



STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

April 1, 2020

The Honorable Michael R. Pompeo
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Sonny Perdue
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Pompeo and Secretary Perdue,

Thank you for all that you are doing to aid our nation in fighting COVID-19. Arizona is all in when it comes to tackling this issue for the sake of public health, and we have seen from your actions that the federal government is as well.

As we work overtime to slow the spread of this virus, we are working to blunt the economic impacts in addition to the health impacts. I am seeking your assistance to reduce one such economic impact on the dairy industry, by helping to remove barriers to important dairy exports from Arizona to Mexico.

The dairy industry in Arizona is a crucial part of our local food supply, our export market, and Arizona's agricultural sector. Unfortunately, the overseas markets for exported milk products have fallen dramatically recently, but the impacts were, until recently, tempered by a strong import market in Mexico. Last week the Mexican Ministry of Health announced that it would cease administrative operations from March 26th through April 19th. Without their implementation of a waiver process for import permits or other special accommodations, this has led to an effective halt of dairy products across the border to Mexico. Many governments, including the State of Arizona, are being flexible and innovative during this health crisis to allow essential functions to continue. We are hopeful that a temporary alternative to import permits for dairy products could be established in Mexico for businesses that have existing business

relationships. I respectfully request your assistance in working with the Mexican government to ensure that this flow of dairy products from Arizona producers to Mexican consumers can continue.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Douglas A. Ducey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a distinct "A" and "D" in the middle.

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona