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New Hampshire
Department of Agriculture,
Markets & Food

Lorraine S. Merrill, Commissioner

November 5, 2014

Her Excellency Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and the Honorable Executive Council
State House

Dear Governor Hassan and Honorable Council:

Requested Action

Authorize the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food, Division of Regulatory Services (NHDAMF) to budget and expend carry forward funds from State Fiscal Year 2014, in the amount of \$9,750.00; for various expenses to fulfill the scope of work related to Organic Process Handlers Certification. These non-lapsing funds are fees collected for organic certification and inspections of organic operations in New Hampshire; for the period of Governor and Council approval to June 30, 2015. 100% Other Funds – Organic.

These Funds are to be budgeted in the existing account, **02-18-18-181000-26080000 Organic Process – Handlers Cert**, as follows:

OBJECT CLASS	ACCOUNT	CURRENT FY 2015	REQUESTED CHANGE	REVISED FY 2015
020-500200	Current Expense	\$ 6,827	\$7,000	\$13,827
050-500109	Personal Serv. Temp	6,217	-0-	6,217
060-500601	Benefits	475	-0-	475
070-500705	In-State Travel	1,800	2,750	4,550
080-500710	Out of state Travel	<u>7,500</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>7,500</u>
	Total	\$22,819	\$9,750	\$32,569
Source of Funds				
009-407590	Other Funds	\$22,819	\$9,750	\$32,569

Explanation

The New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food (NHDAMF), Division of Regulatory Services receives other funds for the Organic Process – Handlers Certification Fund through certification of farmer’s organic farm and through certification inspections. Staff must travel to perform inspections, attend conferences and training sessions to keep up on the current requirements, developments, trends, rules, regulations, phone charges, print jobs, mailings and other necessary items to coordinate regulatory programs effectively with the federal government and other states.

The New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food (NHDAMF) is an accredited certifying agent for the USDA's National Organic Program. Certifying agents are required to demonstrate expertise and ability to ensure that they comply with and implement the requirements of the Act and the regulations.

Fiscal Situation

Current State Appropriation FY2015:	
26080000 Organic Process – Handlers Cert	\$22,819.00
Request this item	<u>9,750.00</u>
Total FY2015 Revised Appropriation	\$32,569.00

FY 2014 Balance Carried Forward	\$9,751.68
Request this item	<u>(9,750.00)</u>
Total Remaining funds	\$ 1.68

Respectfully submitted,



Lorraine S. Merrill
Commissioner