

Commodity Committee Report

Policy Development Kickoff Meeting

March 3, 2011

Critical Issues for Policy Development

Casino Style Gambling at Race Tracks "Racinos"

There has been much debate over the last several years about allowing casino style gambling at horse and dog racing tracks in Arizona.

While allowing casino style gambling at horse and dog racing tracks in the state would potentially violate the gaming compact, signed with the Indian reservations in 2003, the expected revenues could exceed what the state currently enjoys from the Indian gaming compact.

The expansion of horse tracks in the state could also have a beneficial impact on the agricultural industry. An expanded and robust horse racing industry could have positive impacts on the equine breeding and training industries as well as forage and grain production.

Current policy: AZFB Policy Book Page 74

Legalized Gambling:

We oppose casino style gambling in Arizona and the Arizona lottery.

If gambling continues on Native American reservations, the state should receive casino benefits for the state of Arizona on a percentage of profit basis. (2007)

Direct Sale Marketing and Farmers Markets

The local foods movement is continuing to gain popularity among consumers and agriculturalists alike. Local markets are becoming a more important component of how farmers market and sell their products. Some of the issues with respect to direct sale of agricultural products are the challenges presented by some regulatory frameworks designed to reduce the risk of food borne illness, that have largely overlooked direct sale markets.

What are reasonable regulations for Farmer's Markets and Direct Sale marketers to help facilitate these markets while ensuring the quality and safety our consumers have come to expect from us?

Current Policy:

AZFB Page 8: Right to Farm

AZFB Page 121: Ag Economic Development, Agricultural Products

AFBF Page 96-98: Food Quality and Safety

Air and Water Quality Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Should we continue to support clarification of the definition of process storm water to exclude water mixed with minute amounts of feedstuffs or dust around animal buildings?
 - a. AFBF pg. 109 Line 9
2. Should distillers grains (feed) and other ag commodities containing oil – soybean, cotton, milk, etc. be regulated under SPCC regulation similar to on-farm fuel storage tanks because they contain oil?
 - a. AFBF pg. 155
3. Should counties have regulatory authority over air quality regulations?
 - a. AZFB pg. 93-94
 - b. AZFB pg. 53
4. In a state with limited water availability such as Arizona, should we support dust control measures that utilize water?
 - a. AZFB pg. 93-94
5. Should Federal, State land and tribal land be exempt from Arizona Department of Environmental Quality regulations in counties with air quality non-attainment areas?
 - a. AZFB pg. 93-94
6. Should we continue to support review of citizen's propositions for import and cost to industry? Do we continue to support the ability to revoke/sunset citizen propositions?
 - a. AZFB pg. 100

Beef, Sheep and Goat Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Should we support more USDA meat inspectors throughout the state of Arizona?
 - a. AZFB pg. 75
 - b. AFBF pg. 106

2. How can difficulties in renewing permits be addressed in light of additional requirements and delays as the result of lawsuits brought by environmental groups?
 - a. AZFB pg. 24

3. Is our current policy sufficient to address the recent actions by the Department of Interior to designate areas as Wildland by agency order?
 - a. AFBF pg. 171

4. Do changes need to be made to the current regulatory structure to help small dairies that wish to sell milk directly to the public? If so, what should those changes be?
 - a. AFBF pg. 61-62
 - b. AZFB pg. 118-119

Cotton Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Should the 2012 farm bill remain similar to the current farm bill? If not what changes should be made?
 - a. AFBF pg. 63-67
 - b. AZFB pg. 118

2. How should tech fees be negotiated to ensure a fair market price?
 - a. AFBF pg. 107-108
 - b. AZFB pg. 87

3. Should we support air quality standards that hold desert states to a different standard based on our arid climate?
 - a. AFBF pg. 156
 - b. AZFB pg. 93-94

Dairy Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Should we continue to support exempting milk from SPCC requirements?
 - a. AFBF pg. 63 line 85

2. Should we continue to support elimination of the M.I.L.C. Program? Should we support the Margin Support Program?
 - a. AFBF pg. 61-62
 - b. AZFB pg. 118-119

