congress needs more oversight and must take action to prevent misuse of the Equal Access to Justice Act. (2010)

24. WIFE supports the Capper Volstead Act which allows associations of producers to legally join and market as one.

25. Certain duties and responsibilities have been reserved for the states and WIFE demands that the Federal Government follow the intent of the Constitution and leave these areas to the states. (2013)

26. WIFE opposes conservation easements in perpetuity. (2012)

27. WIFE opposes the use of drones or other aircraft by Federal and State Agencies as investigative research over private property without proper search warrants. (2012)

28. WIFE opposes Agenda 21 sustainable development initiatives and programs such as national heritage areas, wilderness designation areas, national scenic byways, scenic landscapes, scenic viewsheds, national blueways, national greenways and conservation easements. (2014)

29. WIFE vehemently opposes any effort by government or other organizations, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to infringe on private property rights. (2013)

30. WIFE opposes the surveillance monitoring and sharing of information of private, law-abiding, sovereign citizens by all state and federal government agencies. (2013)

31. WIFE proposes that Non Governmental Organizations (NGO's) be subject to adequate disclosure as to their funding and disbursements to promote transparency with public funding. Churches would be exempt from this disclosure. (2016)

FARM PROGRAM

1. WIFE supports consistent farm programs for producers and agribusiness to allow long term management planning.

2. WIFE believes penalties for non-compliance of conservation plans should be proportional to the degree of violation.

3. WIFE firmly supports regional needs and circumstances be considered when farm programs are implemented. (2013)

4. WIFE strongly recommends that USDA monitor rules and regulations of the Payment Limitation Program and certify that maximum payment limits set by Congress are not exceeded.

5. A spouse is a separate person and should have the same rights as any other person to qualify for a separate payment limitation. WIFE will continue to monitor the "person status" implementation for eligible farm women under farm program payments.

6. WIFE supports nonrecourse marketing assistance.

7. WIFE supports Livestock Environmental Assistance Program (LEAP) but recommends limits of \$3,500 per year or a maximum of \$35,000 per contract.

8. WIFE opposes any "means" or "assets" test for farm program payments.

9. WIFE supports long term agricultural policy based on management of supplies that allows adequate inventories to meet domestic and export needs.

10. WIFE requests the USDA accurately report crops held by Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and that all crops on hand be referred to as inventories rather than surpluses. WIFE encourages the USDA to accurately report inventories to farmers and government officials. An adequate inventory is crucial to national security.

11. WIFE supports legislation, which would establish a revolving fund in the USDA with which to implement the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loan programs; thereby, creating a self-supporting fund and a more accurate accounting of actual commodity programs. WIFE requests compensating producers (paying interest) when CCC payments are late.
12. WIFE supports the extension of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) loan to 24 months.
13. WIFE believes Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) warehouse supplies and fresh farm products should be substituted for food stamps and food distribution programs when possible.
14. WIFE supports maintaining an adequate inventory through a Farmer Owned Reserve, allowing immediate entry. (2009)
15. WIFE supports producers having the option of updating their crop yields to be used in future farm programs.
16. WIFE believes in increased funding for farm income enhancement in order for the U.S. to have a continuous supply of safe affordable food and fiber and fuel.
17. WIFE supports offering producers payment for land diversion for conservation practices, especially those idling highly erodible land or undertaking practices to protect water quality and quantity. (2012)
18. WIFE believes payments made by the federal government for storing grain should be the same for producers and commercial operators.
19. WIFE urges the USDA to strengthen the inspection of all commercially stored grains. WIFE believes all imported grains should comply with all USDA specifications.
20. WIFE believes the United States should vigorously pursue export and market promotion programs and these should be funded at the maximum appropriation level allowed.
21. WIFE proposes that farmers be given the choice of entering into the nine month loan program first, or go directly into the three year reserve with no interest for the first year, and that the government pay storage annually.
22. WIFE supports participation in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and continued compliance by farmers and landlords for the life of their contracts. WIFE encourages congressional leaders to request the USDA fulfill these long-term CRP contracts.
23. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has generated landmark soil, water, and wildlife conservation benefits while it has increased farm income and saved taxpayers and the Federal Government money. WIFE supports the continuation of the CRP with: (1) voluntary renewal of contracts; (2) funding for this program will not be shifted from other farm program payments. Organizations or agencies cooperating in the funding of the CRP must diligently respect private property rights. (3) NRCS cooperation with producers who put land back into production (4) Renewed contracts must have enforceable provisions for pest and weed control and fire prevention. (5) Haying and grazing of CRP acres, now allowed under disaster conditions, will be utilized only by the landowner and not be used for

resale. (6) Bids for CRP will reflect the yearly cash leases currently being paid in the locality of the land. (7) CRP timber contracts should be extended until the trees reach a marketable size. (8) Base acres should be protected. (9) Landowner rights would be preserved and state's laws regarding tenant's rights should apply.

24. WIFE supports an income protection plan for U.S. commodities that would provide cost of production, free up government stocks and allow for a profit opportunity for farmers. (2007)

25. WIFE supports further scientific based evaluation of carbon sequestration and further supports implementation of carbon sequestration (currently referred to as credits) which first benefits agricultural producers.

26. WIFE urges the inclusion of a Competition Title* in federal legislation. *Explanation for Competition Title: WIFE supports the following regarding competition legislation: (1) mandatory Country Of Origin Labeling for agricultural products used for human consumption, including, but not limited to, meat with a born, raised, and processed definition; (2) provide farmers with a crucial disclosures of information about contracts; (3) prohibit confidential contracts and allow farmers ample time to seek advice before entering into contracts; (4) allow farmers the right to choose whether to utilize arbitration, mediation or civil litigation to resolve disputes; (5) urge USDA to establish an office of Special Counsel on Competition and allow that office to have the authority to review mergers in the food and agriculture sector, in addition to having jurisdiction over marketing practices that eliminate competition; (6) provides for the appointment of an outside counsel, who is not an employee of the federal government, for actions arising from the Packers and Stockyards Act, (7) ban packer ownership of livestock; (8) restrict captive supplies of cattle, hogs and sheep; (9) protect a producer from liability or new regulatory requirements of any commodity, unless they are processors that also produce.

