

## Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

## § 906.23

approve, the reapportionment of members among districts, the reapportionment of members between grower and handler members representing cooperative marketing organizations and independent grower and independent handler members, and the re-establishment of districts within the production area. In recommending such changes, the committee shall give consideration to: (a) Shifts in production; (b) the importance of new production in its relation to existing districts; (c) the equitable relationship of committee membership and districts; (d) changes in amount of fruit handled by cooperative marketing organizations in relation to fruit handled by independent handlers; and (e) other relevant factors. No changes in districting or in apportionment of members may become effective in less than 30 days prior to the date on which terms of office begin each year and no recommendations for such re-districting or reapportionment may be made less than six months prior to such date.

### § 906.22 Selection.

(a) From District No. 1 the Secretary shall select initially two producer members and their alternates representing independent producers. From District No. 2 the Secretary shall select initially two producer members and their respective alternates representing producers who market their fruit through cooperative marketing organizations, and four producer members and their respective alternates representing independent producers. From District No. 3 the Secretary shall select initially one producer member and his alternate representing independent producers.

(b) From the production area the Secretary shall select initially six handler members and their respective alternates. One handler member shall represent cooperative marketing organizations and five handler members shall represent independent handlers.

### § 906.23 Nominations.

The Secretary may select the members of the committee and alternates from nominations which may be made in the following manner:

(a) A meeting of producers who are members of cooperative marketing organizations and a meeting of independent producers shall be held for each district having both cooperative and independent producer members and alternates to elect nominees for such positions. For all other districts, meetings of all producers shall be held for such purpose. A meeting of handlers representing cooperative marketing organizations and a meeting of independent handlers shall be held in the production area to elect nominees for handler members and alternates. For nominations to the initial committee, the meetings may be sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture or by any agency or group requested to do so by such Department. For nominations for succeeding members and alternates on the committee, the committee shall hold such meetings or cause them to be held prior to June 15 of each year, after the effective date of this subpart.

(b) At each such meeting at least one nomination shall be designated for each position as member and alternate.

(c) Nominations for committee members and alternates following the initial committee shall be supplied to the Secretary not later than July 1 each year.

(d) In districts having both cooperative and independent producer members, only producers who market their fruit through cooperative marketing organizations may participate in designating nominees for members and alternates representing cooperative producers; and only independent producers may participate in designating nominees for members and alternates representing independent producers. In all other districts, all producers may participate in designating the nominees for producer members and alternates. Only handlers representing cooperative marketing organizations may participate in designating nominees for members and alternates representing cooperative handlers; and only independent handlers may participate in designating nominees for members and alternates representing independent handlers. In the event that a person is engaged in producing fruit in more than one district such person shall elect the