

# Petition in Opposition of the Proposed Organic Checkoff

Submitted by: No Organic Checkoff Coalition 7/1/2016

Entry Id	Date Signed	Name	Last	State	ZIP Code	I am an organic farmer.	Comments
1	8/4/2013	Edward	Maltby	MA	01342	Yes	WE neither want nor need a federally mandated organic check-off As far as I am concerned the conventional check-off put small family farms out of business. We don't need a catchy slogan like "GOT ORGANIC MILK"!!!! The research will more than likely lead to organic GMO's??????
2	8/5/2013	George	Wright jr.	NY	13652	Yes	
3	8/5/2013	Liz	Bawden	NY	13646	Yes	
4	8/5/2013	Cindy-Lou	Amey	NH	03592	Yes	Please understand that this is a serious issue for us and we will not let it go. I want to emphases that the Organic Trade Association does not represent my views. I resent the fact that they claim to represent organic farmers, when it is processors that they really represent.
5	8/10/2013	janet a	baker	WA	98022	Yes	
6	8/10/2013	Klaas	Martens	NY	14527	Yes	
7	8/16/2013	Lia	Babitch	NY	12516	Yes	
8	8/16/2013	Jerry	Snyder	NY	14803	Yes	
9	8/16/2013	Fred	Griffen	NY	13040	Yes	
10	8/16/2013	Kerry	Planck-Beiter	NY	14139	Yes	
11	8/16/2013	Louis	Lego	NY	13021	Yes	We are a part of a check-off program like this with the Apple Association, and it is a disaster that is costing us business as well as the collection fees. Please do not do this to us!
12	8/16/2013	John	Stoltzfus	NY	14897	Yes	I ship to organic valley and I do not want them to put a yes vote in for our farm Check-offs don't work period. The only research ever done by conventional check-offs only benefitted the Family Factory farms. Little farms were forced out of business. George Wright
13	8/16/2013	George	Wright jr.	NY	13652	Yes	Though I am not a certified organic farmer, I am a small scale farmer practicing sustainable organic management of my vegetable and laying hen operation. I do not think the organic check-off program would benefit me nor any of the small scale organic farmers in my region.
14	8/16/2013	Deborah	Muntner	NY	14527	No	
15	8/16/2013	lyman	hill	NY	14477	Yes	
16	8/16/2013	Shannon	Ratcliff	NY	14891	Yes	
17	8/16/2013	Robert	VanWuyckhuysen	NY	14477	Yes	I already am coxed into the Beef Check Off program. I am a small farm and these programs seem to lean to support the larger farms and not so with small family farms. I am against it.. I advertise for me. I am responsible for me. Kind of like throwing good money into the wind .... I would rather I do my own shouting. The beef check off is always calling and reminding me to send them money and I'm like "What have they done for me, Directly for me?" Us small farms need to stick together, not link up with a large corporation type outfit. Keep it local - Buy Local - Spend Local

Our family farm has been certified for twenty years. This is not something along with our certification fees, the time to keep an audit trail, and the paperwork records we keep already that needs to be added on to our burden. Nor should it be added on to our customer costs that already pay a premium for our product and we are not subsidized.

18	8/16/2013	Michael	Makinajian	NY	11743	Yes
19	8/16/2013	Kurt	Forman	NY	14522	Yes
20	8/16/2013	Nicholas	Martielli	NY	11743	Yes

I grew potatoes for 40 years and paid an assessment to the national potato promotion board. the only ones that benefited were those working for the board, wrote the aids, or got free trips to the conventions. it did not help the price at all. just check last years whole sale potato prices. they were the same as they were in 1975,here on long island!

21	8/16/2013	david	wines	NY	11901	Yes
22	8/16/2013	matthias	reisen	NY	14809	Yes
23	8/17/2013	Lawrie	Nickerson	NY	12090	Yes
24	8/17/2013	John	Shaw	NY	13081	Yes

We are already in a deficit situation for most larger-scale organic crops in the United States. An organic checkoff program that includes ANY money spent on promotion will only serve to increase organic imports. Therefore, organic imports alone should be assessed through a checkoff, and American organic farmers should not be penalized with additional taxation.

25	8/17/2013	Mary-Howell	Martens	NY	14527	Yes
26	8/17/2013	Klaas	Martens	NY	14527	Yes
27	8/17/2013	Peter	Martens	NY	14527	Yes
28	8/18/2013	Diane	Kistler	NY	13637	Yes
29	8/18/2013	Jonathan	Kistler	NY	13637	Yes

NO Check OFF!  
Keep out of our milk Checks!

Whether certified or not, farmers who farm with organic methods and practices represent the antithesis of an economy that centralizes production and distribution, and dilutes the little profits that come to farmers by giving it away to others who do not produce the food. My neighbors are largely dairy farmers (some of them organic), and they struggle with the system to stay in business. Keep the "system" out of organics. Organics will become meaningless if it goes corporate.

30	8/18/2013	Daniel	Sullivan	NY	13439	Yes
31	8/18/2013	Nora	Owens	MA	01342	Yes
32	8/18/2013	Amigo	Cantisano	CA	95960	Yes
33	8/18/2013	john	toltzfu	NY	14897	Yes
34	8/18/2013	Duane	Hoeft	MN	55936	No
35	8/18/2013	Wade	Bulman	WI	54747	Yes
36	8/18/2013	William	Larchar	NY	13411	Yes
37	8/18/2013	Kathie	Arnold	NY	13158	Yes
38	8/18/2013	Andy	Smith	ME	04358	Yes

never have this

I do not know if I want to go into organic farming if have do this. Duane olymiss farm.

39	8/18/2013	lydia	vorsteveld	VT	05734	Yes	
40	8/18/2013	Chris	Dunham	CA	92673	No	
41	8/19/2013	Jackelyn	Worden	NY	13865	Yes	
42	8/19/2013	Sue	Rau	NY	13662	Yes	
43	8/19/2013	Rita	LaBarge	NY	13612	Yes	I must say that the only people who will benefit from this program are the Advertising Agencies and the large companies that sell organic. I thought that our government was trying to encourage small business and locally grown food. Let the local farmers do their own marketing!
44	8/19/2013	Jeanine	Huber	NY	14883	Yes	
45	8/19/2013	James & Pat	Sharpless	NY	14489	Yes	
46	8/19/2013	Diana	Saxton	NY	14775	Yes	I do NOT support an organic check off!! I think it is just a way to snatch our hard earned dollars.
47	8/20/2013	Susan	Yerry	NY	12871	Yes	The potential for misuse of funds and more corporate involvement/corruption/control in our government is too great with this type of program.
48	8/20/2013	julia	widdowson	NY	12545	Yes	
49	8/20/2013	doug	dittman	NE	68428	Yes	I'm a certified organic dairy farmer from NE and it's frustrating to see how we family farmers pay into checkoffs with the result of systematic loss of market share. I am opposed to the organic checkoff.
50	8/21/2013	Katy	Green	ME	04915	Yes	
51	8/22/2013	John	Nord	MD	21842	No	I am looking for land to be an organic farmer. It would be nice if the word identifier, "Organic", could be commonly understood to be of great value to the eating public and to the global method of production of food stuffs. And any and all efforts to diminish the weight and meaning of said word would be abolished. We the people deserve as much. Whether one identifies himself as being religious or not, the truth of this holy word is self evident. The word's value and practical usage goes way beyond the evil manipulations of the old crowd to dilute and diminish its God given worth to better mankind and to enhance this good earth.
52	8/24/2013	Terry	Shistar	KS	66047	No	
53	8/25/2013	Jessica	Runge	NY	14723	Yes	
54	8/27/2013	John	Accornero	IL	62294-3	Yes	
55	8/27/2013	Janet	Morse	IL	61560	Yes	
56	8/27/2013	Jeff	Glazik	IL	60957	Yes	
57	8/27/2013	Rita	Glazik	IL	60057	Yes	
58	8/27/2013	Steve	Shank	IL	62246	No	
59	8/27/2013	Jack	Erisman	IL	62557	Yes	
60	8/27/2013	Tim	Clay	IL	61018	Yes	We do not want a check-off!!!!!!!
61	8/27/2013	Molly	Breslin	IL	61350	Yes	

62	8/27/2013	Theodore	Weydert	IL	60151	Yes	OTA does not represent me. This is their scheme to tax farmers without our voice. Leave the farmer out of this.
63	8/27/2013	John	Downey	IL	61231	Yes	
64	8/27/2013	Carmen	Fernholz	MN	56256	Yes	
65	8/27/2013	Darrell	Parks	KS	66502	Yes	
66	8/27/2013	Charles	Lambert	IL	60914	Yes	I agree with the a above petition. I am involved also with a conventional non GMO farm and I find that most checkoffs are a manipulated waste of hard earned money
67	8/28/2013	Lou	Stephenson	IN	46947	Yes	My view is the money will go to support research and marketing for big corporations and not to benefit the farmer.
68	8/28/2013	Jim	Christensen	WI	53549	Yes	
69	8/29/2013	James	Quick	WI	54941	Yes	
70	8/29/2013	Lewis	Prow	IN	47320	Yes	
71	8/29/2013	Paul	Olson	WI	54659	Yes	Organic farming is the only way we want to farm. It is a lot of work and time consuming paperwork and trails. It was our decision to go organic and we have enough fees to pay-- we don't need or want another mandated checkoff!
72	8/29/2013	Richard	Wiegand	IL	61739	Yes	I do agree with the above information.
73	8/29/2013	charles	rinehart	IN	47882	Yes	
74	8/30/2013	Clayton	McAlpine	MT	59486	Yes	
75	8/30/2013	Randall	Willrett	IL	60150	Yes	Until we have FAIR representation on the NOP board, (some current board members have corporate interests influencing their decisions), will I support a checkoff.
76	8/30/2013	james	chalmers	PA	16922	Yes	
77	8/30/2013	Daniel	Coehoorn	WI	54974	Yes	Organic is a production method, not a commodity .
78	8/30/2013	Darlene	Coehoorn	WI	54974	Yes	Please don't force organic producers into this system. I believe that organic is a production method and I don't want it to become another commodity without adequate returns to the producer. OTA is representing the processing industry on this issue, they have left the best interests of the organic producer in the dust. Processors already get a make allowance, let them advertise the end product, we produce a raw material.
79	8/31/2013	Bill	Jessup	CA	92274	Yes	
80	8/31/2013	Paul	Cultrera	CA	95818	No	
81	8/31/2013	Qayyum	Johnson	CA	94965	Yes	I am strongly opposed to further taxation measures aimed at exploiting organic farmers. I do not trust the USDA to further sustainable agriculture in this country, no do I find their advertising campaigns to be a beneficial use of farmers' money. The evidence does not point to the effectiveness nor sincerity of these kinds of Check-Off programs & it is clear that small & medium-sized producers will be the most affected & least benefited by the program.
82	8/31/2013	Frank	Morton	OR	97370	Yes	I don't need or want an organic promotional program, and I don't want to pay for one.

83	8/31/2013	Floyd	Johnson	IL	62560	Yes	
84	8/31/2013	Anne	Schwartz	WA	98283	Yes	I have witnessed how marketing orders in WA state have been hurting farmers for decades. I have watched national businesses assume most of the control of OTA, their efforts to grow organics will pad their pockets. there is no proof these programs help farmers. I am opposed to an organic marketing order.
85	8/31/2013	Sara	Tashker	CA	9465	Yes	
86	9/1/2013	alex	dragovich	OH	44662	Yes	
87	9/1/2013	dale	coke	CA	95045	Yes	No more extra taxation of organic farmers! We already have to pay for the costs of annual certification, fees based on our gross sales, in our case CCOF and fees to the State of California for being organic! Organic farmers, the group that is farming in a more environmentally friendly manner has to pay more? for the privilege not to spray conventional pesticides or use conventional fertilizers? The existing fees and taxation to be organic are no way to encourage more organic farming. another tax to be organic is perverse! This is a cleverly conceived campaign to squeeze more money out of organic farmers for the corporations that see organic as a good marketing ploy.
88	9/1/2013	Michael	Braga	CA	93637	Yes	
89	9/1/2013	Peter	Eichorn	CA	93923	Yes	
90	9/2/2013	MIKE	JERKOVICH	CA	93630	Yes	
91	9/2/2013	susan	pelican	CA	95695	Yes	
92	9/2/2013	Howard	beeman	CA	95949	Yes	
93	9/2/2013	Jim	Eldon	CA	95606	Yes	
94	9/2/2013	Chris	Hay	CA	95695	Yes	
95	9/2/2013	Dan	Gannon	CA	95818	Yes	
96	9/2/2013	Steve	Peters	CA	94402	Yes	
97	9/2/2013	warren	weber	CA	94924	Yes	
98	9/2/2013	Rachel	Petitt	CA	95616	Yes	
99	9/2/2013	Lily	Schneider	CA	94534	Yes	
100	9/2/2013	Ken	Ratzlaff	CA	95472	No	I am an organic processor and can not afford to pay more to do organic juice and it is not fare to the customer to have to pay so much more. We do not need more taxes. The money should go back to the farmers to help them not to big business.
101	9/2/2013	Bennett	Lyons	CA	95688	Yes	We do not need the government to charge us for marketing that does not help the local small farmer directly.
102	9/2/2013	john	teixeira	CA	93622	Yes	
103	9/2/2013	Emma	Torbert	CA	95616	Yes	Please do not pass this bill!
104	9/2/2013	Ruthanne	jahoda	CA	95603	Yes	These attempts to garner funds and to out-regulate organics is an attempt to force organic producers out of the market place.
105	9/2/2013	Katie	Koch	CA	95616	No	

This is a raw deal for small farmers. Our markets are hyper-local and in no way would benefit from a national campaign. How about working on less government overhead (specifically the completely bogus tax we pay to "register" each year with CDFA on top of paying CCOF for Organic Certification), rather than adding another level of nonsense?  
Thank you for your consideration, Daniel

106	9/3/2013	Daniel	Paduano	CA	95033	Yes
107	9/3/2013	Erika	Janik	WI	53092	No
108	9/3/2013	PETE	WOLF	CA	93630	Yes
109	9/3/2013	clifford	fong	CA	95695	Yes

Our cost of production is high enough with out adding a check off tax. I am adamantly opposed to this. Nothing in this proposal will help the small farmer struggling to survive.