27. WIFE supports the allocation of funds to increase the baseline for hiring full-time employees (FTE) in local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices to process heavy workloads.

28. WIFE supports Federal Crop Insurance that: (1) is less complex and more easily understood and that benefits the producer; (2) will reflect a producer's cost of production (fixed and variable costs); (3) accurately uses a producer's most current yields and guarantees yields would go no lower than historic county averages; (4) may be purchased at affordable premium rates; (5) provides coverage based on units of production (bushels or pounds); (6) does not discriminate against location, farming practices, or number of land units; (7) is voluntary; (8) issues timely payments; (9) includes non-traditional crops.

29. WIFE supports an increased crop insurance program that would cover all crops as long as such crops are feasible for the area and have a history of being successful in the geographical area.

30. WIFE supports the following items concerning crop insurance: (1) Encourage Risk Management Agency to harmonize standards in crop insurance to adequately cover quality losses. (2) When production is impacted because of natural disasters, actual production history should be maintained without those lower numbers. (3) Programs are initiated that recognize and accommodate the unique production, price, and actuarial experience of producers of specialty crops, including certified organic commodities.

31. WIFE strongly supports the continuation of local elected committees for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and WIFE will encourage its' members to seek positions on these committees. (2013)

32. WIFE supports the integrity of the Farm Service Agency County Committee System and strongly supports the continuation of the locally elected Farm Service Agency County Committee. WIFE opposes allowing the Secretary of Agriculture to politicize committees by appointing voting members to the committee. (2011)

33. WIFE opposes the crop insurance practice of deducting premiums for all crops when a crop loss indemnity for one crop is being paid. (2014)

34. WIFE supports retaining the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Department of Agriculture, in such a way that all rules and regulations be consistent, in order to maintain a service center for agriculture producers for the purpose of consistency in all rules and regulations including technical assistance, financial accountability and guidance by locally elected and/or appointed committees.

35. WIFE urges optional coverage for acts of terrorism, bio-terrorism, and third party vandalism be included on federal crop and livestock insurance.

36. WIFE supports the Farm Service Agency be the exclusive crop acreage reporting agency for farm programs. (2011)

37. WIFE opposes the closure of FSA offices without quality assessment of workload, number of producers served and convenience for the most producers before closing FSA offices or reducing staff, and that all USDA offices be closed in that county should the FSA office close.

38. WIFE recommends that any changes to farm policy should be made by the Senate and House Agriculture Committees, and that production agriculture should not be singled out to be the political tool for balancing the budget. (2011)

39. WIFE urges Congress to retain Permanent Law Provisions of the 1938 and 1949 Acts in future Farm Bills. (2013)

40. WIFE strongly supports the inclusion of the Nutrition Title in the Farm Bill. (2013)

ALL GRAIN

1. WIFE favors the concept of the historical relationship between farm income support programs and agricultural production.

2. WIFE encourages U.S. grain standards be set to equal or surpass the standards of our worldwide competitors. WIFE supports the pricing of grain according to quality when sold by producers at the first marketing point.

3. WIFE opposes any imported grain from being included or participating in any U.S. government marketing and/or agricultural programs.

4. WIFE supports regulations to allow adequate amounts of water to be applied to harvested grains for safety purposes; yet limiting the amount to maintain the quality.

5. WIFE opposes the use and licensing of Terminator gene technology.
6. WIFE supports legislation that encourages state and federally funded research of all grain commodities and for the development of efficient processing techniques of all grain and grain by-products and toward developing seeds for specific qualities. (2009)
7. WIFE urges a renewed mandate to use public sector resources to serve the needs of our farmers and ranchers and the public interest. Because our food security is at stake, it is of utmost importance to maintain private individual capacity to breed plants and animals for the future of the agricultural system.
8. WIFE supports raising the loan rates on all grain commodities to cover cost of production.

BARLEY

1. WIFE requests the USDA, for program purposes, to recognize two distinct classes of barley, malt and feed, with a price differential. In the event the Agriculture Marketing Transition Act (AMTA) of 1996 be revisited, the target price and deficiency payments be calculated separately on these two crops.

CORN

1. WIFE supports the development and processing food, feed, fiber, and renewable energy from grains. (2011)
2. WIFE supports the development and processing of environmentally safe products made from raw agricultural products including biodegradable products, sources of energy which are renewable, and products for feed and human consumption.

MILO

1. WIFE believes milo seed should be labeled to the exact percentage of foreign material.

WHEAT

1. WIFE advocates an accurate and standard system for grading grain and measuring protein levels.
2. WIFE opposes any action by the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) to reclassify Winter and Spring Wheat into one class Hard Wheat.

LIVESTOCK

1. WIFE recommends the livestock industry formulate a program to identify meat and meat products born, produced, and processed in the United States, develop a logo to distinguish this product to the consumer, and initiate an advertising program to promote domestically produced meat products. (2013)
2. WIFE supports humane animal treatment but opposes legislation granting human rights to animals.

(2013)

3. WIFE urges that the Packer and Stockyard Act be strictly enforced to stop market monopoly and/or market price control.

4. WIFE actively supports a ban on packer ownership of livestock and opposes the use of captive supply except for small processors that control less than 10% of the market.

5. WIFE supports intervention by the Packers and Stockyards Administration to restore competition by: (1) disallowing direct packer feeding; (2) disallowing private treaty formula pricing for forward contracted slaughter; (3) requiring packers to make forward contracts for slaughter supplies on a firm bid basis and to offer such contracts in an open and public manner.

6. WIFE recommends meat inspection services at processing plants and border inspection points remain uninterrupted, even during economic cuts, to insure safe consistent product supplies.

7. WIFE requests that the red meat inspection stay within the USDA.

8. WIFE supports a reorganization of the meat inspection program with retention of a sufficient number of USDA field inspectors and fewer desk personnel. WIFE reiterates our support for strict meat inspection procedures.

9. WIFE supports mandatory labeling as U.S. meat only if that product has been born, raised and processed in the United States; furthermore WIFE opposes the use of the USDA stamp on any product not born, raised and, processed in the United States. (2009)

10. Should COOL in part or whole be repealed by Congress, WIFE advocates for rulemaking through USDA to maintain the integrity of the categories "A" through "E" as defined in the 2013 COOL language (see below), with special focus on the "A" label of born, raised, harvested as a Product of the USA. The following definitions are simplified but accurate:

Four Categories for muscle cuts of meat and one for ground meat.

