Truth in Testimony Disclosure Form

In accordance with Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5)* of the Rules of the House of Representatives, witnesses are asked to disclose the following information. Please complete this form electronically by filling in the provided blanks.

Committee: Agriculture

Subcommittee:  

Hearing Date: 06/22/2022

Hearing Title: "A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: Dairy Provisions"

Witness Name: Travis Forgues

Position/Title: Executive Vice President of Member, Organic Valley | CROPP Cooperative

Witness Type:  ○ Governmental  ● Non-governmental

Are you representing yourself or an organization?  ○ Self  ● Organization

If you are representing an organization, please list what entity or entities you are representing:

Organic Valley | CROPP Cooperative was established in 1988 in southwestern Wisconsin with seven farmer-members. Today with sales topping $1.2 billion the cooperative has nearly 1,800 members in 34 states and four countries. Focused predominately in organic dairy the cooperative works with 90 dairy processors nationwide to manufacture an array of Organic Valley branded products as well as bulk and ingredient commercial offerings. The cooperative owns three dairy processing facilities in two states as well as a distribution company and center. In addition to dairy the cooperative maintains marketing pools in organic eggs, produce, meat, and feedstuffs. CROPP's mission is to create and operate a marketing cooperative that promotes regional farm diversity and economic stability by the means of organic agricultural methods and the sale of certified organic products. The average size dairy farm for the cooperative is 78 cows.

FOR WITNESSES APPEARING IN A NON-GOVERNMENTAL CAPACITY

Please complete the following fields. If necessary, attach additional sheet(s) to provide more information.

Are you a fiduciary—including, but not limited to, a director, officer, advisor, or resident agent—of any organization or entity that has an interest in the subject matter of the hearing? If so, please list the name of the organization(s) or entities.

Organic Valley | CROPP Cooperative
Please list any federal grants or contracts (including subgrants or subcontracts) related to the hearing's subject matter that you, the organization(s) you represent, or entities for which you serve as a fiduciary have received in the past thirty-six months from the date of the hearing. Include the source and amount of each grant or contract.

- USDA-AMS, Dairy Business Innovation Initiative, Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center: $148,320
- USDA-AMS, Pandemic Market Volatility Assistance Program: $917,127 ($897,127 directly paid to dairy farmers)
- USDA-NRCS, Conservation Innovation Grants: sub-grant $45,000.

Please list any contracts, grants, or payments originating with a foreign government and related to the hearing's subject that you, the organization(s) you represent, or entities for which you serve as a fiduciary have received in the past thirty-six months from the date of the hearing. Include the amount and country of origin of each contract or payment.

☑️ I have attached a written statement of proposed testimony.
☐ I have attached my curriculum vitae or biography.

* Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5), of the U.S. House of Representatives provides:

(5)(A) Each committee shall, to the greatest extent practicable, require witnesses who appear before it to submit in advance written statements of proposed testimony and to limit their initial presentations to the committee to brief summaries thereof.

(B) In the case of a witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include—

(i) a curriculum vitae; (ii) a disclosure of any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts, grants, or payments originating with a foreign government, received during the past 36 months by the witness or by an entity represented by the witness and related to the subject matter of the hearing; and (iii) a disclosure of whether the witness is a fiduciary (including, but not limited to, a director, officer, advisor, or resident agent) of any organization or entity that has an interest in the subject matter of the hearing.

(C) The disclosure referred to in subdivision (B)(iii) shall include—(i) the amount and source of each federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) related to the subject matter of the hearing; and (ii) the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to the subject matter of the hearing originating with a foreign government.

(D) Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy or security of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form 24 hours before the witness appears to the extent practicable, but not later than one day after the witness appears.