110	9/3/2013	Robert	Keatley	WI	54022	Yes
111	9/4/2013	Pat	Herbert	CA	95023	Yes
112	9/4/2013	Patti	Herbert	CA	95023	Yes
113	9/6/2013	Tamara	Hicks	CA	94971	Yes
114	9/6/2013	Susan	Young	CA	94945	No
115	9/6/2013	David	Minar	MN	56071	Yes
116	9/6/2013	Melya	Stylos	CA	94901	Yes
117	9/6/2013	Jennifer	Jorgensen	CA	94920	No
118	9/6/2013	Maryann	Nardo	CA	94901	No
119	9/6/2013	Bea	Agins	CA	94960	No

I have a small organic garden, but rely for food mostly on the local, organic farmers that live in my area. I encourage policies that help the small farmer...not hinder them. We should be supporting organic farming with as much effort as we have been agribusiness Interests for decades. It's time to replenish a safer, more locally available, sustainable farming model Which is better for our land and people.

120	9/6/2013	Trinka	Marris	CA	94956	No
121	9/6/2013	Chris	Ducey	CA	94973	Yes
122	9/6/2013	Malcolm	Booth	CA	95472	No
123	9/6/2013	Angela	KEARY	CA	94915	No
124	9/6/2013	AMy	Weber	CA	94924	Yes
125	9/6/2013	Monique	Tse	CA	94960	No
126	9/6/2013	Elizabeth	Fenwick	CA	94937	No
127	9/6/2013	judy	north	CA	94963	Yes
128	9/6/2013	annika	milller	CA	94941	No
129	9/6/2013	Sarah	Koenig	CA	94901	No

As a consumer of organic produce this program will increase cost and provide no benefit. I'm against it and urge you not to institute it.  
I oppose the organic check off system proposed by the USDA

The farmers do not benefit from this I oppose it

What a bad idea to tax real farming that sustains the soil and ecosystem, nurtures community and genetic diversity and brings fresh local, healthy food to families. Organic farmers already bear the economic burden of certification... Which I do not do, though I have shunned pesticides and herbicides, clear my land with goats, and am bio dynamically trained. Please don't put one more burden on organic growers. Who asked organic farmers if they want this additional tax? It will make organic food even less affordable in the US. Given the lack of any farm bill support for organic farming this year, this smacks of extermination of competition. Industrial, corporate agribusiness has already forced thru laws which banned farmers from saving their own seeds even in Europe and now are doing this in Puerto Rico, Argentina, Colombia. There are demonstrations worldwide asking that even small farms retain any sovereign food rights. There is an appalling tyranny of people's rights to grow their own food and share it within their communities, worldwide. Please don't pound one more nail in the coffin of organic farming and folks rights to grow and share their own food. Stop this tax.

130	9/6/2013	Jessica	Denning	CA	95608	Yes	
131	9/6/2013	Tracey	Van Hooser	CA	94920	No	
132	9/6/2013	Susan	Zelinsky	CA	94901	No	I buy from local farmers and choose to support their efforts in growing foods safe from pesticides. Please support them, too. Sincerely, Susan Zelinsky
133	9/6/2013	francesca	kennedy	CA	94901	No	
134	9/6/2013	Chris	Borjian	CA	94930	No	
135	9/6/2013	Melinda	Suelflow	MN	55603	No	As an organic consumer and gardener, I value deeply the organic farmers that grow the food that I eat. I do not believe that a federal check-off program paid for with increased taxes will benefit organic growers. And I definitely don't trust the USDA Federal Research and Promotions Program to spend such funds wisely.
136	9/6/2013	Eleanor	Lyman	CA	94924	Yes	
137	9/6/2013	Mary	Osier	CA	94960	No	
138	9/6/2013	Nina	Katz	CA	94960	No	
139	9/6/2013	Christine	Edmond	CA	94901	Yes	I am a back-yard farmer, but I support my local Farmer's Market providers, most of whom provide Organically grown produce.
140	9/6/2013	david	bernard	CA	94963	Yes	
141	9/6/2013	Brooke	Barnhart	CA	94118	No	
142	9/6/2013	Framcesca	Fifis	CA	95476	No	This legislation endangers our health by making organic food less accessible to people who need it most.
143	9/6/2013	Janet	Sluis	CA	94705	No	
144	9/6/2013	Louise	Hassan	CA	95476	No	I purchase organic produce at our local Farmer's Market each week. This would be an unnecessary burden on our local farmers.
145	9/6/2013	Erika	Hoytt	CA	94947	No	I volunteer locally with several organic ag non-profit organizations. SMALL local ag is very important to me, my children, and my grandchildren.
146	9/6/2013	Mindy	Marin	CA	94924	No	
147	9/6/2013	Sarah	Kaplan	CA	94920	No	

148	9/6/2013	Kyle	Turner	CA	94925	No	
149	9/6/2013	Rika	Gopinath	CA	94903	Yes	
150	9/6/2013	Smol	Kristen	CA	94901	No	As a consumer of organic produce and goods, I say NO to any increased tax on these goods, especially when the check-off tax goes into a general fund with minimal regulation, and which has the commercial- not the organic farmer in mind.
151	9/6/2013	Richard	Saxe	CA	95004	No	To saddle organic farmers with supporting this type of program is a very bad idea and hampers small businesses that are the backbone of our local economies. Thank you for your consideration.
152	9/6/2013	Pamela	Johnson	CA	94939	Yes	No check-off program!
153	9/6/2013	daniel	altman	CA	94941	Yes	
154	9/6/2013	Nina	B	CA	94952	No	
155	9/6/2013	Mark	Swoiskin	CA	94941	Yes	
156	9/6/2013	Rosemary	De Sanna	CA	94904	No	Organic farmers should not be subject to an additional bureaucratic fee for every product they sell. It is not easy to be an organic farmer and this is a totally unnecessary constraint on them. Also they do not need to be supporting someone else's marketing campaigns. I simply don't trust the USDA on this.
157	9/6/2013	SHANNON	PIGOTT	CA	94904	No	
158	9/6/2013	Andrea	Brodkin	CA	90405	No	
159	9/6/2013	Jill	moore	CA	94924	No	
160	9/6/2013	sarah	domenico	CA	94612	No	Please stop compromising the integrity of healthful food by succumbing to corporate pressure. Got a conscience?
161	9/6/2013	Saskia	Horn	CA	94574	No	
162	9/6/2013	Jacque	Bibeau	CA	94960	No	
163	9/6/2013	molli	milner	CA	94937	No	How can anyone sleep at night knowing they are making good, safe food harder for more people to get???
164	9/6/2013	Alex	Altman	CA	94941	No	
165	9/6/2013	John	Levy	CA	94937	No	I am a strong supporter of local organic farmers, whose interests are not furthered by the proposed Federal checkoff. The Organic Trade Association is not a representative of these small organic farmers, or of my interests as an organic produce consumer.
166	9/6/2013	Moreva	Selchie	CA	94937	No	
167	9/6/2013	Canice	Flanagan	CA	94109	No	
168	9/6/2013	Sheryl	Ott	CA	94920	No	
169	9/6/2013	Nancy	Pimentel	CA	95345	No	
170	9/6/2013	Sigrid	Stroes	CA	94903	No	
171	9/6/2013	Erin	Albachten	CA	94930	No	
172	9/6/2013	Gina	Bradley	CA	91361	No	
173	9/6/2013	Deborah	Ziarten	CA	94609	No	



174	9/6/2013 DJ	Niccolls	CA	94142	No	
175	9/6/2013 Melissa	Baca	CA	92879	No	I am a mother of 4 and do have my own organic garden. I support organic farmers and I do not want to pay into federal programs when I buy organic products.
176	9/6/2013 Rose	Dallal	CA	96088	Yes	
177	9/6/2013 Linda	Riebel	CA	94549	Yes	
178	9/6/2013 Shannon	Bollman	CA	94949	No	
179	9/6/2013 Brenda	Balanda	CA	94937	No	
180	9/6/2013 nils	langenborg	CA	95409	Yes	This is an absurd program. Please give farmers a voice!!
181	9/6/2013 Mark	Dowie	CA	94956	Yes	
182	9/6/2013 Pam	Fabry	CA	94924	No	
183	9/6/2013 Dexter	Carmichael	CA	94110	No	No taxation of organic farmers without their majority representation on the Organic Trade Organization.
184	9/6/2013 Lynn	Gutstadt	CA	90066	No	Stop the march of big farming stomping on the rights and profits of independent organic farmers!
185	9/6/2013 Ellen	Obstler	CA	94901	No	I'm an organic farmer consumer and supporter.
186	9/6/2013 Julie	Kastrup	CA	94904	No	Organic farmers do not make that much anyway. I do not think it is fair or right for them to be forced to give part of their hard earned income for this program.
187	9/6/2013 David	Weckler	CA	94941	Yes	Legitimate organic farmers already spend a lot of money and take a lot of care to grow their crops organically. Don't charge them for marketing they neither want nor need.
188	9/6/2013 Elizabeth	DeRuff	CA	94957	Yes	
189	9/6/2013 Mary Ann	Petro	CA	94937	No	Small farmers are oppressed enough trying to provide good food in their local areas. They should NOT be taxed on the produce they sell. Keep big Brother out of Organic Farming! Mary Ann Petro, Inverness, CA
190	9/6/2013 Alan	Martin	CA	94960	No	
191	9/6/2013 Janet	Brown	CA	94973	Yes	I oppose the proposed organic check-off program. Please do not further tax organic farmers who are subject to many taxes, fees, inspections, and expenses that other farmers do not have to pay. It's really unfair that the most benign form of agriculture is also the most heavily regulated.
192	9/6/2013 M.	Baker	VA	22901	No	I have many friends who are organic farmers. Their efforts to grow healthy food naturally should be rewarded, not taxed for marketing over which they have little or no say. The UNDP's report on Food Security globally says the US should immediately adopt major policies to support the growth of organic foods in our country. It is time to reverse the course of big agriculture's insensitivity to a healthy ecosystem and adopt some sweeping policies to support and reward organic farmers for their contribution to true food security.
193	9/6/2013 Linda	Emme	CA	94940	No	
194	9/6/2013 Elizabeth	OHara	CA	95678	No	
195	9/6/2013 Joanna	Rosenfeld	CA	94972	No	

196	9/6/2013	Christine Murphy	CA	90046	No	
197	9/6/2013	Steve Woodward	CA	94930	No	
198	9/6/2013	kim janson	CA	94930	Yes	
199	9/6/2013	Marjorie Miller	IN	47037	Yes	Just say NO to the Corporatization of Organic Food. USDA's Organic program caters to General Mills, Kellogg, Kraft, ConAgra, Dean, Danone, Smuckers, Coke, Pepsi, and Mars-- NOT the small, sustainable Organic farmer or the Local Distribution systems.
200	9/6/2013	Jenni Anselment	MN	55614	No	
201	9/6/2013	Tammy Sill	PA	19606	No	
202	9/6/2013	Kim Baenisch	CA	94901	No	As a consumer of organic products, this Check Off proposal is completely unwarranted. What the organic industry truly needs to provide more healthy food to all US citizens is an end to the federal subsidy of non-organic corn and soybeans, and support to connect the underserved communities where "food deserts" exist that lack fresh produce with the abundant local organic produce that could nourish these residents.
203	9/6/2013	Elena Freeman	CA	94947	No	Government funding should be supporting, not penalizing organic farmers.
204	9/6/2013	Cynthia Sawtell	CA	94960	No	I am an organic CONSUMER who directly supports her local farmers by buying their meat, produce and dairy products. Big Ag has cornered the market on subsidies and influence. Let's not punish small farmers who dare to farm the old-fashioned, sustainable way.
205	9/6/2013	dennis dierks	CA	94924	Yes	Small organic farmers should not be charged to support large agra business operations.
206	9/6/2013	Gerald Gass	CA	94953	No	
207	9/6/2013	CA Lonergan	CA	94602	No	I buy organic produce EXCLUSIVELY, despite a higher cost, to encourage the industry and to help get prices lowered so more folks can afford to ignore factory farming... You need to broadcast this campaign more extensively than just Marin Organics mailing list! You need to leverage social media right away to get your word out: open a fb page, so everyone can "like" you; open a twitter acct, so folks can "Pssst! Pass it on!" - like ye olde hand-written notes passed around in class, in the olden days. Get young people who understand social media to help you! :-) --Oakland fan of Marin Organic; consumer of Marin Sun Farms products :-)
208	9/6/2013	kim burggraf	CA	94930	No	I'm with you!
209	9/6/2013	Helen Barton	CA	94941	No	
210	9/6/2013	kimberly wheat	CA	94941	No	
211	9/6/2013	Marion Reyes	CA	91307	No	
212	9/6/2013	Ellen Finestone	CA	94903	No	
213	9/6/2013	Ronna Reed	CA	94941	Yes	
214	9/6/2013	Danielle Andrews	CA	94973	No	
215	9/6/2013	Lynne Frame	CA	94941	No	

216	9/6/2013	John Wick	CA	94301	Yes	
217	9/6/2013	annabelle lenderink	CA	94924	Yes	
218	9/6/2013	Leigh Etheridge	AL	35007	No	
219	9/6/2013	wayne meyer	CA	95991	Yes	Check off \$\$ have never, ever helped farmers. They are collected to help the buyers of my products, not to help me. NO CHECK-OFF!!!!!!!
220	9/6/2013	connie curtis	TX	78758	No	I eat organic.. this doesn't need to be.. the companies can see where it going.. we want organic.. food without chemicals.
221	9/6/2013	Barbara St John	CA	94930	No	I try to buy almost all organic - but local organic. I am not in favor of this program because I fell it penalizes small farmers.
222	9/6/2013	Chris Lyon	CT	06840	No	
223	9/6/2013	diane schultheis	CA	95630	No	I am an "organic only" eater. This program is nonsense. Not going to happen. USDA is on the run. They don't know how to stop the "organic only" eaters.
224	9/6/2013	Peter Ratner	CA	95973	No	
225	9/6/2013	Alice Knutson	CA	94941	No	
226	9/6/2013	Margaret Elliott	CA	94930	Yes	
227	9/6/2013	Peggy Diedrichs	CA	94965	No	I work for an organic farmer, so this is very important to me!!
228	9/6/2013	Laura Wyatt	CA	93108	No	We need to support farmers and not make it more difficult to do this already challenging job.
229	9/6/2013	S Fleming	CA	94925	No	
<p>To whom it may concern, Having spent the better part of the decade of the 1980's involved in organic farming and helping to write the code for sustainable agriculture in California, I know first hand the hard work and integrity that goes into growing and retailing organic food crops. The present federal statute proposed ( the Organic Trade Association Check-off List) would nullify, or at very least undermine, the efforts of both the organic growers and the concerned consumers to sustain a viable organic agriculture in the USA. Please do not make the mistake of undermining the organic food growers and consumers. These people represent a very important thread in American society and stand for the future of a healthier nation.</p>						
230	9/6/2013	Gina Inez	CA	94941	No	
231	9/6/2013	Sharon Delap	VA	22191	No	I will be soon
232	9/6/2013	Nancy Wiens	CA	94901	No	
233	9/6/2013	ben anderson	CT	06896	Yes	
234	9/7/2013	Brooke Battles	CA	94618	No	
235	9/7/2013	Sandra Bird	CA	94904	No	Organic farmers have a hard enough time without additional paperwork or expenses
236	9/7/2013	mary Cosgrove	CA	94941	No	
237	9/7/2013	Kathryn Moorehouse	WA	99203	No	
238	9/7/2013	Neva Alsip	OK	74085	Yes	We strongly oppose the proposed Organic Check-off Program.
239	9/7/2013	Frank Menhams	CA	95437	No	I buy organic, and keeping the costs down is very important. Please do the right thing, I will track your activities, thank you, Frank Menhams

