

June 6, 2006

Dear Agriculture Community,

I am pleased to announce that the U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture Committee is holding a public field hearing in Yakima, Washington this coming **Saturday, June 10th, 2006, 10:00am at the Convention Center**. The purpose of the hearing is to brief members of the Agriculture Committee on the needs of producers in the Pacific Northwest. Specifically, a panel of representatives from the Washington state agriculture community will discuss the impacts of the 2002 Farm Bill and provide feedback for upcoming 2007 Farm Bill. As the first Member of Congress from Western Washington to serve on the House Agriculture Committee in over 50 years, I worked hard to bring this field hearing to Washington state. I look forward to hearing from representatives of our states diverse agriculture industry including dairy, wheat, apples, berries, pears, asparagus and potato producers. I understand that the agriculture needs in our state are broad and unique and I encourage you to share your comments with my colleagues from the committee. If you are unable to attend the hearing, you can enter comments on the record by emailing the clerk of the U.S. House Agriculture Committee at Lindsey.correa@mail.house.gov <<mailto:Lindsey.correa@mail.house.gov>>. The comment period will remain open through July 10, 2006. Please contact my staff if you have questions, are interested in a copy of the final agenda or would like additional information regarding this field hearing. You can contact Michael Dabbs at Michael.dabbs@mail.house.gov <<mailto:Michael.dabbs@mail.house.gov>> or Kristen LeMieux at kristen.lemieux@mail.house.gov <<mailto:kristen.lemieux@mail.house.gov>>.

I look forward to your participation.

Rick Larsen

United States Congressman

Washington State - 2nd District

Andrea L. Morgan

Executive Assistant to the Director

Washington State Dept. of Agriculture

PO Box 42560

Olympia, WA 98504-2560

Phone: 360-902-1887

Email: amorgan@agr.wa.gov