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487820

**THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

ID# 487820

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*FG019*

DATE RECEIVED: 06/29/2001

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JEB BUSH

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR CONTINUATION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S SENIORS FARMERS' MARKET NUTRITION PILOT PROGRAM

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		ACTION CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS	RUBEN BARRALES	ORG	2001/06/29	RB	A	9/28/01

**ACTION COMMENTS**

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**COMMENTS**

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 0

MEDIA: LETTER

INDIVIDUAL CODES:

REPORT CODES:

USER CODE:

**ACTION CODES:**

- A - APPROPRIATE ACTION
- C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION
- D - DRAFT RESPONSE
- F - FURNISH FACT SHEET
- I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY
- R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY
- S - FOR SIGNATURE
- X - INTERIM REPLY

**DISPOSITION CODES:**

- A - ANSWERED
- B - NON-SEPC-REFERRAL
- C - COMPLETED
- S - SUSPENDED

**OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**

- TYPE RESP = INITIALS OF SIGNER
- CODE = A
- COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ROOM 72, OEOB) EXT-62590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

September 28, 2001

Dear Governor Bush:

Thank you for your recent letter, expressing support for the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Pilot Program (SFMNPP). As you know, this pilot program was initiated by the prior Administration using the authorities and funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

As stated in your letter, the SFMNPP serves two worthy goals--improving the health of low-income elderly, and increasing the awareness and use of farmers' markets, thereby, increasing sales and income for growers at those markets. We will take your concerns under consideration as we examine the future of this pilot program.

Again, we appreciate your taking the time to express your interest in this program.

Sincerely,

Ruben Barrales  
Deputy Assistant to the President and  
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Jeb Bush  
Governor  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

RB:JMF

Bush



STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

487820

THE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

JEB BUSH  
GOVERNOR

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850-488-7146  
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June 14, 2001

The Honorable George W. Bush  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Ann Veneman  
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture  
14th & Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear President Bush and Secretary Veneman:

I am writing to express my support for continuation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Pilot Program.

Florida is one of the states participating in the pilot program. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and our Department of Elder Affairs have cooperated in establishing a small \$200,000 pilot program in Alachua County. The program currently serves 1,250 low income seniors, 60 years of age or older. Each participant receives \$20 per month in coupons redeemable at state farmers' markets. The project currently has 50 farmers under contract to accept the coupons in exchange for locally grown produce.

I understand that this pilot project is federally funded through December 2001. We have included the federal funds in our recently approved Fiscal Year 2001-2002 state budget. You may know that Florida has more seniors than most other states, and, of our 3.63 million seniors 60 years and older, 855,556, or 24 percent, fall within the federal low income guidelines and would be eligible under an expanded program. The Florida Departments of Agriculture and Consumer Services and Elder Affairs support the program, and believe it offers many benefits to seniors and to farmers. It provides low income seniors much needed healthy nutrition, gives them an opportunity to shop in local farmers' markets, and helps provide a source of income to local farmers.

I appreciate your consideration of this fruitful program for Florida's low income seniors and small farmers.

Sincerely,

Jeb Bush



Governor's Mentoring Initiative  
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