240	9/7/2013 Tom	Willey	CA	93637	Yes	
241	9/7/2013 Jan	Dietrick	CA	93001	No	I grow beneficial insects used by organic farmers and my business depends on organic farmers being able to have a level playing field and prove the value of the products in fair trade. This is not fair.
242	9/7/2013 Joseph	Coats	CA	93065	No	I'm a organic gardener and Permaculture Designer.
243	9/7/2013 Michael	Baird	CA	94002	No	I support the certified organic, local farming movement. I do NOT support reprehensible taxation of sustainable alternative food sources! Tax big ag, those who can afford it! As a purchaser of organically farmed foods and a supporter of the health benefits and diversity that organic farming provides, I strongly support this petition to keep Organic Farmers off of the Organic Check-off program.
244	9/7/2013 Brad	Hubbell	CA	94941	No	
245	9/7/2013 Louise	Hamm	CA	93446	Yes	
246	9/7/2013 Jessica	Cardinal	CT	06811	No	
247	9/7/2013 Lucinda	Olney	CA	94708	No	Organic farmers need to be supported, not taxed. They have figured out how to raise food without herbicides and pesticides. Tax the companies that sell herbicides and pesticides, not the organic farmers! Protect our health !! National organizations just by definition are too large to be effective for the small members which is what 'organic' is all about. To co-opt our money to support the large growers is beyond ironic.
248	9/7/2013 Margaret	Graham	CA	94971	Yes	
249	9/7/2013 Kate	Firestone	CA	94965	No	
250	9/7/2013 liz	daniels	CA	94946	Yes	
251	9/7/2013 Jill	Barrett	CA	94920	No	
252	9/7/2013 karen	preuss	CA	94931	No	
253	9/7/2013 Shari	W.	CA	94521	No	Organic farmers receive little benefit from programs such as these from the FDA. These check off programs benefit the corporate marketplace and yet it's the farmers that pay for them. This is incredibly lopsided and unfair to the people who actually grow the food. Farmer's (the actual people who get their hands dirty, not the quasi-farmers who sit in an office somewhere wearing a suit etc. ) profits are already very low SO if the manufacturers and retail sellers want the FDA to have the programs that basically benefit them they must be the ones to pay into the 'check off' programs.
254	9/7/2013 Mary	Grillo	CA	94947	No	Stop taxing us for every little thing you need to trim your budget!
255	9/7/2013 annie	b	CA	94526	No	I am not a farmer. But on behalf of those farmers whose hard work and perseverance to their trade (and doing it sustainably!) puts organic food on my table, I cannot support this issue. To chance taking away in this manner even a minutiae of the earnings these folks have earned - regardless of whether they gross minor or massive profits on their wares - is wrong. I hope critical thinking and active discussion can be utilized to create a program that makes far more sense than this.
256	9/7/2013 Vicky	Passmore	GA	30506	No	
257	9/7/2013 Devon	Paoli	CA	94904	Yes	

258	9/7/2013	Evan	Wiig	CA	95472	Yes	
259	9/7/2013	Michael	White	CA	90034	No	IT is clear our government now is owned and operated by corporations and hates family farms. We, the People, are FOR small, family farms and we the people do NOT want OUR government making laws that favor Agribusiness farms and hurt small family farms. Period.
260	9/7/2013	Linda	Frender	CA	94939	No	
261	9/7/2013	Janet	Daijogo	CA	94941	No	
262	9/7/2013	Judy	Engardio	CA	95457	No	
263	9/7/2013	Terry	Allan	CA	95401	Yes	
264	9/7/2013	J.	Huston	CA	94606	No	
265	9/8/2013	Sonia	Covey	VA	24161	Yes	
266	9/8/2013	Rosemary	Reilly	CA	94501	No	
267	9/8/2013	Lisa	Smith	IL	61938	No	
268	9/8/2013	Thea	Blair	CA	95959	Yes	
269	9/8/2013	Susan	Gertman	CA	94941	No	
270	9/8/2013	Michael	Salzman	MO	64111	No	
271	9/8/2013	Carrie	Sherriff	CA	94941	No	
272	9/8/2013	Robyn	Martin	CA	95960-0	Yes	
273	9/9/2013	Liese	Keon	CA	94939	Yes	
274	9/9/2013	armida	scopazzi	CA	94901	Yes	
275	9/9/2013	Oren	Holle	KS	66412	Yes	
276	9/9/2013	Catherine	Bishop	CA	94117	No	
277	9/9/2013	janet a	baker	WA	98022	Yes	We as dairymen have been disenchanted with the check off programs that are national programs. We were led to believe that they would be more efficient than our local programs, but history is not proving this to be true. The current program being offered (pushed) by the Organic Trade Association does not have the support of Organic Producers and would be primarily to the benefit of processors, using organic producers money. Please take this into consideration as to whom is promoting this legislation, using processor money for lobbying. Sincerely Janet A Baker t
278	9/9/2013	Jessica	Prentice	CA	94804	No	
279	9/9/2013	cynthia	douglas	CA	93446	Yes	
280	9/9/2013	Barbara	Rothkrug	CA	94925	No	I support small family farms.
281	9/9/2013	Laura	Bohlender	CA	95632	Yes	
282	9/9/2013	robin	rust	IN	46115	Yes	
283	9/10/2013	Jack	Liebster	CA	94925	No	
284	9/10/2013	Michael	Gurecki	NY	13440	No	
285	9/10/2013	Shannon	Wilson	CA	94131	No	

286	9/10/2013	Lisa	Krausz	CA	94920	No	
287	9/11/2013	Richard	Christianson	MN	55406	No	As an Organic wholesale produce distributor, we work with hundreds of organic farms all across the country. I can say without reservation that the vast majority of organic farms that we have contact with are STRONGLY opposed to an organic checkoff.
288	9/11/2013	Pete	G	KS	66210	Yes	This is not needed and not welcome. These programs always, Always, ALWAYS end up working against the interests of the farmers they claim to help. This is nothing more than an effort to get us to pay for our own destruction and enslavement. As a direct marketer I'm already paying for these efforts, I need not pay someone else to do it form me and likely in a way that will directly compete with my message and for my consumer dollars. I remain as independent as possible from all farm programs, with the exception of NOP certification which is required by law for me to sell certified organic products. I have no desire to participate in a one-size fits all organic checkoff, and I am opposed to all other checkoffs.
289	9/11/2013	Dana	Haugli	IA	50423	Yes	
290	9/11/2013	cindy	kamm	CA	94941	No	please stop harassing organic farmers with tactics like this! they do us all a great service ! sincerely cindy kamm
291	9/11/2013	Kent	Morris	IA	50022	No	The "check-offs" are a from of taxation on Rural Farm Agriculture to fund the commercial promotion of Corporate Agriculture.
292	9/11/2013	Clarissa	Langley	WA	98264	Yes	
293	9/12/2013	JOHN	ROSSI	TX	78628	No	
294	9/12/2013	Cheryl	Collins	ME	04037	No	I work as a nutritionist with an organic feed mill and this proposal will just drive out more organic family farms that we can't afford to lose.
295	9/12/2013	Randy	Rolf	CO	80020	No	
296	9/13/2013	Bryce	Loewen	CA	93648	Yes	
297	9/13/2013	Miriam	Weinstein	CA	94930	No	Wouldn't it be wonderful when the USDA starts supporting organic farmers, whose food is good for us, and whose processes benefit the planet, instead of being a stooge for industrial agriculture and Monsanto. Wouldn't it be a great day when the USDA does the will of the people instead of corporations?
298	9/13/2013	Marisa	Hoke	CA	94949	Yes	I grow vegetables organically, (farming), but I do not sell them. However, one day, since I might, this is important to me.
299	9/13/2013	susanne	weihl	CA	94925	No	
300	9/13/2013	Christine	Farren	CA	94133	No	
301	9/13/2013	Jeannie	Hall	CA	94941	No	Please DO NOT let Washington push us around, say NO to Taxing our Organic food!!!
302	9/13/2013	William	Larchar	NY	13411	Yes	

						We buy most of our fruits and veggies directly from CSAs through a weekly organic box and directly from Farmer's Markets. The margins for organic farmers are not large and yet the benefits of organic farming are incalculable for the environmental health of the planet and all its inhabitants. It is unhelpful and undemocratic to impose the burden of a generic tax on small scale organic farming operations.
303	9/14/2013	Sue	Crawford	CA	94920	No
304	9/14/2013	dontaye	ball	CA	94124	No
						I ask you to vote against the Organic Check Off Program to maintain the availability of the highest quality food at an affordable price for families. High quality food which is free of pesticides and herbicides will promote physical and mental health in our communities and help reduce future health care costs. I urge you to vote in accordance with the voters you actually represent and not for corporations. Exercise your conscious. Thank you.
305	9/14/2013	Denni	Adamson	CA	94901	No
306	9/14/2013	Jordan	Thompson	CA	94954	Yes
307	9/15/2013	Kathy	Cronin	CA	95472	No
						These funds will not be used to promote organic agriculture. Why should I have to fund it? To promote GMO soybeans that I don't agree with?
308	9/15/2013	Rodney	Graham	NY	14846	Yes
309	9/15/2013	andrea	owen	CA	94925	No
310	9/16/2013	Nancy	Boyce	CA	94901	Yes
						I do not want the large agribusiness companies in the organic field to further dominate the market. I am in favor of more local, small producers who take care of the land as well as the integrity of their production.
311	9/16/2013	Elizabeth	Barnum	ND	58203	No
312	9/16/2013	Robert	Steininger	PA	19460	No
						The farming I do is personal and organic. The products I purchase I strive to make as organic by health choice. I do not wish my spending dollars to go towards corrupt and worthless campaigns and research that further serves toxic chemical agriculture, corporatized large scale farmers. I believe checkoff fees should be abolished altogether and my tax dollars to no longer go towards subsidies to large agribusiness, or, on another topic towards supporting the advancement of dirty energy. Both are poisoning the people, the environment and destroying the chances of humankind to live on this planet peacefully and healthily. thank you.
313	9/16/2013	Kathleen	Mathis	FL	32210	No
314	9/16/2013	Sarah	Umberger	WV	24901	Yes
						The farmers should be able to keep their money! They do not benefit from these Check-Off Programs so why must they be the ones to payroll it?!
315	9/16/2013	Dena	Haupt	PA	15865	No
316	9/16/2013	Nora	Handler	IL	60613	No
317	9/16/2013	Heidi	Lawson	CA	95223	No
318	9/16/2013	Rebecca	Breaux	NY	14814	No
319	9/16/2013	Cindy	Scherrer	WA	98640	No

							I am a concerned citizen and someone who fears that agribusiness has taken us down a deadly path. Our public and environmental health suffer greatly while these corporate behemoths consume profits off the backs of small farmers. These farmers should not have to pay for programs that not only do not benefit them, but instead support the egregious works of huge corporations who would put them out of business.
320	9/16/2013	Lynn	Frederiksen	MD	01701	No	
321	9/16/2013	Becky	McColley	CA	92081	No	
322	9/16/2013	Jeremy	McLaughlin	TX	7708	No	If these are the issues that we face our own government we have much bigger problems.
323	9/16/2013	sandra	mccolley	CA	91763	No	I am an American consumer who is weary of being a victim of congress who are bought and paid for by big business.
324	9/16/2013	Sharon	Bodman	OR	97380	No	I grow my own food and use organic methodologies. After seeing the data of the experiences of the beef, pork and current farmers experience I would create my own check-off list under the strict auspices of worldwide organic standards with specific goals and expectations where the monies could go. Otherwise, the system is rigged against organic farmers and they should be exempt from the current check-off list.
325	9/16/2013	Patt	Rose	CA	94541	No	Food should not be a political tool. Our farmers need support not more taxes.
326	9/16/2013	ross	hunter	KY	42445	Yes	I feel these programs serve only already rich and powerful corporations and individuals. They do nothing more but burden the middle and small operations with another expense in a further attempt to lessen our ability to compete for market share.
327	9/16/2013	Cindy	Brown	CA	94903	No	
328	9/16/2013	Mary Ann	O'Donnell	IL	60554	No	I am not an organic farmer, but I do buy organic and wish to support organic farmers in any way that benefits them. I do not believe the check-off program will benefit them. Please do not pass an organic check-off program.
329	9/16/2013	Margie	Goulden	WA	98372	No	I grow much of my own food organically and I supplement with food grown by organic farmers. I do not agree with a program that harms them in any way.
330	9/16/2013	Jeanne	Watts	MD	02169	No	I am not an Organic farmer BUT I am an Organic Gardener and I support the Organic Farmers who are fighting hard to keep our food clean.
331	9/16/2013	Deborah	Raley	CA	95005	Yes	
332	9/16/2013	Diane	Burnett	AZ	85338	No	I am a consumer and as such demand the right to choose food free of chemical engineering and political hype.
333	9/16/2013	Chris	Boileau	NV	89148	No	
334	9/16/2013	Lori	Restani	CA	94904	No	
335	9/16/2013	Melinda	Pitcher	CA	95124	No	
336	9/16/2013	Jane	McCullam	OH	44065-9	No	
337	9/16/2013	michele	grayndler	SC	29936	No	a very concerned consumer
338	9/16/2013	Joan	Basore	CA	94960	Yes	



						I do not want my money to be used to promote the agenda of large corporate multinational companies who now own the majority of organic processed foods. They will dominate the board of this checkoff and tax me without any benefit to me. Just say NO!
339	9/16/2013	Amigo	Cantisano	CA	95960	Yes
340	9/16/2013	Judy	Nelson	MN	55733	No
341	9/16/2013	theresa	bridges	MI	48336	No
						I live in a rural county, an I know many organic farmers personally. I do not trust the USDA to do anything that benefits organic farmers or consumers anymore. I don't need promotional ads telling me what to eat. Because of having eaten "conventional" poisoned GMO foods for many years, I now have many food allergies and inflamed intestines. I don't have the "choice" to eat conventional food anymore, and I don't want to have my farmers further burdened by taking more of their money.
342	9/16/2013	Lisa	Butterfield	CA	95501	No
343	9/17/2013	Robert	Kuljis	OR	97123	Yes
344	9/17/2013	jean	molinari	CA	90731	No
345	9/17/2013	Melissa	Rubano	PA	16669	No
346	9/17/2013	karey	degnan	MN	55746	No
347	9/17/2013	Elsie	Smith	IA	52556	No
						I am a dairy geographer at Durham University Geography Dept., UK, with a family and journalism background in dairy farming.
348	9/18/2013	Bruce	Scholten	WA	98036	No
349	9/18/2013	Ryan	Butzow	IL	60955	Yes
350	9/18/2013	dennis	wilt	WA	98629	Yes
						The OTA does not speak for me or hold my interests at heart. Do not add more hardship to struggling family farms!
351	9/18/2013	Helen	Krayenhoff	CA	94602	Yes
352	9/18/2013	Rita	Pelczar	NC	28753	Yes
353	9/18/2013	Cliff	Francis	OR	97031	Yes
354	9/18/2013	Chris	Klebaum	WA	98951	Yes
355	9/18/2013	Joshua	Smith	MI	48754	Yes
356	9/18/2013	Ann	Wilson	ME	04438	Yes
357	9/18/2013	Jean	Ratto	OR	97080	Yes
						This is bad for organic family farms. Doing organic is expensive enough. OTA wants money to fund industrialization and commercialization of organic food.
						We don't need this to market our products. Why add another layer of bureaucracy, cost and such to the consumer by taking it from the producer. Makes no sense whatsoever.
359	9/18/2013	Michael	Evenson	CA	95558	Yes
360	9/18/2013	Tom	Denison	OR	97330	Yes
						OTA DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY ORGANIC FARMERS IN FLORIDA. THE PEOPLE WHO SIT ON THE BOARD OF OTA DO NOT CARE ABOUT ORGANIC FARMERS IT IS ALL ABOUT MONEY AGAIN AND AGAIN. THANKS, KO
361	9/18/2013	Kevin	O'Dare	FL	32963	Yes
362	9/18/2013	Melvin	Gimbel	SD	57374	Yes

						No to a federally mandated Organic Check-Off program. We are already paying thousand of dollars annually in order to farm responsibly and sustainably. This is backwards. The farmer who is using tons of chemicals annually should be taxed for the future costs of long-term results of massive chemicals going into our bodies, land, air, and water supplies.
363	9/18/2013	Sally	Harper	NM	88047	Yes
364	9/18/2013	Julie	Sullivan	CO	81149	Yes
365	9/18/2013	Christina	Sirlin	HI	96712	No
366	9/18/2013	Ryan	Rich	CA	93422	Yes
						As a farmer check off programs have never benefited me. Only a few large interests. No check off for organic farmers EVER. The amount of fees/charges/mandatory pay outs/etc. that farmers are expected to foot is absurd. We are already a struggling industry and this program is simply another way to bleed us out. The OTA has unfortunately missed another opportunity to connect with farmers at a grassroots level (something they claim to have a passion for doing) and instead have continued their pandering to DC bigwigs with zero interest in the livelihoods and success of organic farmers.
367	9/18/2013	Caitlin	Couture	CA	93239	Yes
368	9/18/2013	Roger	Wechsler	WA	98232	Yes
369	9/18/2013	Daniel	Tollefson	MN	55334	Yes
370	9/18/2013	Jennifer	Tollefson	MN	55334	Yes
371	9/18/2013	Thomas	Bardessonno	CA	94558	Yes
372	9/18/2013	Steve	Taylor	ID	83301-0	Yes
						The Organic Trade Association does not represent me!!!
373	9/18/2013	Dada	Gana	CA	93532	Yes
374	9/18/2013	Kim	Mosel	NE	68766	Yes
375	9/18/2013	David	Rhea	NE	68002	Yes
376	9/18/2013	Ray	Hoppes	OH	43160	Yes
						Let us have less bureaucracy rather than more. We do not need or want an organic check-off!
377	9/18/2013	susan	pelican	CA	95695	Yes
						PLEASE!
378	9/18/2013	Julie	Mingo	ID	83271	Yes
379	9/18/2013	John	Whitman	CA	93001	Yes
						Organic farming is for the most part small farming. It is difficult enough to make a living without added encumbrances.
380	9/18/2013	Madelyn	Jackson	OR	97423	Yes
381	9/18/2013	Carole Anne	Rose	AR	72742	Yes
382	9/18/2013	David	Walsh	MN	56308	Yes
383	9/18/2013	Cara	Cordoni	CA	94117	No
						Protect our current organic farmers - hear their side, not just the PAID side!
384	9/18/2013	Julie	Bosma	WA	98932	Yes
						I do not support an organic checkoff program. As a coffee roaster that is required to submit to lengthy and costly measures to insure that what I buy is given out as organic I find it offensive that we have to come to these measures. Please make the playing field fair to all concerned. B
385	9/18/2013	Brad	Mallett	SC	29483	No
386	9/18/2013	Neil	Austin	OR	97381	Yes
387	9/18/2013	william	smith	MO	64641	Yes

388	9/18/2013	Richard	Parker	NC	28125	Yes	I refuse to support any program which doesn't allow organic products to be showcased for the superior products they are.
389	9/18/2013	Rebecca	Shirley	CA	94014	Yes	
390	9/18/2013	Elmer	Lehmann	KS	66857	Yes	The USDA is not promoting Organic Farming now, so why would I expect that to change if there is an organic check-off fund?
391	9/18/2013	Alison	Frost	NY	13158	Yes	
392	9/19/2013	John	Saeli	NY	14456	Yes	
393	9/19/2013	Amy	Krasne	IA	51503	Yes	
394	9/19/2013	ken	crouse	CO	81612	Yes	
395	9/19/2013	Douglas	Baty	MT	59831	Yes	
396	9/19/2013	Fred	Grice Jr.	MI	49452	Yes	
397	9/19/2013	Doug	Beretta	CA	95407	Yes	
398	9/19/2013	Jeffrey	Creque	CA	94952	Yes	A mandatory check off is not helpful.
399	9/19/2013	Hakon	Torjesen	MN	55946	Yes	
400	9/19/2013	Andrea	Aronson	CO	81611	Yes	
401	9/19/2013	Gary	McDonald	IL	62704	Yes	
402	9/19/2013	Norma	Tofanelli	CA	94515	Yes	Stop trying to kill organic. Consumers want us and we want to farm this sustainable way.
403	9/19/2013	Donna	Meyer	MN	55041	Yes	Why should I support something that I can't advertise my product with?!
404	9/19/2013	David	Trumble	NH	03281	Yes	
405	9/19/2013	Bettie Ann	Hough	CA	95968	Yes	
406	9/19/2013	Dehl	Jossi	OR	97124	Yes	
407	9/19/2013	Mark	Wilson	MD	21613	Yes	
408	9/19/2013	Elliott	Driscoll	IA	52361	Yes	
409	9/19/2013	Craig	Bruns	MN	56534	Yes	
410	9/19/2013	Alfred	Farris	TN	37141	Yes	
411	9/20/2013	Colleen	Wolfisberg	WA	98247	Yes	
412	9/20/2013	Thomas	Green	AR	72823	Yes	Any additional taxation on our business will put us out of business.
413	9/20/2013	Heidi	Tafel	NY	13843	Yes	
414	9/20/2013	Ron	Parling	MI	48880	Yes	As per reasons cited above check-off programs are ineffective and unfair. We don't need another one! I'm sure big ag companies are pushing the check-off with the politicians because they don't get the money out of the little farmers that don't use their chemicals and non organic inputs.
415	9/20/2013	David	Rottinghaus	IA	50458	Yes	
416	9/20/2013	Janet	Muther	CA	94952	No	
417	9/20/2013	Pam	Moore	NY	13812	Yes	
418	9/20/2013	Rob	Moore	NY	13812	Yes	
419	9/21/2013	Tyler	Bolton	PA	19530	Yes	

420	9/22/2013	Valerie	Wall	WA	98223	Yes	
421	9/22/2013	Kevin	Ryan	IA	50140	Yes	
422	9/22/2013	Mark	Sievers	CA	94534	Yes	
423	9/22/2013	Donna	Marie	CA	92589	Yes	
424	9/23/2013	Lee	Thomas	MN	56560	Yes	Just another tax.
425	9/23/2013	John	Knutson	CA	95357	Yes	
426	9/23/2013	Dean & Jan	Pigman	WA	98513	Yes	
427	9/24/2013	henk	postmus	TX	76446	Yes	
428	9/24/2013	David	Via	OR	97461	Yes	OTA does not represent our farm. We prefer to do our own advertising at our own expense.
429	9/24/2013	Mike	Peters	WI	53585	Yes	The comments above on this petition say it all. Amen.
430	9/25/2013	Bill	Casey	NY	13020	Yes	
431	9/25/2013	Joanne	Casey	NY	13020	Yes	
432	9/26/2013	James	Shuler	NY	14048	Yes	
433	9/27/2013	Tierra	Cantisano	CA	94965	No	
434	9/27/2013	Paul	Dolan	CA	95482	Yes	
435	9/27/2013	Alitza	Blough	IA	52556	No	The USDA will pick something banal to promote such as educating the consumer about the difference between "natural" and "certified organic" instead of something controversial, such as the carbon sequestering power of organic production.
436	9/27/2013	Seth	Rosmarin	CA	95960	Yes	I am a farmer, consultant, and inspector and I think this bill is bad for small farms and community based foods causing economic hardships on an already stressed industry.
437	9/27/2013	SEan	Coder	AR	72701	Yes	This program would not be in organic farmers' best interest, as evidenced by the other commodity programs that don't ultimately benefit farmers. Keep hands off organics! People recognize my product and all good organic products by the obvious quality. We don't need this kind of marketing help at all.
438	9/28/2013	Jan	Dietrick	CA	93001	Yes	
439	9/28/2013	Elisabeth	Lambert	CA	93704	No	I want to keep small local organic farms viable. No check off program. Keep corporate farms out of the organic farming business because they will irreparably corrupt it.
440	9/28/2013	A.	Wolf	CA	92117	No	
441	9/28/2013	Lindsey	Larson	CA	90291	No	
442	9/28/2013	Trevor	Estlow	CA	95525	Yes	
443	9/28/2013	Carla	Curle	CA	93955	No	
444	9/28/2013	Wendy	Thiessen	TX	77023	No	
445	9/28/2013	Bre	Perry	CO	80910	No	I have family and friends who are farmers. We have to make the system better instead of overburdening it with more government fees and paperwork. They need subsidies and tax breaks.

446	9/28/2013	Lisa	Henke	CA	92705	No	
447	9/28/2013	catherine	callaghan	IL	60008	No	
448	9/28/2013	Heather	Dziczek	AZ	85210	No	
449	9/28/2013	Jane	Rittenhouse	OR	97405	Yes	I work for an organic farmer.
450	9/28/2013	patti	rich	CA	94606	Yes	
451	9/28/2013	matt	miller	MO	65201	No	
452	9/28/2013	Bridget	O'Brien	WA	98109	No	
453	9/28/2013	Velma	Wagatsuma	HI	96734	Yes	
454	9/28/2013	Kathleen	McMillan	NY	10003	No	
455	9/28/2013	Cindy	Power	WA	98407	No	I support you 100%!
456	9/28/2013	Kathy	Lindner	CA	96117	Yes	We are 'organic' in practice, but we do not use that word because we are not certified.
457	9/28/2013	phyllis	crawford	MD	21740	No	
458	9/28/2013	tamika	phillips	RI	02914	No	I buy organic foods for many reasons even though I'm unable to afford lots. This is the only type of food that is safe for food allergy sufferers
459	9/28/2013	Lisa	Esposito	PA	19107	No	
460	9/28/2013	Maryanne	Allen	FL	32789	No	
461	9/28/2013	Jodi	Brown	LA	70121	No	I do NOT want an Organic check off program.
462	9/28/2013	Kyle	Klingman	WI	53704	No	
463	9/28/2013	John	McGrath	CA	94580	No	I am a consumer who like to buy organic products, and I am happy without the mandatory programs because we already have enough information to tell the difference between "natural" and "organic". If the small farmers are forced to pay more fines under the new program, it can risk putting the farmers out of business and we the people would have less access to untainted foods.
464	9/28/2013	Ashley	Shaloo	NJ	08540	Yes	
465	9/28/2013	Amy	Kelley	TX	78734	No	Quality is obvious with organic products. No need to increase their fees!!! Public Awareness is spreading on the many benefits of organic products. Sales will continue to increase and marketing is irrelevant. Word of mouth is much more powerful than marketing tactics.
466	9/28/2013	Andrea	Acevedo	CA	91739	No	
467	9/28/2013	Laura	Taylor	CO	81647	No	
468	9/28/2013	Sheila	Wyeth	IL	61046	Yes	
469	9/28/2013	vicky	passmore	GA	30506	No	
470	9/28/2013	Torrey	Reade	NJ	08079	Yes	
471	9/28/2013	Susan	Sauceda	CA	93727	No	
472	9/28/2013	Nikki	Arce	CA	92404	No	
473	9/28/2013	christine	baker	MO	65201	No	
474	9/29/2013	joseph	dietz	MN	56236	Yes	Stop the check off!!!
475	9/29/2013	kristan	floyd	SC	29506	Yes	

