VIRTUAL HEARING ON SEASONAL AND PERISHABLE PRODUCE

August 13, 2020 – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

This virtual hearing is open to the public and will be streamed live online.

Format: Each individual will appear for a maximum of eight (8) minutes. Parties are allotted a maximum of five (5) minutes for prepared statements. Three (3) minutes are reserved for questions presented by the Hearing Committee.

Opening Remarks:
U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer
U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue
U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross

Hearing Committee*:
Mr. William Kimmitt, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (Chair)
Ambassador Gregg Doud, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Under Secretary Ted McKinney, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Assistant Secretary Jeffrey Kessler, U.S. Department of Commerce
*Representatives from the U.S. International Trade Commission will also listen in.

Schedule:

9:00 am - 9:30 am Opening Remarks

9:30 am - 10:50 am Session One
Witness 1: Senator Marco Rubio (FL)
Witness 2: Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-16)
Witness 3: Congressman Darren Soto (FL-09)
Witness 4: Congressman Ross Spano (FL-15)
Witness 5: Congressman William Gregory Steube (FL-17)
Witness 6: Congressman Ted Yoho (FL-03)
Witness 7: Commissioner Nikki Fried, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Witness 8: Mr. Dan Sleep, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

10:50 am Break

11:00 am - 12:30 pm Session Two
Witness 9: Mr. John Hoblick, Florida Farm Bureau Federation
Witness 10: Dr. Zhengfei Guan, University of Florida
Witness 11: Mr. Mike Joyner, Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association
Witness 12: Mr. Sergio Contreras, Border Trade Alliance
Witness 13: Scott Vandervoet, Vandervoet & Associates
Witness 14: Mr. Skip Hulett, NatureSweet
Witness 15: Mr. Demetrio Kyriakis, Nogales U.S. Customs House Brokers Association
Witness 16: Mr. George Tudor, Desert Grape Growers League of California
Witness 17: Mr. Kent Stenderup, Delano Growers Grape Products Cooperative

12:30 pm  Break

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  Session Three
Witness 18: Mr. Jerome Crosby, Georgia Blueberry Commission
Witness 19: Ms. Brittany Lee, Florida Blueberry Growers Association
Witness 20: Mr. Michael Hill, H&A Farms
Witness 21: Mr. Kenneth Parker, Florida Strawberry Growers Association
Witness 22: Mr. John Sizemore, Sizemore Farms
Witness 23: Ms. Hilda Castillo, Castillo Family Farms
Witness 24: Mr. Joel Connell, Grimes Farms
Witness 25: Mr. Dustin Grooms, Fancy Farms
Witness 26: Mr. Gene McAvoy, University of Florida

2:30 pm  Break

2:40 pm - 4:00 pm  Session Four
Witness 27: Mr. Mark Greeff, Driscoll’s, Inc.
Witness 28: Mr. Dan Balbas, Reitter Affiliated Companies
Witness 29: Mr. Paul Allen, R.C. Hatton Farms
Witness 30: Mr. James Alderman, Alderman Farms
Witness 31: Mr. Sal Finocchiaro, S&L Bean
Witness 32: Ms. Marie Bedner, Bedner Farms
Witness 33: Mr. Raymond R. Rick Roth, Jr., Roth Farms
Witness 34: Mr. Patrick Carroll, Clear Springs
Witness 35: Mr. Chris Spencer, Florida Executive Office of the Governor

4:00 pm  Hearing Concludes