

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Agriculture Committee of the Black Belt Action Commission has been working diligently to establish the Black Belt Family Farm Fruit & Vegetable Marketing Center, Inc. ("Market Center"), in cooperation with the Alabama land-grant universities and the Alabama Agricultural Land Grant Alliance (AALGA); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Market Center is to improve the educational, training and research opportunities available to students of Alabama's land-grant universities and others interested in agriculture and farming, to stimulate agricultural commerce and improve the conditions of the agricultural industry, and generally to promote community development in the rural Black Belt region of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Agriculture Committee, the universities have established a legal framework for the Section 501(c)3/ Section 509(a)(1) tax-exempt Market Center organization, which will commission the construction of a produce processing plant/marketing facility and govern the operations of said facility to benefit a Black Belt farmer's cooperative; and

WHEREAS, public funds will be necessary to construct and operate said facility to accommodate such purposes; and


WHEREAS, the Agriculture Committee seeks support from the Executive Committee of the Black Belt Action Commission to petition the governor of Alabama, and state and federal elected officials to provide funding for such endeavor;

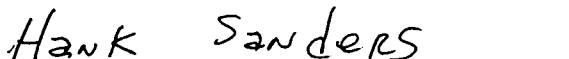
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of the Black Belt Action Commission,

THAT, we hereby support the endeavors of the Agriculture Committee to establish said Market Center organization and solicit public funds to construct and operate said facility; and

THAT, we will make every effort to urge elected officials to provide funding for this worthwhile project to positively impact agricultural activities in Alabama's Black Belt region.

PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 7th day of February, 2007.


Margaret Bentley, Co-Chair


Hank Sanders, Co-Chair