A Label-reserved for muscle cuts of meat derived from livestock born/hatched, raised and slaughtered in the USA.

B Label-born outside the USA and then imported to be raised and slaughtered in the USA. If the animal resides in the USA for 15 days or more before slaughter, it can be called raised in the USA.

C Label-born and raised outside of the USA and then imported into the USA for slaughter. The animal must be slaughtered within 14 days of being imported to use this "C" Label.

D Label-Muscle cuts must be designated as having a country of origin other than the USA when livestock from which the meat is derived have been slaughtered in the country prior to being exported (usually imported as boxed or hanging sides--Example: New Zealand lamb).

E Label-Ground meat, the label must list all countries of origin for the meat contained therein or that may reasonably be contained therein based on the 60 day inventory allowance rule. When raw material from a specific origin has not been in a processor's inventory for more than 60 days, that country shall no longer be included as a country of origin.

Three Exemptions to Country of Origin Labeling--

- Ingredients in “processed food items”
- Products served in food service establishments.
- Entities not meeting the definition of retailer

Federal Register

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-05-24/pdf/2013-12366.pdf> (2016)

11. WIFE recommends all imported animals have a permanent country of origin identification mark.
12. WIFE recommends that federal and state agencies be required to implement proper preventive programs to prevent transfer of diseases and/or pestilence from wild animals to domestic herds.
13. WIFE believes that grazing fee formulas for true leases on true public lands be set, taking into account cost of production and market price. Allotment owners should be fully and fairly informed as to ownership rights in their fee lands and these be treated according to law.
14. WIFE supports the definition of wild bison as never held in captivity, never had ownership, or never had livestock status in any state, tribal land, or country. Bison with livestock status cannot be reclassified as wildlife. (2013)
15. WIFE believes bison/buffalo shall be classified as livestock and not as wildlife. (2012)
16. No producer shall be denied the right to market their livestock for lack of participation or compliance in any government imposed animal identification system and/or any government imposed premises identification registration that is attached to a specific point of land, as this may potentially create a covenant or cloud upon the title to that land which could constitute a “takings”. (2007)
17. WIFE supports that no one shall be prevented from participation in 4-H or FFA programs and any public events for failure to comply or participate in any government imposed livestock identification programs and/or premises identification registration program. (2007)
18. WIFE encourages the implementation of the following rules before livestock check-offs are allowed to continue: 1.) Make the check-offs voluntary. 2.) Allow producers to vote for members of all check-off boards-one vote per producer. 3.) Limit tenure on the boards. 4.) Allocation of check-off funds shall be directed at point of collection to a national commodity organization of the producer’s choice. 5.) The assessment shall also be collected at slaughter from those producers who are currently exempt by virtue of being in a vertically integrated operation. 6.) No producer funds should be used to educate the producers within six months preceding the periodic referendum. 7.) The payment of mandatory commodity check-off must not constitute membership in a producer organization. 8.) Producer-funded research should remain the property of the producers. Patents granted as a result of the research should also belong to the producers. (2013)
19. WIFE opposes any increase in the beef check-off until steps have been taken to separate the Cattlemen’s Beef Board from the Federation of State Beef Councils to guarantee check-off funds are not used (either directly or indirectly) for lobbying for policies detrimental to producers. (2014)

20. WIFE supports the status of horses be returned to livestock from companion animals. (2008)
21. WIFE believes the former horse slaughter plants should be reopened or new ones opened and markets pursued for the horse flesh and byproducts. (2008)
22. WIFE advocates science based industry guidelines regarding animal husbandry and animal welfare, i.e., transportation, branding, and housing. (2008)
23. WIFE supports legislation providing the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) with administrative enforcement and civil penalty authority, and providing fair practices in contractual negotiations between the farmers and the processors and handlers of agricultural products. (2013)
24. WIFE urges every state to create and maintain a database centralizing all the available forms of animal identification. (2013)
25. WIFE urges prohibiting the importation of livestock from any country that experiences outbreaks of serious zoonotic diseases, including pests, until scientific evidence demonstrates the disease and/or pests have been eradicated or fully controlled and there is no known risk of further spread. (2009)
26. Congress and USDA must substantially reform the current hands off inspection system for meat known as Hazards Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP). As part of the HACCP reform, Congress should implement a requirement that meat sold at retail and foodservice establishments be traceable back to the slaughterhouse that processes the meat from live animals and would enable investigations to determine and address the actual source of meat contamination. (2009)
27. WIFE opposes any legislation that would restrict the use of antibiotics for food producing animals. (2010)
28. WIFE believes ionophores should not be classified as antibiotics. (2010)
29. WIFE supports the use check-off dollars to promote U.S. beef. (2014)
30. WIFE supports field and scientific testing of safe, effective population control of predators such as coyotes, and requests trapping and/or aerial hunting of predator animals not be banned. (2013)

BEEF

1. WIFE opposes a total ban on using growth implants on U.S. animals for the beef industry.
2. WIFE recommends domestically produced red meat be required in all school lunch programs. (2009)
3. WIFE insists all meat from game animals be required to meet the same strict standards as U.S. beef.
4. WIFE supports state boards and federal agencies in prevention of Brucellosis-infected animals from entering any state, in compliance of state laws. (2013)
5. WIFE urges check-off overseeing boards deal directly with vendors. (2013)

6. WIFE opposes increasing the beef check-off. (2013)
7. WIFE recommends that the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, the Cattlemen’s Beef Board and the Federation of State Beef Councils each become individually independent and autonomous in order to alleviate the impression that they are operating as one entity. (2014)
8. WIFE supports the humane treatment and disposition of all animals including horses in the U.S. (2013)
9. WIFE supports amending the Beef Research and Promotion Act to allow promotion of beef born, and raised exclusively in the United States and establishes a referendum and requirements that allow for additional contractors. (2013)