476	9/29/2013	Paul	Delisle	IA	52556	No	
477	9/29/2013	Jean Marie	Hall	IA	52043	No	
478	9/29/2013	Myron	McVeigh	IA	52632	No	
479	9/29/2013	robert	arbuckle	IA	52240	No	This proposal only supports large producers, not the small producers that purchase from. This proposal will only increase the price I pay for products that I am already committed to.
480	9/29/2013	Julia Ahlers	Ness	MN	56218	Yes	
481	9/29/2013	Wolfgang	Rougle	CA	96022	Yes	Organic farmers, esp. those of us who market direct to consumers, already do more to promote farming and local (and domestic) food consumption than all the check-off programs in the U.S. combined. There's no way I want to spend ANY of my hard-earned income supporting some marketers, graphic designers, lobbyists and middlemen who aren't even focused on Organic.
482	9/29/2013	Jim	Gerritsen	ME	04735	Yes	
483	9/29/2013	Kelly	Garner	CA	95821	No	
484	9/29/2013	Barbara	Blough	IL	60645	No	I EAT organic foods for the health of my body. I support organic FARMING. I support organic FARMERS. Clean shit belongs on organic farming land. The rest of it requires cleaning - I refer to the stuff shoveled at us from the USDA Federal Research and Promotion Programs.
485	9/29/2013	Gwenne	Baile	NJ	08108	No	I am an organic home gardener and on the Executive Committee of an organically-grown Community Garden.
486	9/29/2013	steve	mcgowan	CA	94941	Yes	I do not support an Organic Checkoff Program. Signed Sept 29, 2013 Steve McGowan, heirloomketchup@aol.com
487	9/29/2013	Susan	Brown	CA	91942	No	I am strongly opposed to the corporate effort for organic farmers to fund their promotion activities. It isn't needed.
488	9/29/2013	Dorothy	Drees	IA	52556	No	
489	9/29/2013	Diane	Vance	IA	52556	No	I am an organic eater and support my local farmers market that sells organic foods. I also buy organic products at the 2 local grocery stores.
490	9/29/2013	Diane	Davis	IA	52556	No	NO to the organic check-off program
491	9/29/2013	Marybeth	Gardam	IA	52405	No	Making it harder for organic farmers makes it harder for all of us to eat well and be healthy. Food security is National Security. There's a reason Churchill told people to plant victory gardens. When organic farmers win, we all win!
492	9/29/2013	Kenneth	Langen	CA	92008	No	
493	9/30/2013	Brad	Jennings	IA	52556	No	
494	9/30/2013	Jack	Erisman	IL	62557	Yes	
495	9/30/2013	Cathy	Holden	CA	95865	No	I am an organic gardener and consumer. I want a fair shake for organic producers. Thank you.
496	10/1/2013	Dee	LeVan	CA	95959	No	
497	10/1/2013	mark	wheeler	OR	97527	Yes	Bad idea!!!! Vote it down. Mark Wheeler Pacific Botanicals
498	10/1/2013	Evelyn	Riebe	IL	60929	Yes	No the organic movement will do their own research so as not to be tainted by the commercial pushers of GM grain and chemical fertilizers.

499	10/1/2013	Lisa	Rowe	CA	95960	No	People who choose organic already pay more money to make a better food choice. No more cost added to the organic farmers!
500	10/2/2013	Hershel	Carmichael	NM	88132	Yes	They have never done one thing for me!!
501	10/5/2013	Scott	Paladino	NJ	07461	Yes	
502	10/5/2013	Tim	Cutler	NJ	07960	No	Obviously unconstitutional.
503	10/5/2013	Fern	Hickey	NJ	08560	Yes	
504	10/5/2013	Ashley	Shaloo	NJ	08540	Yes	
505	10/5/2013	Diane	Skoss	NJ	07059	Yes	We pay enough in fees to get certified as organic. We do not need further economic burdens. Let organic farmers do their jobs; support and publish their research. Don't charge them for marketing campaigns they don't need and won't do them any good.
506	10/5/2013	Al	Esposito	NJ	07865	Yes	
507	10/6/2013	Jeff	Moyer	PA	19534	Yes	Stop this Program now
508	10/6/2013	Connor	Murphy	CO	80306	Yes	This provision will damage small scale producers and educational non profits like the one that I work for. We are small enough that we've been doing our own educational work for years. If my customers have a question about certification they ask me. This year our organization is struggling to meet our operating budget. We will be negatively impacted by an organic check off program.
509	10/6/2013	Judith	Robinson	NJ	08540	No	I am a farmers market manager and have only small farms as members. They need to be supported as a sustainable local supply of food to our community. So helping them to promote and educate the public is essential. Large corporate farms already receive most of the government benefits so make sure that the ones who really need the promotion receive it.
510	10/6/2013	Lindsay	Napolitano	NJ	08825	Yes	
511	10/7/2013	Orin	Moyer	PA	19547	Yes	Check Off programs are a side arm of corporate Ag giants...lets try to keep them out of organics
512	10/7/2013	David	Heiens	KS	67410	Yes	Checkoff invite big corporations that ruin family farms
513	10/7/2013	TG	Mueller	NJ	08005	Yes	The original Organic Standards and Certification process and verification was established and functioned very well without USDA intrusion. The USDA usurped and changed the effective organic certification process to allow large agribusiness access to the organic market. The USDA has corrupted the original standards and imposed additional costs on the small organic farmer. I am opposed to any further intrusion by the government and its agencies into organic farming.
514	10/7/2013	Andrea	Bustos de Romagn	NY	11741	No	
515	10/8/2013	Laura	Barnaud	SD	57762	Yes	
516	10/8/2013	Bernard	Barnaud	SD	57762	Yes	
517	10/9/2013	Jeff	Hill	KS	67730	Yes	We do not need an organic check off program.
518	10/9/2013	Michael	Blahut	NJ	07439	Yes	
519	10/10/2013	Carla	Curle	CA	93955	No	

520	10/14/2013	Leon	Morton	NC	27253	No	
521	10/18/2013	robert	ricahrd	OR	97210	No	I own a food enterprise that depends upon a viable local, organic supply. Please do not introduce regulations that make it harder for small farming operations to produce organic product.
522	10/18/2013	Carroll	Wade	NY	14855	Yes	
523	10/18/2013	Janet	Cowling	MI	48176	No	I
524	10/18/2013	Cecilia	Bowman	IN	46118	Yes	
525	10/18/2013	Kathy	Jaffey	IA	52556	No	There are several proposals afoot that would increase costs for organic farmers and further widen the gulf between the price for organic food and commodity crops, and would also very likely reduce the number of organic farms and farmers by making it too difficult for organic farmers to make a living. I strongly oppose these measures, and suggest that legislators would better spend their time reducing or eliminating subsidies for GMO seeds and their companion chemical treatments. The sheer quantity of chemicals required to keep gm crops going is killing off the bee population, polluting the water and creating the dead zone in the gulf of Mexico. These are real problems that regulations need to address. The cost of commodity farmers not using cover crops to hold the soil in place and to absorb rain water and melted snow during the 8 months of the year when corn and soy are not growing is enormous and is carried by the public, not the commodity farmers who are getting the big subsidies to carry on the practices that pollute the water, erode the soil, cause the dead zone and result in less nutritious food for the consumer.
526	10/22/2013	Amy	Krasne	IA	51503	Yes	As an organic farmer, I am opposed the Organic Check-Off program- honestly all check offs. I would be better served to keep my money to use as I like for promotion of organics.
527	10/22/2013	Blakeley	Kim	CA	94122	No	
528	10/23/2013	RaeMarie	Timm	NC	28451	No	
529	10/28/2013	Michael	Monthey	WI	53901	No	I am a consumer of organic food products. The main reason I back this petition is because organic farmers deserve to make a better living on producing and providing safer and naturally wholesome foods for us to eat, not to be victims of government corruption and corporate greed. If the Organic Check-off Program is passed, we will lose value within the organic food system in the long run.
530	10/29/2013	Diane	Adams	IN	46960	No	I work with many organic and natural farmers, they do not need the additional cost exhaustion. They have children to feed and seeds to purchase. They can donate if they choose, and their money is theirs to choose.
531	10/29/2013	alexandra	loureiro	NJ	07974	No	organic food should not have to pay to be labeled organic, genetically modified food NEED to be labeled, we need to know if our food is not "natural"
532	10/31/2013	Daniel	Gasser	OH	44276	Yes	
533	10/31/2013	James	Gasser	OH	44276	Yes	
534	11/4/2013	Michelle	Benrud	MN	55027	Yes	
535	11/4/2013	Roger	Benrud	MN	55027	Yes	



536	11/6/2013	Stacy	Shaker	WI	53929	Yes	
537	11/6/2013	Tim	Shaker	WI	53929	Yes	
538	11/9/2013	Johnny	Stansell	TX	79601	No	The people who sing the praises of any check-off are the ones running the program. A government program with fat salaries and pensions that take money away from the farmer. "Got Milk?", very successful??? milk consumption down cheese up, but it's not "Got Cheese" Do car companies collect a dollar a 100 pounds from car owners to advertise as a separate program run by the government??? Currently organic gardener with a goal of an organic dairy. All said the gov people who will shove this down the throats of farmers can't help it because there is a lot of money to be made off them!!!
539	11/9/2013	Margaret	Passarello	NJ	08021	No	
540	11/11/2013	Amanda	Freitas	RI	02903	No	I am an organic eater.
541	11/16/2013	Laurin	Vinson	MO	64137	No	Please support organic farming and natural food production.
542	11/19/2013	Gary	Bechtold	NJ	08848	Yes	
543	11/28/2013	Ron	Ackerman	IL	61726	Yes	
544	12/10/2013	Sam	Welsch	NE	68502	No	I certify many organic farmers and I do not see any benefit to farmers under the proposed Organic Check-Off program. Sales of organic products has been averaging increases of over 10% per year during the past ten years since the implementation of the National Organic Program. Maintaining the integrity of that program so consumers continue to trust the USDA Organic Seal is important and necessary to sustaining the growth of organic trade. The proposed check-off is not needed.
545	12/10/2013	douglas	hartkopf	ME	04910	Yes	
546	12/10/2013	Ann	Wilson	ME	04438	Yes	
547	12/10/2013	Tim	Cada	NE	68629	Yes	I have contacted both of my senators in the last couple of years. Sen Fischer's office actually called today about this, and Sen Johannes did call back last year and asked questions about this. They are interested. I am 100% AGAINST this check off. I should have thought of this myself to fund my work.....
548	12/11/2013	Klaas	Martens	NY	14527	Yes	
549	12/11/2013	Richard	Parker	NC	28125	Yes	
550	12/13/2013	Maria	Amador	CA	95540	No	
551	12/20/2013	Linda	Rodriguez	WI	54665	Yes	We are already putting in 18 hour days while losing more than \$30,000 last year alone. We are on food stamps and Medicaid. DO NOT INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF CHARITY WE ARE ALREADY GIVING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BY MAKING US PAY FOR SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T EVEN PROMOTE THE HEALTHFUL MILK WE ARE SUPPLYING. Thanks for your time.
552	12/27/2013	Steph	Beneng	NY	12936	Yes	
553	1/1/2014	alan	van dyk	NY	12866	No	
554	1/14/2014	Lisa	Turner	ME	04032	Yes	

555	1/17/2014	Linda	Voith	NY	14711	No	Stop creating mandates that stress the profit margins of organic dairy farmers. the organic farmers are being pushed out of business. You are squeezing them too hard.
556	2/2/2014	Steve	Kimball	NY	14733	Yes	
557	2/8/2014	Hans	Wolfisberg	WA	98247	Yes	
558	3/10/2014	Linda	Voith	NY	14712	No	Please discontinue the check off program or exempt all organic farmers from it.
559	3/15/2014	Bill	Casey	NY	13020	Yes	
560	3/15/2014	cecil	linscott jr	ME	04438	Yes	
561	4/29/2014	Erika	Worden	NY	13865	Yes	
562	6/6/2014	Jim	Goodman	WI	53968	Yes	Generic advertising does not work. Tell me how they propose to promote organic without disparaging non-organic food?
563	6/7/2014	Dave	Minar	MN	56071	Yes	We don't need this unwanted tax.
564	6/7/2014	Julie	Rawson	MA	01005	Yes	
565	6/10/2014	Charles	Brault	MD	21788	Yes	I am opposed to all check-off programs.
566	6/10/2014	Tim	Cada	NE	68629	Yes	NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO AND NO----- NO ORGANIC CHECKOFF!!!!!!!
567	6/10/2014	Richard	Parker	NC	28125	Yes	Less government is better.
568	6/11/2014	Charlie	Greene	NY	13118	Yes	Thank you for providing this opportunity to stand free of the OTA and USDA-NOP check off.
569	6/11/2014	Diana	Saxton	NY	14775	Yes	I am against an organic check off!!
570	6/13/2014	Dana	Haugli	IA	50423	Yes	I am 100% opposed to checkoffs in all forms, but especially an organic checkoff. As far as I am concerned, they are un-American - more like Soviet-style "collective" thinking. The Founding Fathers must be rolling over in their graves. It's this kind of taxation and government intrusiveness that makes me sad for our country.
571	6/14/2014	Stephanie	Beneng	NY	12936	Yes	
572	6/19/2014	Bill	Jessup	CA	92274	Yes	I would be excluded from the proposed assessment. Opposed nonetheless.
573	6/21/2014	Philip	Davis	CO	81419	Yes	
574	6/22/2014	Lynda	aGRESTI	AZ	85379	No	
575	6/22/2014	Jeanne	Brooks	ME	04066	No	Although I am not a farmer, I agree with this petition since I support our local organic dairy farmers and trust them if they do not believe in the "Check-Off" Program.
576	6/23/2014	Gay	Timmons	CA	95030	No	I am a certified organic handler (Oh, Oh Organic, Inc.). I am completely opposed to this program as written. It is a tax without representation. I see certified organic ingredients into the cosmetic industry. This industry will not receive any benefit for the cost involved.
577	6/24/2014	Susannah	Smith	VA	24013	No	
578	6/26/2014	E	Hudson	WI	54630	No	Organic nursery business and gardens since 1975.

