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AND INTERNATIONAL LAW



J. Randy Forbes
United States Congress
4th District, Virginia

307 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-6365

425-H SOUTH MAIN STREET
EMPORIA, VA 23847
(434) 634-5575

2903 BOULEVARD, SUITE B
COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA 23834
(804) 526-4969

505 INDEPENDENCE PARKWAY
LAKE CENTER II – SUITE 104
CHESAPEAKE, VA 23320
(757) 382-0080

September 12, 2007

The Honorable Mike Johanns
Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Second Floor
14th Street and Independence Avenue, Southwest
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Johanns:

I write to request that you designate the following counties as disaster areas for the purpose of allowing farmers in these areas to qualify for any emergency assistance programs available through the Department of Agriculture. While you have designated Brunswick as a primary disaster area, these surrounding regions have also suffered from present harsh conditions.

Amelia
Dinwiddle
Greensville

Isle of Wight
Nottoway
Southampton

These counties have suffered severe agricultural losses due to drought and extreme temperatures. Agricultural losses have greatly damaged the local economy. These counties should be eligible for disaster assistance loans to allow local producers to recover from the drought plaguing our region.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. With kind regards, I am

Yours truly,

J. RANDY FORBES
Member of Congress