PORK

1. WIFE supports funding Pseudo Rabies Virus (PRV) control program.
2. WIFE supports funding for research of Porcine Respiratory Syndrome (PRS) and other swine diseases as well as availability of research information to producers.
3. WIFE strongly recommends state records detailing areas where swine disease or herd health problems exist, be available to the public and be kept current, as is done for Pseudo Rabies Virus (PRV).
4. WIFE supports enforcement of swine health certification as hogs are transported from one area to another.
5. WIFE urges USDA to continue to make more purchases of U.S. pork for the school lunch programs. (2009)

SHEEP

1. WIFE opposes any legislation that would allow for the introduction of the gray wolf or any other wolf species into any federal lands
2. Due to wolves naturally migrating into the United States, WIFE opposes the reintroduction of already naturally occurring species.
3. WIFE encourages the US Congress to maintain its’ support for Defense Department “Buy Domestic” requirements (Berry/Hefner Amendment) and urges the Defense Department to confine its’ entire textile purchases to domestically produced products. (2015)
4. WIFE opposes any legislation and/or initiative that restricts control and management of depredating animals. (2015)

DAIRY

1. WIFE supports the work of the Dairy Coalition in its efforts to promote international trade policies that serve to keep the market in the United States strong and viable to preserve the American family farm. (2012)
2. WIFE supports the Quality Cheese Act.
3. WIFE recommends that any food containing the term cheese on the label be made from fluid, not dried, dairy products.
4. WIFE opposes deregulation of the dairy industry and recommends continuing the Federal Milk Market Order System, with stricter limits on pooling and de-pooling of milk.
5. WIFE supports a fair pricing formula ensuring integrity and yielding the highest price to the producer through the Federal Milk Marketing Order System. (2009)
6. WIFE requests there be constant refrigeration of school milk, and that larger containers of milk be available for junior and senior high schools.
7. WIFE insists food products advertised with pictures of cows actually contain dairy products and imitation dairy products be displayed separately in refrigerated areas and be fairly labeled.
8. WIFE urges that milk solids in drinking milk be increased to California standards and that whole milk be clearly labeled 3.25%.
9. WIFE recommends that all plastic containers for milk be pigmented.
10. WIFE recommends no government monies be spent to purchase imitation dairy products for the school lunch program. (2009)
11. WIFE recommends all federal milk-marketing orders have Compact Capability.
12. WIFE strongly opposes any change whatsoever to the definition of milk. Milk Protein Concentrates (MPC's) would change the nutritional value and high quality of fluid milk. Ultra filtered milk is not nutritionally equivalent because the vitamins, minerals, enzymes and lactose are removed during this process.
13. WIFE supports policy that protects U.S. Dairy farmers against volatile market prices. (2011)
14. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) should be required, through legislation and other means, to make a timely determination as to whether a dairy product proposed to be imported meets the sanitary and biosecurity standards of this country. The determination should be made directly by FDA's direct inspection of individual dairy plants and dairy farms, or upon its finding that a foreign country's dairy inspection system is equivalent to that of the United State. The cost of FDA inspections must be paid entirely by the foreign plants and farms subject to inspection.
15. WIFE supports a continuing investigation by the Government Accounting Office (GAO) of the United States pricing system and an accurate account of imported dairy products.

16. WIFE recommends no changes be made to the present ice cream standards.
17. WIFE urges the U.S. Congress to protect the competitiveness of the United States specialty cheese industry for the benefit of agricultural producers, United States cheese makers, consumers, and related businesses.
18. WIFE supports the extension of Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program. (2009)
19. WIFE opposes the use of the word milk for products that are not dairy based and recommends they be called beverage; e.g., soy milk should be called soy beverage.

ALL OTHER CROPS

1. WIFE supports efforts to assure minor use crop producers will have pesticides necessary to produce their crops.
2. WIFE will oppose legislation that repeals the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act. (2016)
3. WIFE recommends that the standards for the National Organics Program (NOP) be maintained at current levels, and that WIFE opposes any changes that would weaken the integrity or standards of the NOP.
4. WIFE supports organic and direct marketing programs, and WIFE will continue to emphasize the necessity of bulk commodity production in order to feed an increasing world population. (2009)
5. WIFE supports a standardized “noxious weed seed free” certification program for hay. (2016)

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

1. WIFE opposes any program that places a program commodity in competition against a non-program commodity and believes that an agricultural impact statement should be made before a new program is instituted.
2. WIFE encourages the awareness and monitoring of legislation that could adversely affect dry edible beans.

SOYBEANS

1. WIFE supports labeling on packages so the consumer can readily identify and understand the various oils in products.
2. WIFE supports the National Soybean Promotion and Research Check-off (SPARC).

SUGAR

1. WIFE supports the U.S. Sugar Loan Program mandated by Congress to assure stable sugar supplies and prices for American consumers. (2016)

2. WIFE recommends that the U.S. Sugar Program be maintained and that the administration manage it as Congress intended. (2016)

3. WIFE supports sugar be part of America's ethanol strategy and urges Congress to adopt a plan to transform sugar surpluses into a fuel, furthering the country's energy goal while keeping the sugar market balanced in the face of unneeded imports. (2016)

TOPICS OF CONCERN

EDUCATION

1. WIFE supports consumer education of proper food handling in the food industry.

2. WIFE supports Vocational Agriculture Education and its continued funding.

3. WIFE supports efforts of land grant colleges and universities to focus on research and marketing to help solve economic problems of the family farm.

4. WIFE supports the change in the regulations for eligibility of student loans, taking into account only the net income and liquid assets of the parents.

5. WIFE opposes public funding for issues concerning animal rights.

6. WIFE supports local control, whenever possible, over curriculum, consolidation, and legislation affecting our tax dollars and the rural way of life. WIFE opposes the utilization of public funding of educational programs developed and promoted by groups or organizations that portray agriculture in a negative manner.

7. WIFE supports the "Agriculture in the Classroom" project.

8. WIFE will promote the importance of agriculture to all Americans, and American consumers will be given the verifiable facts concerning agriculture.