579	7/4/2014	Pete	Gasper	KS	66701	Yes	The USDA cannot be trusted. The check-off system is fundamentally broken from the farmer's perspective. It is money that has been, is, and will be used against our interests.
580	7/6/2014	Tony	Marzolino	NY	13736	Yes	
581	7/12/2014	Arden	Landis	PA	19540	Yes	I am totally against any form of check off Let the companies that sell the products promote them if there such a big return on the money spent.
582	7/12/2014	David	Minar	MN	56071	Yes	We do not need an Organic checkoff
583	7/12/2014	Rich	Larson	VT	05774	No	Working toward organic certification. We can manage our own businesses, thank you. I DO NOT WANT A GOVERNMENT-MANDATED 'CHECK-OFF'. I DO MY OWN ADVERTIZING, THANKYOU. As a dairy farmer in Washington state we have paid into our State Dairy Promotional program. Since the National program was instituted, and a good share of the money that is collected in this state, and now goes into the national program we have become disenchanted with Federal Promotion Programs. I am not at all comfortable with "The Organic Trade Association" and its policies and lack of transparencies, and its representation of Processors, who tend to make a profit under all circumstance, and farmer do not. Promised increased sales (the reason for the promotion deducts) have not proved to be so. Sincerely Janet and Robert T. Baker, Osceola Jerseys, Organic Valley Producers,
584	7/17/2014	janet a	baker	WA	98022	Yes	
585	8/11/2014	TONY	MARZOLINO	NY	13736	Yes	
586	8/11/2014	Rich	Larson	VT	05774	Yes	I don't want any government 'help'. I market my own products, and it is very effective. I will not pay into a public cesspool.
587	8/13/2014	arthur	harvey	ME	04220	Yes	The trend of history and science is in our favor. We do not need the "help" of the advertising industry.
588	8/21/2014	Dale	Johnson	WI	54162	Yes	
589	8/23/2014	Nora	Owens	MA	01342	Yes	
590	8/23/2014	Eric	Glasgow	MA	02535	Yes	
591	8/23/2014	Johnny	Stansell	TX	79601	Yes	
592	8/23/2014	anne	phillips	NY	13045	Yes	
593	8/25/2014	Trent	Hendricks	MO	65692	Yes	
594	8/28/2014	Liana	McCoy	MN	56466	No	I am a black angus beef farmer, formally registered neither the beef check-off or the American Angus Association has helped my sales or increased them. Organic farmer or not a federally mandated check-off for any commodity or being organic is just taking money from the farmers who struggle to make ends meet to begin with. I think the idea of MOSES and the organic conferences with farmer involvement minus all the big Ag or government sticking there noses or sticky fingers in is much better. I feel there are better ways to research and prove organic and sustainable farming is way better than the 'newer' conventional/chemical farming.
595	9/14/2014	Adam	Sheridan	GA	30516	Yes	
596	9/17/2014	Florence	Minar	MN	56071	Yes	

						previously an organic farmer, my wife and I know that Organic farmers almost without exception vehemently oppose the proposed check-off program as do we and probably most of any Organic consumers who are aware of its Negative effects on Organic producers and failure to help Organic Agriculture much as the Beef and Dairy Check-offs failure.
597	9/18/2014	don	faulkner	VT	05602	No
598	9/20/2014	Klaas	Martens	NY	14527	Yes
599	10/27/2014	Ellen	McConnell	NJ	08872	No
600	11/30/2014	Tony	Marzolino	NY	13736	Yes
						I cannot stress how emphatically I am opposed to ANY checkoff program. We will do just fine without any involuntarily imposed additional tax(s) on our farms. The host of current regulations are necessary, though onerous, to protect the integrity of Organics. Additional expense, administered by those with a different agenda is a burden unneeded and unwelcome.
601	2/16/2015	Alan	Gordon	CA	93003	Yes
602	2/18/2015	Conor	MacDonald	ME	4574	Yes
603	3/1/2015	David	Minar	MN	56071	Yes
604	3/7/2015	Paul	Van Amburgh	NY	13459	Yes
605	3/7/2015	John	O'Meara	ME	04762	Yes
						Organic farmers do not support this proposed program. I am a consumer who supports the efforts of organic producers. The producers overwhelmingly oppose the check off program, and state that it does give them fair representation. They state that it will tax them for overseas organic products of their competitors who would be exempt from the check off. For all of these reasons and many others, I oppose the check off program.
606	3/14/2015	Linda	Voith	NY	14711	No
607	3/15/2015	Lyle	Edwards	VT	05874	Yes
						I do not trust the USDA Federal Research and Promotion Programs. This only benefits marketers and retailers. They are the ones that need to pay for their own promotion!!! I am producing a product that is already in short supply. I need all the income I can get to support my own expansion!!!
608	3/15/2015	Steve	Straits	OH	44687	Yes
609	3/18/2015	Mitch	Blumenthal	FL	34240	Yes
610	4/13/2015	Joseph	Sawyer	NH	03608	Yes
611	4/16/2015	Kathie	Arnold	NY	13158	Yes
612	4/16/2015	Tony	Marzolino	NY	13736	Yes
613	4/17/2015	Charles	Brault	MD	21788	Yes
614	4/28/2015	Klaas	Martens	NY	14527	Yes
615	5/6/2015	Diane	Kistler	NY	13637	Yes
616	5/6/2015	Phil	Barbato	NY	11901	Yes
617	5/6/2015	Bob	Schultz	NY	14701	Yes
						I also do not trust the OTA because in my opinion they are a mouthpiece for large corporate organic entities and are also behind and/or support efforts to allow more synthetic ingredients and inputs in organic agriculture which undermine the essential and original standards established by the NOSB.
618	5/6/2015	Fred	Griffen	NY	13040	Yes

619	5/8/2015	Pat	Sharpless	NY	14489	Yes	
620	5/8/2015	Fred	Jodry	NY	10805	No	As above stated!
621	5/9/2015	Nadia	Maczaj	NY	12428	Yes	
622	5/9/2015	Oleh	Maczaj	NY	12428	Yes	
<p>Thank you very much for putting together this website. I worked with many others to draft and pass our WA state organic rule, and the Federal Rule on Organics. It is very disheartening to see the state of affairs these days. Your website will be very helpful for me as I work to engage my colleagues across the state to stand against the check off. It will not be easy, but we do have our own example of the WA State Apple Commission which was reduced by court order due to their own misuse of funds. Thank you again.</p>							
623	5/10/2015	Anne	Schwartz	WA	98283	Yes	
624	5/11/2015	Bruce	Drinkman	WI	54013	Yes	
<p>The Organic farming industry does not need a "check-Off" program, because the various co-ops and businesses are able to successfully promote the industry themselves.</p>							
625	5/11/2015	Daniel	Zufall	NY	13658	Yes	
<p>What direct benefit will the farmers paying this proposed checkoff experience? There is already more demand than can possibly be filled by current certified production and prices are stable and high. A checkoff is used by processors and industry groups to increase demand for a product and through increased demand, increase price. If demand is already greater than supply and price already high what can this accomplish? It will simply drive more imports of organic food from other countries and could actually undermine the reputation of organic in the marketplace because of questionable oversight in other countries. This is a bad deal for everyone except those who would receive a healthy salary for administering the program at the OTA</p>							
626	5/13/2015	Peter	Martens	NY	14527	Yes	
627	5/13/2015	Ila	Terry	NY	13646	Yes	
<p>IDENTIFY WHERE AND HOW THE MONEY IS GOING TO BE SPENT, AND NOT BENEFIT THE FEW LARGE AGRI BUSINESSES, BUT CONCENTRATE ON THE SMALL FARMER WHO NEEDS THE MOST HELP.</p>							
628	5/13/2015	JON	KOWAL	NJ	08822	Yes	
629	5/13/2015	Robert	Moore	NY	13812	Yes	
<p>Organic is a grassroots movement that came about without the use or or need for a checkoff funded program. Much of the confusion in the commodity marketplace is due to lack of regulation and oversight regarding the terminology and labelling allowed (or required) on product packaging. The mandatory labelling of GMOs and Country Of Origin on food will both boost sales in the organic sector without the need for further promotion by the organic industry.</p>							
630	5/13/2015	Pam	Moore	NY	13812	Yes	
631	5/13/2015	Sally	Fox	CA	95606	Yes	
<p>Small farmers need to have an automatic voice, not measured by how much they feel like paying in. The market pressures are so high, margins too tight, justifying a bureaucratic payout is lunacy. Locally sourced organic food is better.</p>							
632	5/13/2015	Gregg	Stiner	ME	04654	Yes	

						The OTA is not the first of its kind of a generic checkoff. The conventional fruit and vegetable industry in 2009 proposed a generic multi commodity checkoff through PBH (Produce for Better Health Foundation). It FAILED. http://www.perishablepundit.com/docs/kaiser-backgroundbrief.pdf Here is the paper that created concern and opposition for the Generic PBH checkoff.
633	5/18/2015	Bryce	Stephens	KS	67643	Yes
634	5/18/2015	Daniel	Pace	NJ	08534	No
635	5/18/2015	Dave	Hunt	NJ	08867	No
636	5/18/2015	Krista	Coleman	NJ	08823	Yes
637	5/18/2015	Christopher	Bujara	NJ	07013	No
						Please do not use my email for any other solicitation. I do not normally give out my email address but am making an exception in this case.
						The Organic Program does not need another program designed to break small farmers. National Organics Board is increasingly packed with large producers corrupting the intention of organic food to please Big Ag who want a larger easier share of the markets. With a handful of very large profitable companies already getting half or more of all farm subsidies, an increased effort must be made to assist all producers to maximize their clean and profitable efforts. Check off again hurts the Big Ag competition which again seems to be by design. My entire life I have strived to find the cleanest food possible after being raised on disgusting processed foods my Mom trusted and loved. As standards keep being degraded intentionally by USDA and now NOB, I personally seek out even smaller growers who are not labeled but trustworthy. The aforementioned have gone so far over the line with their bias against family and small farms, food safety and trustworthiness it has lost any credibility with anyone paying attention. Stop being enforcers for big ag - punishing farms who are no threat to big ag. Stop it, No Organic Checkoff.
638	5/18/2015	carol	jagiello	NJ	07403	No
639	5/18/2015	Susan	Asack	NJ	08540	Yes
640	5/18/2015	Jim & Megan	Gerritsen	ME	04735	Yes
641	5/18/2015	Nora	Pugliese	NJ	078553	Yes
642	5/18/2015	Bud	Feder	NJ	07044	No
643	5/18/2015	Janice	Hazeldine	NJ	08520	Yes
644	5/18/2015	WILLIAM	SHADEL	NJ	07735	No
645	5/18/2015	Sandi	Robertson	NJ	07720	No
646	5/18/2015	Lucy	Kuiper	PA	18343	Yes
						let us choose our own way to advertise. I don't want to have my products railroaded by someone who has no idea about what I grow and I certainly don't want to have to pay for such garbage.
						Please don't make it harder for organic farmers and producers to make a decent wage. High quality organic foods can stand on their own.
						This only pushes out more farmers. Where will our food come.

Collectivism should have died with the Soviet Union, but it is alive and well in the United States through mandatory, "collective" agricultural checkoffs. Whatever happened to good old American independence? If Communism was scary, corporate cronyism is even scarier and has pretty much decimated rural communities and environmental health in the name of "feeding the world." Go ahead Comrade - be just another cog in the wheel, always looking over your shoulder. Vote for the organic checkoff.

647	5/18/2015	Dana	Haugli	IA	50423	Yes	
648	5/18/2015	Richard	Tregidgo	PA	17532	Yes	
649	5/18/2015	Wilson	Klein	NJ	08721	Yes	stop feeding the bureaucratic tapeworm
650	5/19/2015	Jeanne	Lardino	NJ	07876	No	
651	5/19/2015	Suzanne	Cunningham	NJ	08844	Yes	
652	5/19/2015	John	Theobald	NJ	07712	Yes	
653	5/19/2015	Liz	Bawden	NY	13646	Yes	This check-off really does not serve the interests of the organic farmer. The proposed budget for administration costs alone should send off alarm bells that someone else will be profiting greatly from this check-off.
654	5/20/2015	Jeff	Larkey	CA	95060	Yes	I have been farming organically since 1981. The OTA does not represent me. I have and will develop my own markets, thank you very much. Another example of "Farming the Farmer". Enough! This program was conceived and is being pushed by people who make their living off of the actual producers of Organic food. I am talking about the merchants, processors and large corporations who have consolidated the organic label into a generic faceless commodity. These kinds of programs offer absolutely no benefit to farmers but I will be forced to pay for their benefit. They are bleeding us to death with their fees so they can market "their" products. This, even though, by their own admission, the demand for organic products exceeds the supply. How does bleeding existing farmers dry create more organic farmers?
655	5/21/2015	Rebecca	Warsinsky	WV	26501	No	As a consumer of organic food and products, and as an organic gardener, I oppose the Organic Check-Off Program. I oppose this Program because organic farmers' do not need or deserve to have their profitability negatively affected, which would then most likely be passed down to the consumer. It is an unfair and unnecessary program which will only hurt the organic farmer and in turn, the consumer.
656	5/22/2015	Janet	GRILLO	NJ	08825	Yes	
657	5/22/2015	Steve	Bear	WA	98368	Yes	<a href="http://alpenfirecider.com/">http://alpenfirecider.com/</a> Who we are, part of an industry that has so few organic people involved.
658	5/23/2015	Chris	Klebaum	WA	98951	Yes	If the people creating the checkoff think it's such a good idea, why don't they fund it themselves?
659	5/23/2015	Francoise	La Monica	MD	02459	No	Consumer
660	5/24/2015	Alan	Ward	SD	57070	Yes	I do not want a check-off program of any kind. A check-off program is legalized stealing from the producers so some " industry representatives" can line their pockets at our expense!!

