

Please return your proxy letter to **OrganicEye** at the address at the bottom of this page for delivery to the office of the President of the United States of America. Let's regain control of the organic label. Additional personal comments can be added on the back.

Dear President Biden,

The will of Congress in establishing the USDA's National Organic Program has been betrayed over the years by both Democratic and Republican administrations. Few have had a friendlier relationship with the agribusiness lobby than yours. We once again ask you to take a critical look and materially change the balance of power between agribusiness lobbyists and organic farmers and consumers.

In previous communications, we have illustrated how USDA Secretary Vilsack's appointment of individuals associated with the largest organic industry lobby, the Organic Trade Association, and their subsequent influence, continues to erode the reputation of the organic label and undermine the livelihoods of family-scale farmers in the US. To ameliorate this please consider:

1. Having the National Organic Program establish an expert panel to determine what vaccine usage in livestock might be considered "essential" in order to comply with regulatory language. This body should also address the current disconnect between the statutory prohibition of genetically engineered inputs in organics and the current allowance by the NOP and some certifiers of the use of GMO vaccines. The present free-for-all has all the appearances of violating the law.
2. Limiting the novel coatings and fungicides used by industrial agriculture to market "fresh" produce through a long supply chain to post-harvest materials recognized by the community as safe and compatible with organic philosophies and practices (as legally mandated).
3. And finally, ending the tolerance of the USDA's practice of deferring to private and state, unregulated organizations (OMRI and the Washington Department of Agriculture) to decide for the industry what proprietary products are legal to use in organic farming and food production. These organizations receive corporate funding from the same organizations that either manufacture or want to use these materials. This conflict of interest is intolerable.

We hope you will take these concerns to heart as they come from farmers and eaters who have a long-time stake in the success of the organic movement. Please stop the erosion of the working definition of organic food — and the harm being done to organic family farms — that is being perpetrated under your watch.

Respectfully yours,

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SIGNATURE _____

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