9. WIFE advocates dietary information given by government agencies be fairly and fully presented to the public.

10. WIFE supports providing nutrition education through existing agencies for those participating in food programs.

11. WIFE will continue to promote education regarding low cost, high quality, nutritious, farm fresh foods.

12. WIFE opposes all animal, environmental and non-governmental organizational groups that are detrimental to agriculture and promote their agendas in schools. (2013)

ENERGY

1. WIFE requests Congress assure production agriculture an affordable fuel and reliable energy. (2015)
2. WIFE urges Congress to retain the Federal Power Marketing Administration (PMA) which works to keep efficiency in federal power operations.(2014)
3. WIFE supports government incentives to benefit United States production of fuel refined from American agricultural crops. (2015)
4. WIFE supports the production of biofuels, ethanol, the distiller's grain co-products and the utilization of distiller's grains as a high-protein food and feed supplement. (2015)
5. WIFE supports policies that will aid in developing and increasing the use of alternative fuels. (2015)
6. WIFE supports the continuation of research and development of crops for production of renewable energy products (2015)
7. WIFE supports access to high-speed broadband services for rural areas and to continue support for Rural Utilities Service (RUS) that provides funding for loans and grants of increased broadband capacity and advanced telecommunication services. (2015)
8. WIFE supports hydroelectric power as a reliable, renewable resource to be kept functioning for future generations. (2015)
9. WIFE supports coal electric generation and clean carbon technology including graphene (a carbon product. (2015)
10. WIFE opposes the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) excessive regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from our power plants. (2015)
11. WIFE supports each state controlling its own oil and gas industry with hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and connected regulations. (2015)
12. WIFE supports the fair and equitable implementation of the Clean Air Act (CAA) and opposes excessive regulations of normal farming practices. (2016)
13. WIFE supports the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) to increase ethanol and biofuel production and usage. (2016)

FARM FINANCE

1. WIFE opposes the sale of any part of the Farm Credit Service to a foreign financial institute.
2. WIFE urges that all USDA farm loan repayments be an offset against the actual cost of the program.
3. WIFE supports policy that allows the landowner who has lost his land through foreclosure, the right of first refusal to rent or purchase the property back.

4. WIFE strongly supports the free enterprise system and objects to the financing, encouragement, and offering of benefits to collective farms in the U.S. by the Department of Agriculture and Department of Labor.

5. WIFE urges Congress and the Administration take positive steps to strengthen agriculture and agri-business agencies to insure that the credit needs of agriculture be adequately met with the lowest possible interest rates for all agricultural agencies.

TAXES

1. WIFE requests the reinstatement of the capital gains deduction, investment tax credit, and income averaging for farmers and ranchers. (2014)

2. WIFE supports a reduction in capital gains tax rate for small business and family farms.

3. WIFE opposes any effort to enact a capital gains tax upon death. (2009)

4. WIFE supports a tax reform that would allow sales of property between relatives at an interest rate to be determined by the parties involved.

5. WIFE supports the deduction of personal interest and sales taxes when itemizing deductions on both federal and state income taxes.

6. WIFE believes "payment in lieu of taxes" payments should equal regular taxation

7. WIFE opposes the effort to increase governmental funding by imposing hidden taxes in the guise of fees, licenses and other mandatory obligations.

8. There is a movement to have global government, under the command of United Nations officers, which would not recognize the United States government. WIFE opposes any plan (such as the Charter for Global Democracy) to turn U.S. Federal Government into any part of a global government that would be under the control and direction of the United Nations. (2013)

9. WIFE supports allowing farmers to invest, at the time of a dispersal sale, before taxes, farm sale income into tax-deferred accounts, such as IRA's, to be used for their retirement.

10. WIFE advocates that Internal Revenue Service (IRS) treatment of tax exempt organizations shall not be changed to adversely affect these organizations.

11. WIFE opposes any employee working in the US illegally receiving social security credit for employment performed before he/she becomes a legal resident. (2011)

12. WIFE urges the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee initiate the removal of the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code of 1986 that prohibits the use of Aggie Bonds for the intra-family transfer of farms.

13. WIFE opposes any Internal Revenue Service requirements that require agricultural producers to file

more undue paperwork: specifically the requirements that businesses must issue a Form 1099 to incorporated businesses and goods-providers. (2010)

14. WIFE supports Section 179 limits be reinstated to the prior level of \$500,000. (2014)

FOOD

1. WIFE endorses legislation to inspect foreign food commensurate with domestic inspection standards, and labeled as to point of origin. This is a matter of national security. (2007)

2. WIFE supports a country of origin labeling that will readily identify grown and processed in the U.S., allowing the U.S. consumer to support U.S. agriculture.

3. WIFE urges the USDA to ban the processing, blending and shipment to another entity any products from an animal that has been tested for BSE until negative results are available to the appropriate parties. (2013)

4. WIFE supports legislation that declares irradiation of food is a process not an additive, and supports efforts authorizing additional research and development of the process.

5. WIFE believes all nutrition programs financed by USDA should use U.S. grown agricultural products before products from foreign countries.

6. WIFE recognizes the health, nutrition, economic and environmental benefits of biotechnology. We support continued research using validated scientific data to ensure the development of beneficial and safe products.

7. WIFE supports the promotion of balanced meals and nutritional food snacks to be served in our schools.

8. WIFE recommends the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) maintain U.S. health and food safety standards so we do not become a global dumping ground for substandard foods.

9. WIFE urges increased inspections of foreign processing plants prior to importation of processed foods into the USA.(2013)

HAZARDOUS & TOXIC WASTES

1. WIFE strongly opposes building hazardous and/or nuclear waste repository sites in agricultural and/or water resource areas.

2. WIFE believes that anyone using toxic materials is responsible for their actions. Landowners/lessees, however, should not be financially liable for actions by previous owners who have left that site.