661	5/25/2015	Mariellen	Keefe	NJ	07920	No	This program will negatively affect the growing community of small organic farmers in NJ.
662	5/25/2015	Joel & Tami	Shaw	KS	67749	Yes	The wording of the petition describes our feelings very well. Thank you.
663	5/27/2015	Ray	Hoppes	OH	43160	Yes	I don't want an organic checkoff. I do not need an organic checkoff. It's just a way for some middlemen to make money off us organic farmers. Let us just do our job and leave the politics out of it. Thanks
664	5/27/2015	Sue	Rau	NY	13662	Yes	
665	5/27/2015	Andy	Soutar	NY	13662	Yes	
666	5/27/2015	Roger	Wechsler	WA	98232	Yes	
667	5/27/2015	Liana	McCoy	MN	56466	No	I am not a certified organic farmer, but I am a farmer and have had dealings with check-offs. In my opinion it did not help in advertising like they claimed to help sell my product. I have had to do all of my own advertising, etc. to get decent prices for my commodity. I feel the check-offs are just another way to get money from farmers to pay for people to sit in ivory towers, get paid huge wages, do what the big corps wants, and still no nothing about the products themselves and the work that goes into them. I oppose any kind of check-off. Farmers just need to unite to help each other not let someone less knowledgeable about their work and products do it for them.
668	5/27/2015	Pam	Moore	NY	13812	Yes	
669	5/27/2015	Robert	Moore	NY	13812	Yes	
670	5/27/2015	Michael	Evenson	CA	95558	Yes	We don't need any promotion. The quality of our products speaks for itself and by the growth of our market, it does not need any help.
671	5/27/2015	Diane	Burnett	AZ	85338	No	
672	5/27/2015	Rich	Larson	VT	05774	Yes	I will make my own advertising decisions, thank you. I do not want some government bureaucrat sucking off more of my small farm income. What a stupid idea. Who benefits? Follow the money, and find who benefits. Not small organic farmers!
673	5/27/2015	Diane	Skoss	NJ	07059	Yes	I'll be in charge of deciding how to spend my marketing budget, thank you very much.
674	5/27/2015	joseph	Dietz	MN	56236	Yes	There's no extra cash in my kitty to pay for another government program.
675	5/27/2015	Elizabeth	OHara	CA	95678	No	This is yet another way to promote corporate control of our food!
676	5/27/2015	Bonnie	Wideman	WI	54655	Yes	We don't need this!
677	5/27/2015	Fred	Griffen	NY	13040	Yes	
678	5/27/2015	bill	ahlborn	PA	18940	Yes	
679	5/30/2015	A	B	MI	48302	Yes	
680	5/31/2015	Charles	Lambert	IL	60914	Yes	we need to promote organics but not to the benefits of corporation that want to take control
681	6/3/2015	Pat	Sharpless	NY	14489	Yes	
682	6/3/2015	Kurt	Forman	NY	14522	Yes	



683	6/3/2015	Arden	Landis	PA	19540	Yes	I have paid check offs for milk and beef. None of them have ever increased or helped to increase my bottom line. They are just another form of taxation. I'm against any form of a check off. Let the processors do their own marketing and research to grow the markets. In the end they are the ones who benefit the most.
684	6/3/2015	david	wines	NY	11901	Yes	I paid taxes to the national potato board for years. to get it approved they said a grower could apply for a refund. after it was approved the refund was taken away. there is no evidence it has ever done what it was supposed to do, which was to increase returns to growers. there sure is a lot fewer potato growers now than when it started.
685	6/3/2015	Fred	Griffen	NY	13040	Yes	
686	6/4/2015	tim	matis	NY	13452	Yes	
687	6/4/2015	Debra	Swain	MD	21742	No	I am not an organic farmer. I do work for a certified organic personal care company. We will be taxed, but we will NOT benefit in any way by this check-off program. Giving money to the OTA is putting that money directly into the pockets of huge agribusinesses. Indeed, it would be interesting to know what percentage of their production is NOP organic vs conventional from the membership of the OTA. If the USDA is so interested in helping organics, why not align their budget to prove that interest. Stop giving money for research into GMO's to the land grant universities and the huge corporations that already have all the money. Start supporting GMO labeling laws. Stop the subsidies to huge agribusiness. Fire Miles McEvoy and appoint someone who is not afraid to say that organics are better for your health.
688	6/5/2015	Harold	Schrock	NY	13328	Yes	
689	6/6/2015	Sumner	Watson	NY	13459	Yes	NO, NAY, NEVER
690	6/6/2015	David	Via	OR	97461	Yes	
691	6/7/2015	Elizabeth	Achinstein	NJ	08542	No	
692	6/8/2015	Kenn	Zimmerman	IN	46731	Yes	Let corporate/big organic pay for their own marketing campaigns.
693	6/8/2015	Clay	McAlpine	MT	59486	Yes	Organic sales have been increasing every year and even through the recession. Why do we need someone marketing now? This is just a tax and I do not want it! Sincerely, Clay McAlpine
694	6/9/2015	Harley	Oien	WA	98363	Yes	I have been canvased by telephone asking me to support this onerous tax on my organic operation. I have been a WSDA Certified Organic producer (Certificate 1394) of eggs and garden produce since 2004. Truly organic produce of all types markets itself with the quality that customers find in those products. Large marketing activities and producers continually try to reduce organic standards (chicken pasture access being a prime example) and will misuse this TAX to their advantage and to the detriment of real organic products. The administration of the Organic Trade Association is a new bureaucracy that consumes the already small income derived from our efforts. No! No! No!
695	6/9/2015	Chris	Klebaum	WA	98951	Yes	1000 times no...

With all the inherent corruption in politics in general and the fiscal irresponsibility of the government and its assorted agencies, what starts as a noble and positive enterprise invariably seems to become mutated into a tax rebate program for those who need it least, leaving the burden on those who can't afford it. Why should small farmers end up subsidizing big agricultural food companies who have lobbyists to work for them in Washington and other state capitols? Smaller changes and simply having companies hold themselves responsible and achieve higher standards would make a huge difference, without any legislation needing to be passed. Unfortunately accountability no longer seems to be a hallmark of businesses and industry here in the US, that companies were proud to advertise their commitment to the environment and the community around them - both here in the US as well as the world as whole - instead it has to be "regulated".

696	6/16/2015	S. Evans	NY	12167	No	
697	6/18/2015	Lauren Langworthy	WI	54772	Yes	The proposed organic check-off will only serve to harm small and mid-scale organic producers at home.
698	6/18/2015	Mark Beaver	OH	43302	Yes	This organization has contacted me several times about supporting a checkoff and each time I have opposed it. It seems now they have convinced someone that they have enough support to push this forward... I have serious doubts. I am not and have never been for the checkoff programs and resent having to petition to recoup checkoff dollars when my commodities are sold through a vendor that deals in organic and conventional commodities.
699	6/23/2015	Edmund Goerger	ND	58081	No	I have been an organic farmer in the past, and raise livestock as close to organic as I can now, along with working with organic farmers on research and promotion. I have never seen a check off that benefited farmers as much as processors and administrators. The money stays with lawyers, promotion firms and colleges. While all being a tax on gross income.
700	6/30/2015	Diane Mack	PA	19468	No	It seems to me the corporate government is doing all they can to make it difficult for organic farmers to survive. This is just another example.
701	7/4/2015	tom yucus	IL	61349	Yes	no organic checkoff!
702	7/4/2015	Donald Cox	CA	94044	No	
703	7/5/2015	patricia peterson	FL	32096	No	no one should be punished in any way, by taxing or other, for doing the right thing for the earth and for people.
704	7/13/2015	Brad Konrath	WI	53002	Yes	
705	7/17/2015	josh moechnig	MN	55041	Yes	
706	8/7/2015	Mary-Howell Martens	NY	14527	Yes	A checkoff that increases demand will only serve to increase imported organic products, thereby hurting American organic farmers. This is a very bad idea.
707	8/7/2015	janet a baker	WA	98022	Yes	I have not been convinced that OTA is in my best interests as an Organic Dairy Farmer, and I do not support OTA formation.
708	8/7/2015	Eric Glasgow	MA	02535	Yes	

						I utilize organic practices but am not yet certified. An organic check-off would dissuade me from ever getting certified! Check-off money is money used against my interests. The system is fundamentally broken, all the more so for an organic checkoff. It has been said that checkoff funds can't be used to disparage other USDA commodities, but the whole point of Organic is there IS a problem with those other products. This effectively makes any marketing of organic products pointless and hollow.
709	8/8/2015	Peter	Gasper	KS	66701	No
710	8/8/2015	Cecelia	Murray	NY	13158	Yes
711	8/10/2015	Ted	Weydert	IL	60115	Yes
						OTA does not represent me, or most organic farmers!
						The federal government has already proven they can't handle a check off program. I don't feel it is to our bendy to start another one. Besides, organic can't produce enough to meet all the requests, we don't need the got to promote anything.
712	8/10/2015	Tina	Henning	PA	18629	Yes
713	8/10/2015	lydia	vorsteveld	VT	05734	Yes
714	8/10/2015	andre	vorsteveld	VT	05734	Yes
						Farmers don't want the check off.
715	8/11/2015	mark	smith	MT	59046	Yes
						"Nuts" to this power grab!
716	8/11/2015	Clayton	McAlpine	MT	59486	Yes
						NO Organic Checkoff!
717	8/12/2015	Russell	Salisbury	MT	59440	Yes
718	8/29/2015	David	Swedlund	WI	53507	Yes
719	9/12/2015	jackelyn	worden	NY	13865-2	Yes
						My brother is an organic farmer, I am not. We don't need anything that will erode the organic standards. Is the USDA corrupt? Many suggest that this is the case.
720	9/19/2015	Jeff	Kirkpatrick	PA	15116	No
721	12/1/2015	Chris	Ducey	CA	94973	Yes
						I am a sustainable and practicing organics farmer, but I am not certified. I know about check-offs, because I raise black angus beef. It is a useless tax that only pays a bunch of idiots in an ivory tower in a big city huge wages, but does nothing to help the farmer in their advertising, etc. I support eradicating and voting against all check-offs.
722	12/1/2015	Liana	McCoy	MN	56466	No
						here in washington the apple growers sued the Apple Commission because their expenditures were not benefitting the growers. We've watched grower groups all around the country work to disable the commissions who are helping put them out of business. We organic growers merely need to watch our neighbors around the country grow increasingly frustrated by the organizations they are paying into. We don't need this, we just need to do a good job of growing. The benefits of organic agriculture are pushing the growth in a sustainable manner. I believe we should fund research and that conversation is worthy of pursuing.
723	12/1/2015	Anne	Schwartz	WA	98283	Yes
724	12/1/2015	Diane	Kistler	NY	13637	Yes
						No, Organic Check off, this does not help farmers stay in business.
725	12/1/2015	Jolinda	Buchanan	IN	47203	Yes
726	12/1/2015	Eric	Pawlowski	OH	43147	Yes

727	12/1/2015	John	Theobald	NJ	07712	No	
728	12/1/2015	Henk	Postmus	TX	76446	Yes	
729	12/2/2015	Ron	Parling	MI	48880	Yes	
730	12/7/2015	jake	Geiger	KS	66532	Yes	certified organic family farm with OCIA Int. Checkoffs have historically been high jacked and corrupted by giant scale farms who generally use the checkoff dollars from the small farms to line their own pockets. Organic needs to stay pure and close to it's roots of small family farms. A checkoff, no matter how well intended, will always be corrupted.
731	12/8/2015	Ben	Jenkins	WI	53926	Yes	
732	1/17/2016	Francis	Thicke	IA	52556	Yes	
733	1/17/2016	Patti	Edwardson	IA	50050	Yes	
734	1/17/2016	Tom	German	IA	51025	Yes	
735	1/17/2016	Mike	Williams	NE	68649	Yes	Never want this corrupting practice on organic.
736	1/17/2016	Dave	nishop	IL	61723	Yes	
737	1/24/2016	Beth	Wells	NY	13142	Yes	
738	2/5/2016	Diana	Kaye	MD	21769	No	I'd like for someone to explain to me, a USDA certified organic processor of authentic organic personal care products, how this check-off tax would benefit my small certified organic artisan personal care products handcrafting operation. Is this program going to stop the MASSIVE, widespread "organic" fraud being perpetuated in the personal care marketplace? (Just google organic lotion or shampoo to see the pervasiveness of this problem--how can you not see that this huge "organic" labeling fraud situation cheapens the integrity of organic for EVERYONE?) This check-off tax is obviously more corporate welfare for giant food producers. Unfortunately, the majority of our certified organic ingredients come from organic agricultural operations from around the world--coconut oil, olive oil, cocoa butter, citrus oils, lavender oil, many bulk herbals, etc. This tax would do NOTHING to help our small family business or the global organic operations that we support with the production of our certified organic personal care products.
739	2/12/2016	Richard	de Graff	NY	13142	Yes	We have no need for this, just another tax!
740	3/8/2016	Kris	Sularz	RI	02835	No	
741	3/13/2016	Heidi	Reutiman	CA	94920	No	
742	3/21/2016	Steven	Straits	OH	44687	Yes	
743	3/28/2016	James	Wenger	VA	24401	Yes	I have always felt that the money collected from these checkoffs was very hard to keep track of. I have heard of, and read, stories of how this revenue has been misused and it seems the executives running these programs have very unrealistic salaries! --- What are they supposed to do?
744	3/29/2016	Steven	Straits	OH	44687	No	
745	4/6/2016	semena	curlik	ME	04614	No	
746	4/7/2016	V.B.	Penniman	NH	03266	Yes	
747	4/25/2016	Janine	Putnam	VT	05053	Yes	

748	5/10/2016	erin	bott	ON	N4S 1C4	No	
749	5/10/2016	Donna	Kowzan	CA	93021	No	
750	5/10/2016	Barbara	Wiley	VA	20120	No	As an organic consumer, I oppose the Organic Check-off for farmers.
751	5/12/2016	Gary	Gottschalk	WA	98672	Yes	
752	5/13/2016	Julie	Ostering	NJ	07044	No	
753	5/15/2016	Ruth	Wallace	NH	03264	No	
754	6/7/2016	Michelle	Kogler	UT	84050	Yes	
755	6/7/2016	BJ	McLean	MI	48843	No	
756	6/7/2016	MaryJo	Matheny	IN	46218-1	No	I am not a farmer, but I support the family owned organic farms. More taxes placed on them might cause them to go out of business. Reasons stated above that farmers have shared is reason enough to oppose the passage of an organic check off program put into law!
757	6/7/2016	William	Ostler	MI	48603	No	
758	6/7/2016	Loretta	Emanuele	PA	17963	No	
759	6/8/2016	stephen	josephson	CA	95118	No	no more check-offs
760	6/8/2016	Patricia	Mizell	WI	54902	No	
761	6/9/2016	robin	richter	IL	60152	No	The gov't. has its fingers in too much now. I eat and love organic food from the USA farmers. I do not want more foreign food. I do not want to pay more for my food because someone in the gov't thinks it should be. When they do get this stuff passed, it is always mismanaged. We have millions in the gov't already mismanaged. This is a really terrible idea!!!!
762	6/9/2016	Diana	Preston	MO	65723	No	
763	6/13/2016	RICHARD E	MAYER	GA	30078	No	We owe it to the farmers who grow organic food and our children and their children and ...
764	6/27/2016	Elizabeth	Laswell	WI	53083	No	I am an organic eater The pork checkoff put me out of conventional hog production by favoring factory farms. The soybean checkoff used my money to Monsanto's advantage while as an organic farmer I am opposed to GMOs on my farm. An organic checkoff will do me no good because I sell over \$500,000 of organic production annually through cooperatives or directly. I could sell much more than I can produce.
765	6/30/2016	david	randle	IN	46052	Yes	
766	6/30/2016	Walter	Adam	NY	14891	Yes	
767	6/30/2016	Bob	Weaver	MI	49670	Yes	Check off programs are not wanted
768	6/30/2016	stanley	Hildebrand	MO	63563	Yes	
769	6/30/2016	CA	Lonergan	CA	94602	No	I support organic farmers with my purchases and CSA subscription; I want less constrictions on them, so America can 'grow' MORE organic farms/farmers! NO! to Big Ag! >:-( YES! to independent organic farms!
770	6/30/2016	Brad	Bliik	MI	49328	Yes	
771	6/30/2016	Steve	Tabrizi	CA	93637	Yes	I agree & support this petition and I oppose any kind of imposed taxes such as "checkoff tax" to organic farmers. I am a organic farmer.
772	6/30/2016	Loyal	Martin	NY	13678	No	petition: No Organic Checkoff 7/1/2016