3. What burdens should we support repealing or lifting off employers with respect to immigration enforcement?
 - a. AFBF pg. 21-24
 - b. AZFB pg. 101-105

Equine Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. What should be done to alleviate the issues associated with abandoned horses?
 - a. AFBF pg. 75
 - b. AZFB pg. 97
2. Should we continue to support equine processing in the United States?
 - a. AFBF pg. 74
 - b. AZFB pg. 97
3. What should our policy be with respect to equine over-breeding.
 - a. AFBF pg. 74
4. Should the agricultural property tax statutes be clarified to ensure horse rescues under 10 acres are considered agricultural properties? Should we support the concept that agribusiness can exist on less than 10 acres?
 - a. AZFB pg. 96-97
5. Should we continue to oppose a mandatory National Animal Identification System?
 - a. AFBF pg. 80-81
 - b. AZFB pg. 84-85
6. Should we support allowing casino-style gambling at horse and dog race tracks.
 - a. AZFB pg. 74

Hay and Forage Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Can the technology testing requirements be streamlined to ensure greater availability of high yielding or local varieties?
 - a. AFBF pg. 107
2. Should International tech fees reflect actual cost and not be subsidized by U.S. producers?
 - a. AFBF pg. 107
3. Should we support the current weed-free hay program. How should concerns about the importation of weed-free hay and straw that may not be properly certified be addressed?
 - a. AFBF pg. 105
 - b. AZFB pg. 87
4. Should ownership of agricultural commodities remain with the producer until the product is paid for in full? Should producers be protected from purchaser's creditors in the event of bankruptcy?
 - a. AZFB pg. 70

Horticulture/ Specialty Crops/Ag Nursery/ Citrus Commodity Committee Report Policy Development Kickoff Meeting March 3, 2011

Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Should our regulatory review policies be amended to address unfunded mandates and regulatory officials using rule interpretation to push personal agendas?
 - a. AFBF pg. 5-7
2. Should we support increased research and development for deciduous fruit/vine crops research and development?
 - a. AFBF pg. 65
 - b. AZFB pg. 124
3. Should we continue to oppose imports unverified by U.S. Inspectors?
 - a. AFBF pg. 64
4. Who should bear the inspection costs of imported commodities and produce?
 - a. AFBF pg. 64
5. Should we support increased funding to research Asian Citrus Psyllid and resulting citrus greening disease?
 - a. AZFB pg. 67
6. Should states have control of quarantines for plants and insects?
 - a. AFBF pg. 109
 - b. AZFB pg. 67

Labor Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Should our policy reflect support for immigration reform as a method for securing the border?
 - a. AFBF pg. 21-24
 - b. AZFB pg. 101-105

2. Are we concerned with more imports of food products because we do not have the labor available to produce here?
 - a. AFBF pg. 21-24
 - b. AZFB pg. 101-105

3. What burdens should we support repealing or lifting off employers with respect to immigration enforcement?
 - a. AFBF pg. 21-24
 - b. AZFB pg. 101-105

Water Commodity Committee Report

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Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. Should we support allowing casino-style gambling at dog and horse race tracks? Could a portion of the revenues generated be used to help resolve outstanding Indian water settlements?
 - a. AZFB pg. 74
2. Should we consider reaffirming AFBF policy regarding retaining the current definition of navigable waterways in the clean air act?
 - a. AFBF pg. 186
3. How should funding for the Arizona Department of Water Resources be obtained to ensure economic activity is promoted and application processing is done in a timely manner?

Wheat and Grain Commodity Committee Report Policy Development Kickoff Meeting March 3, 2011

Issues surfaced for discussion at County Policy Development Meetings (In order of importance):

1. What should our policy be with respect to Europe changing acceptable cadmium levels?
2. Should our policy to deregulate Karnal Bunt include support for an acceptable tolerance level for wheat?
 - a. AFBF pg. 113
 - b. AZFB pg. 87
3. Should we continue to support immediate, unrestricted trade and distribution of U.S. approved Biotech products?
 - a. AFBF pg. 137