3. WIFE believes all users of chemicals and fertilizers should be subject to the same standards that are applied to farm use.(2009)

4. WIFE says normal animal expulsion of methane gas should not be regulated, legislated or taxed.(2009)

HOMELAND SECURITY

1. WIFE supports legislation where illegal immigrants and their children should not be eligible for any government benefits until they are legal residents. (2013)
2. WIFE supports no amnesty for immigrants who entered the U.S.A. illegally.
3. WIFE supports English as the official language of the U.S.A.
4. WIFE opposes the formation of a North American Union which would combine Canada, United States and Mexico similar to the European Union. (2013)
5. WIFE denounces the premise that the the U.S. Border is secure and demands that all elected officials work towards securing our borders. (2014)
6. WIFE supports all law enforcement and military entities as they protect America from foreign and domestic threats. (2015)
7. WIFE opposes any semblance of immigration reform legislation until such time as our borders are completely secure. (2015)
8. WIFE demands that U.S. judicial and law enforcement systems recognize and apply an enforcement mechanism that provides for the prosecution of illegally crossing into the U.S. over the Border, for the first time, as a felony barring any person from ever working or receiving residency visa status in the U.S. (2015)
9. WIFE supports the Department of Homeland Security having all access to the public lands for the purpose of securing our international borders, including not being subject to prohibitions of use of such lands. (2013)
10. WIFE will aggressively promote the placement of Forward Operating Bases (FOB) on the U.S. borders (suggest at least one FOB every 12 miles). (2014)
11. WIFE supports the protection of American citizens from dangerous illegal immigrants and opposes sanctuary cities. (2015)

LABOR

1. WIFE supports the discretion of parents or guardians, without the interference of government, when deciding which activities minor youth are capable of doing with regards to working in agricultural settings. (2011)
2. WIFE opposes legislation requiring farmers to provide housing for migratory or seasonal labor.
3. WIFE requests public and private entities that receive funding to serve migrant workers cooperate, and duplication of services be eliminated. These entities must be held accountable for all reserves and expenditures and an independent audit be conducted annually.
4. Parents or guardians should be required to pay any penalties assessed for minor children performing

migrant labor in the fields.

5. WIFE supports a Temporary Agricultural Workers Program to assure the availability of an adequate labor force for labor intensive agriculture commodities.

NATURAL RESOURCES

1. WIFE believes agriculture, timber, mining and oil production are all dependent upon the wise use of our natural resources, and these four industries are the source of new wealth generated in our economy. WIFE supports cooperation with others to amend the Endangered Species Act, to include economic and social impact studies that will determine the extent of adverse impacts that listing of various threatened or endangered species of plants or animals will have on agriculture, mining, timber, and oil production. (2013)

2. WIFE urges any enforcement of clean air standards should not be at a level that creates negative economic impact on agriculture or hinders normal farming practices.

3. WIFE opposes the Kyoto Protocol Treaty unless undeveloped countries are forced to adhere to all rules and regulations as developed countries.

4. WIFE is concerned that the consideration of Global Warming is not based on sound science. Any consideration in this area must not adversely affect the competitiveness of United States agriculture.

5. WIFE urges all railroad and highway departments make weed control a top priority, as transportation is believed to be the largest spreader of weeds.

6. WIFE vigorously supports continued research in biological weed and insect control, as well as efforts in increased herbicide degradation (biodegradable) research.

7. WIFE requests the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) be permitted to remove a farm chemical from the market only after positive proof has been established that there is a health hazard when used as labeled. WIFE suggests a review panel of qualified agriculturalists be appointed to EPA hearing panels considering questions affecting farm chemicals.

8. WIFE believes the wise use of our natural resources, i.e. agriculture, timber, water, coal as well as other mining, and oil and gas production are vital to the United States economy. WIFE opposes the adoption of any action which imposes unnecessary or burdensome obligations on these industries.

9. WIFE supports responsible drilling off shore as well as in the continental United States. (2011)

10. WIFE supports harvesting of dead or damaged trees to control insects, help prevent catastrophic forest fires and stimulate economic growth. (2016)

ENDANGERED SPECIES

1. WIFE urges all regulatory agencies affected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to develop a

national policy to treat species as endangered only after they have been approved by a **scientifically based listing**. (2015)

2. WIFE believes Congress should withdraw financial support for threatened and endangered species from various federal agencies until a new Endangered Species Act (ESA) is authorized. The current act, enacted in 1973 and expired in 1993, continues to be funded through agencies.

3. WIFE supports legislation that would strengthen Executive Order 12630, which was signed by President Ronald Reagan on March 15, 1988, and requires federal agencies to conduct —takings impact assessments || and to reduce, and to compensate property owners for takings, which result from federal regulatory actions.

4. WIFE urges human and private property rights be considered first and foremost when establishing protection priorities for the Endangered Species Act. The reintroduction of certain species should be carefully monitored. (2013)

5. WIFE supports complete locally conducted studies of social and economic impacts of proposed changes in the management of sensitive and threatened habitats. Those studies must be conducted in the affected areas, with public comment, relative to the management changes and prior to consideration by the governing agency. The agency conducting these studies must address all concerns raised during public comment.

6. WIFE supports a non-regulatory, incentive-based, approach for conservation of wildlife and habitat.

7. WIFE urges that the human need for water, food and energy should have priority over the protection of endangered species.

8. WIFE opposes the reintroduction of the black-footed ferret on public or private lands in the United States. (2013)

9. WIFE opposes the addition of the Prairie Sage Grouse, the Lesser Prairie Chicken and the Black Footed Ferret to the threatened or Endangered Species List. (2014)

10. WIFE supports fair and equitable compensation for farmers and ranchers who have had losses due to protected species.

LAND USE

1. WIFE supports any "right to farm" legislation to protect existing agricultural lands and activities from governmental zoning, annexation, and/or nuisance ordinances. (2009)

2. WIFE opposes the conversion of private productive lands to the public domain by governmental or other non-taxpaying entity, which results in a net loss of private property.

3. WIFE opposes the concept of the American Heritage Act and the use of the American Heritage Trust Fund to purchase private land.

