



Oct. 9, 2013

Roger Wise
President
Ohio Farmers Union
1011 N. Defiance St.
Ottawa, OH 45875

Dear President Wise,

As you know, Farmers Union has spent years championing the right of America's farmers and ranchers to market their products as domestically produced, and the right of America's consumers to know they are purchasing homegrown food. This right is currently under attack by a very well-funded, organized and determined opposition that wants to eliminate mandatory Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL). I urgently need your help to continue the battle to protect the interests of our family farmer and rancher members.

NFU, along with other organizational partners, has intervened on behalf of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in a lawsuit filed by COOL opponents. Although we have had enjoyed some early successes, including a win in a Washington, D.C. District Court, the other side has already appealed that decision and the costly legal battle will continue for many months.

Many Farmers Union board members and their states have already made generous contributions to the COOL legal defense fund, including \$40,000 from North Dakota Farmers Union, \$9,210 from South Dakota Farmers Union, and \$7,500 from Rocky Mountain Farmers Union. I deeply appreciate these efforts, and urge your continued support. Because of the extended appeals process, costs for legal services may well approach \$300,000. So far, NFU has paid \$59,000.

Because of the urgency and gravity of the situation, I would be grateful for your continued fundraising efforts through your membership and overall network. Individual donations to the campaign may be made online at www.uscooldefensefund.org or, if submitting a larger sum from an organization, please make checks payable to "National Farmers Union" and send to our headquarters.

Thank you for your continued commitment to Farmers Union, and for all the work you do to protect the best interests of America's family farmers, ranchers and consumers.

Sincerely,

Roger Johnson
President