

CALIFORNIA ORGANIC FERTILIZERS, INC.™

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Via FACSIMILE

September 21, 2009

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 856 (Caballero)

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I support Assembly Bill 856 (Caballero). AB 856 will allow the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Fertilizer Inspection Division to regulate materials used as organic inputs in certified organic production. The legislation establishes a fee structure that will provide funding for implementation and operation of the program. This legislation will have no economic impact on the state.

Passage of this bill will protect the organic agriculture community from fraud and unfair business practices through more stringent regulation and oversight. This legislation will help ensure that organic growers receive fertilizer products that meet the USDA National Organic Programs standards, and consumers of California grown organic products that these products meet the standards set by the USDA.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Stemwedel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "S".

Tim Stemwedel
President, California Organic Fertilizers, Incorporated
Secretary/Treasurer, Organic Fertilizer Association of California