4. WIFE opposes the government taking farmland through taxes and regulation. WIFE believes the government must offer full compensation to private property owners for all regulations that reduce the value of farmland or the income of farmers. WIFE also requests that before instituting any new rule affecting farmers, the government analyze the benefits as compared to jobs lost, food production capacity eliminated, and damage to farmers.
5. WIFE supports revising laws pertaining to eminent domain, eliminating the liability of landowners when public utilities cross their land.
6. Since the proposed system used by governing bodies to classify plants as either native or invasive is inadequate when establishing weed management programs; WIFE supports expanded plant classification and supports control of noxious weeds on public and private land, with the landowner's consent.
7. WIFE requests that if a federal land sale is pending, that vested property right owners on federal land will be fully and fairly informed of adverse impact to property, and will be guaranteed due process and just compensation at highest and best use.
8. WIFE requests Congress take appropriate measures to protect and defend the ownership of property by 1.) narrowly limiting and defining those purposes that truly are for the public good, 2.) develop a method to insure that one class of society does not gain financial or other benefits by having property of another condemned under eminent domain, and 3.) under condemnation, the valuation is based on the Federal Yellow Book appraisal for highest and best use. WIFE also requests that when property is either devalued by regulatory and/or partial physical taking or actual physical takings, either through eminent domain or various laws, the injured party shall be immediately and automatically fully compensated based on the appraisal for highest and best use as well as any and all associated legal costs.
9. WIFE supports the protection of private property rights against government takings by any agency, department, organization or non-governmental organization. (2009)
10. WIFE supports the gifting or selling of public lands to any ag producer but does not support it for conservational, environmental organizations or non-governmental organizations. (2009)
11. WIFE opposes consideration of indirect land use to determine the carbon footprint of renewable fuels. (2009)
12. WIFE opposes the use of the Antiquities Act of 1906 to designate large geographic features as natural parks and conservation land. (2010)
13. WIFE believes Congress should take its authority back and rescind Secretarial Order No. 3310 which gives the Bureau of Land Management authority to "designate appropriate areas with wilderness characteristics under its jurisdiction as 'Wild Lands' and to manage them to protect their wilderness value." (2011)

WATER

1. WIFE recognizes the goals of a Clean Water Act (CWA) and supports reasonable means to prevent degradation of surface and groundwater. (2015)

2. WIFE opposes expansion of the jurisdictional reach of the Clean Water Act. (2015)
3. WIFE supports the words, “navigable bodies of water” remain in any water legislation and limiting Federal Clean Water Act authority to navigable streams. (2015)
4. WIFE supports a moratorium on new wilderness designations until the ruling, reserving water originating in wilderness areas for use in wilderness areas, is resolved. WIFE supports full and fair disclosure of savings provisions in the Wilderness Act and demands acknowledgement, respect, and protection of vested water rights and the Doctrine of Prior Appropriations. (2015)
5. WIFE opposes the implementation of the Public Trust Doctrine.
6. WIFE supports the development and construction of feasible water storage facilities, and the rehabilitation of existing storage facilities when necessary. WIFE urges criteria for development/construction of such facilities take into consideration reasonable payback periods and the benefit/cost ratio to the economy.
7. WIFE opposes the federal government’s action to circumvent, by any means, a State's right to allocate and regulate waters within their boundaries
8. WIFE opposes any loss of water rights, including water arising, or claimed on, federal lands without specific procedures of due process of law and just compensation (as provided in the V and XIV amendments of the U.S. Constitution). WIFE demands acknowledgement, respect, and protection of Prior Appropriations Doctrine on water rights and recognition of "fee land ownership." WIFE supports automatic immediate compensation at appraised value for highest and best use for a loss of water rights.
9. WIFE maintains that all branches and levels of government should acknowledge and respect the individual land owner's right of free choice in management practices in water use, development and conservation. WIFE supports programs that encourage landowners/water users to use voluntary best management practices which are efficient, and environmentally and economically feasible, to prevent degradation of surface and groundwater. Any regulation, if imposed, must be based on scientific fact, which includes recognizing naturally occurring elements.
10. WIFE urges that any request to transfer water from an agriculture use requires a study of all impacts of that water use change.
11. WIFE opposes the expansion of the "Wild and Scenic Rivers Act”.

WETLANDS

1. WIFE supports a cooperative approach to the wetlands issues that will provide mutual benefits to those that feel a more comprehensive plan be adopted, emphasizing management and flexibility. Farmers should be represented on any state or federal appointed study or advisory commission.
2. WIFE believes prior converted lands and wetlands created by any man-made structures, facilities, irrigation, or drainage activities should not be subject to regulations.
3. All wetlands and Section 404 determinations and regulatory authority on farmland should rest with USDA agencies, especially giving more control through local soil conservation districts.

4. Wetland protection programs should emphasize economic incentives to farmers and ranchers and not acquisition and perpetual easements.
5. WIFE urges USDA to include the farmer in the decision making regarding the designation of wetlands, on property on which the farmer has control or authority.
6. WIFE believes wetlands or temporary bodies of water in areas of one acre or less should not be under the jurisdiction of state or federal agencies.

RURAL LIFE

FARM SAFETY

1. WIFE believes all railroad cars should have reflector dots, strips or stickers on them for safety purposes.
2. WIFE urges all those who sell plants that have parts that are poisonous place a sticker, marker or description with them to designate which parts are dangerous. (2009)
3. WIFE believes basic first aid and Cardio-Coronary Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) should be taught in elementary and high schools. (2015)

RURAL HEALTH

1. WIFE is concerned about the high malpractice premiums the medical field must carry. WIFE urges other organizations to help promote legislation to ensure obstetrical care be provided in rural America. Legislators and insurance companies should revise claim limits and costs of malpractice insurance. (2015)
2. WIFE supports an accessible and affordable health care plan, offered by private insurers that will guarantee basic healthcare to everyone. (2015)
3. WIFE urges revision of Medicaid and/or Medicare reimbursements to provide equal reimbursement for health care regardless of population density.
4. WIFE supports educational programs that encourage rural students to enter the varied medical professions and then return to rural communities to practice. (2015)
5. WIFE strongly supports the Agribility Project sponsored by the Easter Seals Society to ensure disabled farmers and ranchers remain on the land as active producers through modifications to traditional machinery and accessibility.
6. WIFE supports policies that allow for comprehensive prescription drug coverage for all medically necessary medicines and other therapies. (2013)

