



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under Secretary for Industry and Security

Washington, D.C. 20230

November 5, 2004

The Honorable Evan Bayh
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on International
Trade and Finance
Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bayh:

I hereby report to the Congress the actions taken by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) relating to exports of agricultural commodities to Cuba for the most recent calendar quarter, July-September 2004, as required by the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 (TSRA) (Title IX of Pub. L. 106-387). This report is required by Section 906(b) of TSRA.

For the reporting period, BIS received 40 notifications under License Exception Agricultural Commodities. Of these, 39 were approved in an average of 16 business days. One was converted to a license application that was later returned without action once it was determined that the product proposed for export was not eligible under TSRA. BIS also processed 20 export license applications for TSRA-eligible commodities to Cuba during this reporting period. Of these, 16 were approved in an average of 29 business days. Four applications were returned without action, three at the applicant's request, and one because of insufficient information from the applicant on the proposed transaction. A chart illustrating this information is enclosed.

On September 28, 2004, BIS published a notice in the *Federal Register* (69 FR 57894) to request public comments on the effectiveness of licensing procedures for the export of agricultural commodities to Cuba. The 30-day public comment period closed on October 28. BIS will include a description of these comments in its biennial report to the Congress, as required by Section 906(c) of TSRA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth I. Juster".

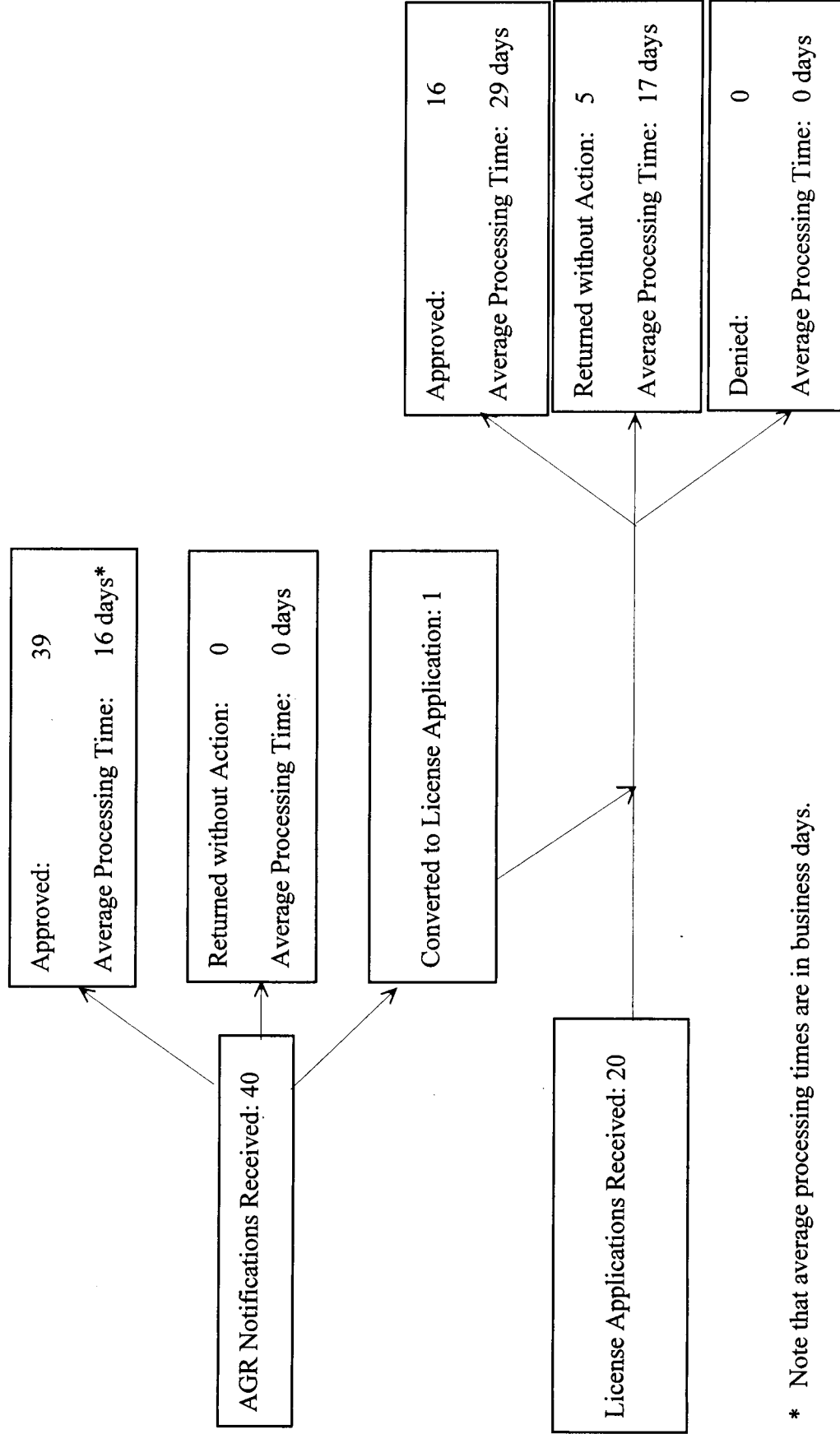
Kenneth I. Juster

Enclosure



Quarterly Report to the Congress on Activities Undertaken by the Department of Commerce Pursuant to Section 906(a)(1) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000

Agricultural Commodities to Cuba: July-September 2004



* Note that average processing times are in business days.