

December 7, 2015

Interim Economics Affairs Committee  
c/o Legislative Services

Dear Committee Members,

A meeting of livestock industry leaders, Montana State University staff, and interested parties was held December 4, 2015 in Billings, MT to discuss a proposal for construction of a lab complex to house a number of labs connected with the agricultural industry of Montana. All those in attendance were in favor of the proposal and agreed to continue further dialog with MSU as well as other members of the industry who were not able to attend. It was agreed that the diagnostic lab audit needs to be completed and the results of that audit understood before discussions could resume.

All parties attending the meeting viewed the proposal favorably and the Montana Stockgrowers and Montana Wool Growers both passed resolutions in support of the lab complex.

Nina Baucus  
Board of Livestock

\*\*In a separate 12/7/2015 e-mail Mrs. Baucus provided the attendee information:

Dr. Boyer, V.P., Dean of the College of Agriculture  
Dave McEwen, President, Montana Wool Growers Association  
Lila Taylor, Board of Livestock  
Jim Brown, Montana Wool Growers Association  
Dr. Whit Stewart, MSU Extension Sheep Specialist  
Monica Eben, MSU Wool Lab Manager  
Rep. Wendy McKamey, HD 23  
Dr. Pat Hatfield, Dept. Head – Animal and Range Sciences  
Dr. Jeanne Rankin, Montana Veterinarian Medical Association; Long Range Planning Committee  
George Edwards, Livestock Loss Board  
Fred Wacker, Director – Montana Stockgrowers Association  
Gene Curry, President, Montana Stockgrowers Association; Long Range Planning Committee  
John Scully, Board of Livestock  
Greg Witchman, Montana Wool Growers Association; Long Range Planning Committee  
Dean Peterson, Long Range Planning Committee  
Nina Baucus, Board of Livestock