TRADE

1. WIFE calls for a ban on all meat and feed imports from countries that have not implemented and enforced a ruminant-to-ruminant feed ban. (2007)
2. WIFE encourages the continuation of the Export Enhancement Program (EEP) with utilization of domestic supplies.
3. WIFE supports action to effectively deal with the negative impact that foreign imports have on profitability in our agriculture industries.
4. WIFE calls on APHIS/USDA to immediately reject the pending regionalized beef trade plans and reaffirm its' commitment to protect the domestic herd from Foot and Mouth Disease. WIFE requests a delay in implementation of the recent USDA, Brazil and Argentina regionalization rules due to numerous reoccurrences globally of Foot and Mouth Disease such as in South Korea and Japan. WIFE asks the United States Congress to take whatever steps necessary to delay the USDA implementation of such regionalization in any country known to have had a problem with Foot and Mouth Disease. (2014)
5. WIFE supports qualified border inspection be strictly enforced on a twenty-four (24) hour basis at all international borders.
6. WIFE recommends representation from agriculture producers in all trade negotiations. (2007)
7. WIFE promotes producer's value-added industries. (2013)
8. WIFE believes agriculture products and medicines should not be included in any government-imposed sanctions. In the event that sanctions are imposed on agricultural products, WIFE requests that all products and technology be sanctioned and steps taken to ensure that American products do not reach the sanctioned nation through a third party.
9. WIFE believes compensation should be provided to all U.S. agricultural producers in cases when commodities are used as weapons in setting foreign policy. (2007)
10. WIFE urges that a commodity should not be imported when the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) has a commodity in storage.
11. WIFE believes trade agreements must now address differences in labor, environment, and health standards while also seeking transparency with regard to currency, cartels, domestic support, export subsidies, and market access while urging expeditious dispute resolution. (2007)
12. WIFE urges Congress to regain authority to ratify each item in trade treaties and place the interests of family farmers and ranchers as a priority in trade agreements.
13. WIFE believes in fair world-wide export-import regulations and the same strict standards imposed on all imported food products as on U.S. food products and that inspection procedures be no less strict. (2007)

14. WIFE supports the identification of chemicals being used in the production/protection of agricultural products imported in the U.S. (2007)
15. WIFE believes imported food products should be withheld from the market until they are tested and found to comply with USDA and FDA standards.
16. WIFE supports and promotes the implementation of end-use certificates and recommends there be some physical identification (e.g. food grade dye) of foreign grain for the purpose of tracking this grain to its final destination.
17. WIFE supports increasing the funding for the Food and Drug Administration and APHIS to inspect all food imported into the United States. (2007)
18. WIFE supports the naming of an agriculture expert in the international trade office.
19. WIFE shall urge Congress to ascertain that the World Trade Organization (WTO) ensure that approval of genetically modified organisms, product labeling and food safety requirements are based on internationally accepted science and are consistent with international trade obligations.
20. WIFE reaffirms support for Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) by requiring labeling of all imported products before the point of importation, and self-certification for all US grown and produced commodities. (2014)
21. WIFE encourages legislation that requires the amount of imported meat and live animals intended for slaughter be reported weekly by the USDA.
22. WIFE supports the use of only domestically grown products for PL 480 and all other foreign aid programs.
23. WIFE supports chemical harmonization that includes equalization of chemical use regulations and chemical costs between the United States and foreign nations when discussing expansion of trade agreements. (2014)
24. WIFE opposes the United States entering into any trade agreements unless those agreements are equitable in their treatment of U.S. farmers and ranchers and contribute to a more balanced trade position.
25. WIFE urges the United States Trade Representative negotiate for special rules for cattle and beef as perishable and cyclical products.
26. WIFE urges the removal of livestock from the J-List (the list of exceptions to the general rule that all import products be identified with a mark of origin.)
27. WIFE urges the U.S. Congress to protect the agricultural trade competitiveness of producers and consumers of the United States by:
 - (a) withholding Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) status from the countries who are not truly underdeveloped economies,

(b) supporting programs and legislation aimed at decreasing market concentration in agriculture and call on our trade negotiators to demand this when negotiating for free trade agreements,

(c) opposing giving the European Union, and other countries, the exclusive rights to trade names that have been used in the United States for many years and that are used to denote generic products, and

(d) directing the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) and the USDA to (1) investigate the trade distorting impact of new global business relationships, and (2) suspend or amend any U.S. regulation(s) (e.g., import regulations) that may unintentionally facilitate trade distorting practices by other countries.

(e) assuring that all promotion programs are carefully structured to avoid conflicts with any current or future trade policies in order to minimize WTO legal challenges to all U.S. promotion programs. (2007)

28. WIFE urges the U.S. Congress to protect American agriculture and American consumers by supporting programs and legislation aimed at decreasing market concentration by foreign interests in American agriculture and calls on our trade negotiators to keep this in mind when negotiating free trade agreements. (2007)

29. WIFE directs the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to investigate the trade distorting impact of new global business relationships (e.g., mergers, acquisitions, etc.) by foreign owned companies in the United States that favor large foreign owned operations to the detriment of America's producers, consumers, and American owned companies. (2007)

30. WIFE opposes the use of melamine in any product designated for consumption by humans and/or animals regardless of the source of the product. (2008)

31. WIFE urges legislation to include border adjustments, such as taxes and tariffs, on all imports when the same strict standards that apply in the U.S. are not applied to the exporting country. (2009)

32. WIFE supports the development of a national comprehensive, long-term trade strategy designed to bolster U.S. manufacturing, preserve national security, and level the playing fields for U.S. exports. (2010)

33. WIFE urges Congress for all future trade treaties to make an overall balance of payments over a reasonable period of time, eliminating persistent trade deficits and reversing the accumulation of foreign debt as the principal national objective for trade in goods, services and agriculture. (2014)

34. WIFE urges Congress to reject any trade treaty that does not address the negative effect of Value Added Taxes (VATS)) and currency manipulation on U.S. exports. (2015)

35. WIFE supports expanding trade relations for agricultural products with Cuba. (2015)

TRANSPORTATION

1. WIFE urges the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to ensure fair and equitable treatment for all shippers (elevators, etc.), especially those who have reasonable access to only one railroad. WIFE further urges the STB take into consideration the effect of their decisions on rural America. (2016)
2. WIFE urges that adequate rail car supply be available. (2016)
3. WIFE opposes any transportation action that might adversely affect export markets. (2016)
4. WIFE believes that any vehicle fuel taxes should be used only for the improvement of highways and bridges. (2016)
5. WIFE supports continued maintenance of waterways for transportation of agricultural products.(2016)
6. WIFE supports rules that ensure clean shipping containers. (2016)
7. WIFE urges that U.S. federal trucking and highway regulations apply to all foreign trucking under North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).
8. WIFE supports local input when railroad abandonment or railroad crossings will be affected. (2016)
9. WIFE supports advocating for livestock haulers to have an exemption to the Hours of Service (HOS) regulations that were put forth in July, 2013 by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. (2016)