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New Hampshire
*Department of Agriculture,
Markets & Food*

Shawn N. Jasper, Commissioner

August 5, 2021

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food, Division of Agricultural Development (NHDAMF) to accept and expend \$500,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) for grants to organizations and agencies to address issues regarding farmer stress, mental health, and suicide. Effective upon Fiscal Committee and G&C approval through August 31, 2022.

100% Other Funds

10-018-018-185010-13740000 FARM/RANCH STRESS ASSIST.

Funding to be budgeted as follows:

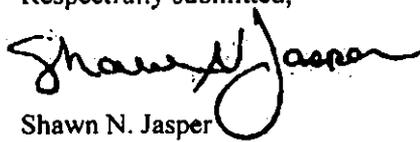
Class	Account	Description	Current Budget	Requested Action	Adjusted Budget
Expenditures					
040	500801	Indirect Cost	0	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
041	500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	0	\$500.00	\$500.00
102	500731	Contracts for program services	0	449,500.00	449,500.00
Revenue					
000		Federal Funds	0	(\$500,000.00)	(\$500,000.00)

EXPLANATION

NHDAMF is the lead partner in a collaboration between agricultural organizations and agencies to address issues regarding farmer stress, mental health, and suicide. Five organizations, who provided input into the development of this program will combine with other organizations and businesses to provide services to NH farmers including 1) Building awareness and destigmatizing farmer mental health, 2) Education for farmers and agricultural service providers, 3) Farmer wellness and support, and 4) Developing resource libraries. The program will feature a multi-faceted educational approach to build skills for farmers and agricultural service providers

and will address major drivers of farmer stress including farm family dynamics, farm labor, crisis management, farm financial, legal, conflict management, and stress management.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn N. Jasper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "S".

Shawn N. Jasper
Commissioner