

September 1, 2009

To All U.S. Senators

Dear Senator:

Earlier this year, the Senate received the nomination of Cass Sunstein to serve as administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) within the Office of Management and Budget. This office plays a vital role in determining the final disposition of regulations, in particular environmental and natural resource proposals that have a direct impact on the agricultural community. Accordingly, Farm Bureau has a strong interest in the individual that will fill the role of administrator of that office.

Like others in the agricultural community, we were concerned about reports related to Mr. Sunstein's views on animal rights and the impact that could occur should such views be reflected in federal regulations. We have, however, had the opportunity to discuss this subject in person with Mr. Sunstein. He has been candid, forthright and very open about how he views his role in OIRA. He has shared his perspective on the issues in question and stressed that he would not use his position to undermine federal law or further policies inconsistent with congressional directives.

Based on our discussions with Mr. Sunstein, Farm Bureau has no objection to his confirmation to the position of administrator of OIRA and we hope the Senate can take up this nomination in the near future and that all senators will vote to confirm him to this post.

Sincerely,



Bob Stallman  
President  
American Farm Bureau Federation