



ABA News

Press Release from the American Bakers Association



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Ag Secretary Johanns to Meet with ABA Commodity Task Force

The American Bakers Association (ABA) announced today that U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns will be meeting with members of the ABA Commodity Task Force (CTF) during the upcoming CTF conference to be held June 14-15, 2007 in Washington, D.C. Attendees will meet with Secretary Johanns the morning of Friday, June 15.

“ABA has developed a close working relationship with Secretary Johanns and key members of his staff,” said ABA Commodity Task Force Chairman Dave Brown, Sara Lee Corporation. “The Task Force is privileged to have the opportunity to sit down and discuss several critical issues the baking industry is actively monitoring within the 2007 Farm Bill and 110th Congressional Session,” said Chairman Brown.

Meeting topics with the Secretary include issues surrounding the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), wheat competitiveness, agriculture research and renewing the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) set to expire June 30, 2007.

Secretary Johanns became USDA Secretary in January 2005. He has presided over the publication of the bi-lingual MyPyramid, taken a lead role in negotiating the Central American Free Trade Agreement and the ongoing World Trade Organization talks, and coordinated key efforts for the mad-cow and avian flu outbreak preparations and the recent gluten/melamine issue. Prior to becoming Secretary, he served six years as the highly successful Governor of Nebraska.

“The Commodity Task Force meeting is shaping up to be an exceptional event,” said CTF Staff Liaison Kelly Knowles, ABA Director of Government & Political Affairs. “With Secretary Johanns’ visit, Capitol Hill meetings scheduled with Members of Congress and the opportunity for baking industry networking, this is a must-attend conference,” said Ms. Knowles

The ABA Commodity Task Force meeting will be held June 14-15, 2007 in Washington, D.C. Registration materials have been distributed to all CTF members and must be returned no later than Tuesday, May 15th.

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