

President's Letter
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Since the last Udder Report, our industry and country have been through some highs and lows at the hands of politicians. On the national level, we have seen the rise and fall of the Dairy Security Act (DSA) and at the state level, we pushed hard to modify and strengthen the Right to Farm Act, but with no luck. Personally, I do not think either was due to lack of merit, logic, or feasibility, but just plain old politics. All across the country we are dealing with budget cuts and sequestrations. The media is reporting on it like it is the end of the world, and all of it is a result of politics. I have to say, not having much experience in this arena, I have been naïve in the belief that logic and good would prevail. Boy, have I begun to get an education.

A couple of weeks ago I participated with a few other people on a conference call with a federal legislator from the state concerning immigration. The people that were involved from the agriculture sector were generally fired up and ready to get some answers concerning immigration reform and how it would affect us. Disappointment doesn't begin to describe the call or the outcome of the call. Questions were only taken from a select few, and in my opinion, must have been scripted. There was neither candor nor tough questions being asked or answered.

My question and point that needs to be asked of every local, state and federal politician, is when does it end? When do we decide to do what is right for the constituents and this country? I hope that if you have the chance, you make your politicians, answer the tough questions. If nothing else, maybe it will make them think a little harder.

As always if you need anything from us, please feel free to contact the ladies in the office or your local director.