

MEMORANDUM

TO: State and Regional Member Associations

CC: USApple Board of Trustees  
USApple Public Affairs Committee

FROM: Kraig Naasz

SUBJECT: Apple Market Loss Assistance Action Call

DATE: October 11, 2001

The U.S. Apple Association (USApple) is working with our industry's allies in the United States Senate to garner support for an amendment to provide \$150 million in market loss assistance to our nation's apple growers, to help offset the roughly \$500 million in losses our industry sustained during the past crop year.

Sens. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine) are planning to offer the attached market loss assistance amendment to the fiscal 2002 agriculture appropriations bill. The Senate is expected to begin consideration of that legislation before month's end.

Attached is a copy of Sens. Levin and Collins' draft letter inviting their colleagues to join them as cosponsors of the apple market loss assistance amendment. Also attached are USApple and the American Farm Bureau Federation's letters of support.

Please encourage the apple growers in your state to contact their two U.S. Senators to urge them to cosponsor the Levin-Collins apple market loss assistance amendment to the fiscal 2002 agriculture appropriations bill.

As you may recall, the House-passed version of the fiscal 2002 agriculture appropriations bill already includes \$150 million in market loss assistance for the nation's apple growers, thanks to the efforts of Reps. Doc Hastings (R-Wash.), Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.), Tom Reynolds (R-N.Y.) and James Walsh (R-N.Y.) among others.

We must secure the Senate's approval of the Levin-Collins amendment to ensure inclusion of the \$150 million market loss assistance provision in the final version of the fiscal 2002 agriculture appropriations act.

Please contact our office at (800) 781-4443 if you have any questions regarding our ongoing efforts to garner this much-needed assistance for our nation's apple growers.