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California Avocado Commission Commends USDA Reorganization Focused on Agricultural Mission and Public Safety

IRVINE, Calif. — The California Avocado Commission expressed appreciation today for U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins’ announcement of a USDA reorganization that strengthens the Department’s ability to serve farmers and safeguard the nation’s food supply.

“Secretary Rollins has demonstrated clear-eyed leadership and a deep understanding of what America’s agricultural communities need from USDA,” said Ken Melban, President of the California Avocado Commission. “By reinforcing the Department’s focus on essential services such as plant health, food safety, and inspection integrity, she is helping restore confidence among growers and consumers alike. We’re grateful for her commitment to public service and to the long-term health of American agriculture.”

The reorganization, unveiled earlier today, reduces administrative redundancy, relocates key USDA operations to five regional hubs, and preserves all critical functions related to public health and agricultural security.

Secretary Rollins emphasized the need to bring USDA “closer to its customers” while maintaining uninterrupted support for high-priority roles across wildfire prevention, food safety, and plant protection.

More than 50 job classifications have been exempted from hiring freezes, including those related to the inspection and safety of the nation’s food supply. The Department confirmed that all essential services will remain active during and after the transition.

The California Avocado Commission noted that a continued focus on inspection reliability, both at home and in key trading partner nations, will be vital to maintaining crop security, consumer confidence, and international market access.

The Commission expressed its readiness to support USDA’s implementation efforts and to work in partnership with the Department and other stakeholders to advance sound, science-based agricultural policy.

About the California Avocado Commission

The California Avocado Commission was established in 1978 to support the sustainability and competitiveness of California’s avocado industry. Representing approximately 3,000 growers statewide, the Commission promotes premium California avocados through research, marketing, and industry advocacy. Learn more at CaliforniaAvocado.com.