773	6/30/2016	Tom	Roberts	ME	04967	Yes	
774	6/30/2016	Mary	Connor	SC	29909	Yes	
775	6/30/2016	Ray	Hoppes	OH	43160	Yes	I do NOT want an organic checkoff. I do not want OTA
776	6/30/2016	Sumner	Watson	NY	13459	Yes	
777	6/30/2016	Rex	Musil	NE	68869	Yes	
778	6/30/2016	John	T	NJ	07712	No	
779	6/30/2016	Doug	ADair	CA	92274	Yes	WE are under a marketing order for dates, burdensome paperwork... I believe it will soften the rules over time and result in over production with cheap prices.
780	6/30/2016	Gordon	Twerberg	TX	76058	Yes	It will serve the corporations and food processors to a tee.
781	6/30/2016	Josh	Moechnig	MN	55041	Yes	
782	6/30/2016	Ewell	Culbertson	CO	81416	Yes	No new taxes that benefit large corporate interests to the detriment of family farmers! I farm 80 acres of organic tree fruit and I oppose forced taxes against my operation.
783	6/30/2016	Dwight	Stoltzfoos	PA	17535	Yes	Absolutely opposed!
784	6/30/2016	Marlin	Troyer	MI	49402	Yes	We do not want more power in the hands of unelected Alphabet agencies! these chains will be thrown off
785	6/30/2016	Greg	Black	CO	81321	Yes	
786	6/30/2016	Kevin	Koester	SD	57438	No	
787	6/30/2016	Peter	Martens	NY	14527	Yes	
788	6/30/2016	Kevin	Koester	SD	57438	Yes	I am resubmitting because I might have accidentally hit the NO on if I was a farmer and I am a farmer
789	6/30/2016	dale	sandberg	WY	82053	Yes	I have opposed the "organic checkoff" idea since I first became aware of it. Thanks for organizing in opposition to this forced money grabbing scheme.
790	6/30/2016	lorne	miller	PA	17844	Yes	Checkoff's don't work for the farmer. It just takes money away from them. I never wanted or liked any checkoff.
791	6/30/2016	Matt	Dorsey	ID	83607	Yes	
792	6/30/2016	Tony	Heil	MO	64668	Yes	
793	6/30/2016	Timothy	Bock	PA	19530	Yes	
794	6/30/2016	James	Baranski	ME	04634	Yes	
795	6/30/2016	annabelle	lenderink	CA	94924	Yes	
796	6/30/2016	Lisbeth	Whitney	ME	04864	No	Organic farmers are usually a small, family run operation. They already have to pay so much for organic certification. As a consumer, I appreciate their efforts and they should not be additionally taxed.
797	6/30/2016	Greg	Micheels	NE	68122	Yes	
798	6/30/2016	Shawn	Brown	MI	49095	Yes	Say no to an organic checkoff.
799	6/30/2016	Julie	Ogaz	NM	88007	Yes	
800	6/30/2016	robin	hermanson	SD	57030-6	Yes	
801	6/30/2016	Alfred	Farris	TN	37141	Yes	
802	6/30/2016	Caryl	Smith	IA	52540	Yes	No organic checkoff

803	6/30/2016	matthew	Stoltzfus	PA	17527	Yes	
804	6/30/2016	Thomas	Lawson	CA	94553	No	
805	6/30/2016	Ruth	Wallace	NH	03264	No	Please do not support the checkoff system for farmers. Once again, if you go forward with this failed plan, small business is destroyed over the greed of the monopoly of big business/middle man.
806	6/30/2016	Kore	Yoder	PA	17837	Yes	Farmers do not need more taxes.80% would just go to line peoples pockets.
807	6/30/2016	JIM	TESCH	SD	57201	Yes	
808	6/30/2016	Adam	Sheridan	GA	30516	Yes	
809	6/30/2016	Jim	Ott	CO	80501	Yes	
810	6/30/2016	Diane	Schumacher	WI	54027	Yes	
811	6/30/2016	mark	wheeler	OR	97527	Yes	Useless legislation!
812	6/30/2016	Gary	Gottschalk	WA	98672-8	Yes	I am opposed to any mandatory checkout organizations.
813	6/30/2016	Tim	Cada	NE	68629	Yes	NO Checkoff
814	6/30/2016	Chris	Klebaum	WA	98951	Yes	I do not want an Organic Check-Off Program.
815	6/30/2016	Cynthia	Shaffer	TN	37311	Yes	
816	6/30/2016	Harold	Schrock	NY	13328	Yes	I observe that checkoffs are a very inefficient way to fund research.
817	6/30/2016	Francis	Mulville	CA	95043	Yes	
818	6/30/2016	T.Lyle	Ferderber	PA	16059	Yes	
819	6/30/2016	Tom	German	IA	51025	Yes	I would prefer to do my own promotion and research. I do not think that these programs are of benefit to individual farmers or their consumers. But this Check Off program applies to Processors as well - and I am a certified Handle/Processor, ex-farmer. I know from direct experience that these programs will not work for organic farmers and will not benefit them.
820	6/30/2016	Gay	Timmons	CA	94804	No	
821	6/30/2016	mary	rocca	CA	94558	Yes	
822	6/30/2016	Rebecca	Martin	CO	53588	No	No tax! Please leave to farmers alone! The co option of the Organic Board by industry has rendered the label suspect and eventually it will be meaningless. Demanding a check off shuts out small and medium producers whom the public favors and is more likely to trust. I do not trust a huge company with an organic division who is actively fighting to dilute standards and create toxic food in their other divisions. Impossible.
823	6/30/2016	carol	jagiello	NJ	07403	No	
824	6/30/2016	Anna	Salafsky	WA	98579	Yes	
825	6/30/2016	mark	wilkes	TX	79345	Yes	200%
826	6/30/2016	Kevin	Ryan	IA	50140	Yes	
827	6/30/2016	Randy	Haberer	MN	56267	No	I am an organic dry bean processor/shipper and feel that the check off would only help the merchandiser/end user. The check off should be put on at the place of sale of the finished product.
828	6/30/2016	Jim	Christensen	WI	53549	Yes	A check-off is an illegal tax on the food producer who will not benefit from it.
829	6/30/2016	Tom	Denison	OR	97330	Yes	I strongly oppose the checkoff program
830	6/30/2016	Janice	Hazeldine	NJ	08520	Yes	

831	6/30/2016	Janine	Fonder	SD	57252	Yes	
							I am a small independent grower who would be very adversely affected by having an "Organic" checkoff program and would receive absolutely no benefit whatsoever. I can do my own promotion and work through other groups that speak for me, not the OTA.
832	6/30/2016	Jeff	Larkey	CA	95060	Yes	Sincerely, Jeff Larkey
833	6/30/2016	Rob	Mcgraw	WA	99350	Yes	None
834	6/30/2016	David	Via	OR	97461	Yes	
							I grow organic at home for my own needs...so I know what it takes to grow pure chem free produce. If anything subsidies should be provided to the organic farmers and stripped from the mono crop chem and GMO corn mega growers. They are ruining the soil and decimating the bee resource. Enough already please...there is Glyphosate in all our systems already...stop the poisoning of us all and help Organic farmers every way possible!
835	6/30/2016	Chris	Ducey	CA	94973	Yes	No more money making schemes for the big corps or people sitting in office chairs in 'ivory towers' in cities that have no clue about farming period.
836	6/30/2016	Llana	McCoy	MN	56466	No	I don't won't the socialistic governments dirty money. I am not interested in the bait on their hook.
837	6/30/2016	Wayne	LeBaron	UT	84721	Yes	
838	6/30/2016	S.	Evans	NY	12167	No	
							You absolutely nailed it. When I got the "propaganda" on the check off, I just about had a stroke. As you indicate, this is just a way for a bloated bureaucracy to tap into farm incomes. WE DON'T NEED THEM!!!!
839	6/30/2016	Harley	Oien	WA	98363	Yes	
840	6/30/2016	brett	corsentino	CO	81089	Yes	been through this before!! just a way to take more funds from farmer !! don't want it !!!
841	6/30/2016	Cathy	Holden	CA	95865	No	
842	6/30/2016	Agatha	Blackmer	WA	98607	Yes	I believe in all points listed above and as of this writing dated: 6/30/2016!
843	6/30/2016	lily	morgan	CO	80640	Yes	
844	6/30/2016	Tom	Brincks	IA	52171	Yes	
845	6/30/2016	Walter	Abplanalp	WA	98542	Yes	
846	6/30/2016	Del	Blanchard	OR	97457	Yes	We neither need nor want the checkoff.
							I retired from organic ranching and farming. We could not make a go of it, sold to retain our asset investment.
847	6/30/2016	John	Whitman	CA	93001	No	
848	6/30/2016	ron	trace	CA	93442	Yes	



I have 2 certified organic commercial greenhouses, and grow organic vegetable transplants for farmers. I've dealt with the USDA for decades. We're in the watermelon business, and they assist our SC Watermelon Association. Speaking from experience, having government involved in decision making processes with OUR money does not work. Government employees do not CARE about the money, because they didn't have to earn it. Decision making needs to remain in the hands of farmers / business owners. Big government doesn't work, because someone always finds a way to take advantage of the funds available. They throw away our hard earned tax dollars. It's just human nature .. you don't earn it ... you just don't care. Thank you for organizing this opposition!

849	6/30/2016	Allison	Forehand	SC	29812	Yes	
850	6/30/2016	Cathy	Odden	MT	59433	Yes	Nation wide check offs do not work.
851	6/30/2016	Andrew	Murray	CA	95589	Yes	Please update me on this initiative
852	6/30/2016	roy	keeton	OR	97623	Yes	
853	6/30/2016	Amigo	Cantisano	CA	95960	Yes	I am COMPLETELY against an organic check off. I have been an organic farmer for more than 40 years. I am one of the founders of CCOF, and an activist for organic farmers for 4 plus decades. This is a TERRIBLE concept. No on organic check offs!
854	6/30/2016	Jim	Crawford	PA	17229	Yes	OTA not only does not represent me, but, when asked, has refused to represent me and my efforts to maintain the integrity of organic foods. OTA supports Monsanto in it's phony and fraudulent GMO "labeling bill." I have been an organic farmer for 45 years. Check off programs have a long reputation for abuse of funds by organizations such as the NCBA. I want to be able to choose who and if I donate money to support research, marketing and such. NO ORGANIC CHECKOFF !!!!
855	6/30/2016	Jack	Trethewey	OH	44023	Yes	
856	6/30/2016	Robert	Steinacher	CA	96021	Yes	I don't believe the organic checkoff will be any benefit to our family farm!
857	6/30/2016	Calvin	Lloyd	ID	83217	Yes	If We have to pay a check off I will quit organic farming. One of the reasons I became an organic farmer was to keep people from dipping in my pocket. If we have to pay a check off we just as well be a conventional farmer.
858	6/30/2016	Colehour	Bondera	HI	96726	Yes	After serving on the NOSB (term ended January, 2016) it is clear that the OTA types of voices are seriously listened to and acted upon by the USDA while the voices of farmers and farm advocates are disregarded and this whole check-off project is but another example of how farmer voices are not even listened to...! This is not a needed effort for farmers.
859	6/30/2016	Roger	Wechsler	WA	98232	Yes	If it passes I will consider dropping my certification, already a burdensome tax.
860	6/30/2016	Patrick	Gregor	MN	56093	Yes	
861	6/30/2016	Mathias	Gregor	MN	56093	Yes	
862	6/30/2016	Laura	Finnerty	NY	13642	Yes	
863	6/30/2016	Brian	Simon	OH	44626	Yes	We don't want a check off program!
864	6/30/2016	Alex	Karp	HI	96778	Yes	
865	6/30/2016	Randall	Willrett	IL	60150	Yes	
866	6/30/2016	David	Engell Jr	WA	99101	Yes	I have been certified Organic for several years, and I am strongly opposed to a check off program.

867	6/30/2016	dale	coke	CA	95045	Yes	OTA does NOT represent me. Taxing organic farmers because they are organic is not beneficial for the environment, consumers, farm workers or farmers.
868	6/30/2016	Frank	Morton	OR	97370	Yes	OTA has sold us out for the last time.
869	6/30/2016	Clayton	McAlpine	MT	59486	Yes	
870	6/30/2016	George	McNulty	PA	17569	Yes	
871	6/30/2016	Anne	Gebauer	MI	48137	Yes	I oppose an organic check off program for organic farmers At last, someone who speaks common sense about these corrupt check-off schemes!!
872	6/30/2016	Ardell	Price	OH	43978	Yes	Thank you!
873	6/30/2016	Sue	Rau	NY	13662	Yes	
874	6/30/2016	Jeff	Armstrong	CO	81419	Yes	
875	6/30/2016	daniel	paduano	CA	95033	Yes	A tax by any other name is still a tax. This will not help the bottom line for small farmers, but only serve as a slush fund for the lobbying efforts of the larger ones. No to a check-off.
876	6/30/2016	Dale	Zimmerman	ND	58765	Yes	Hell No!!
877	6/30/2016	Andy	Soutar	NY	13662	Yes	
878	6/30/2016	Denis	Week	MN	56427	Yes	
879	6/30/2016	Madelyn	Jackson	OR	97423	Yes	We are over-taxed already! And we certainly don't need any more big government programs.
880	6/30/2016	Allison	Rooney	MT	59086	Yes	Funds for an Organic marketing campaign should be levied by altering the federal budget for chemical agriculture, an industry that currently costs the taxpayers untold billions of dollars by causing health problems for consumers who eat food coated in poisonous chemicals, as well as by damaging and destroying ecosystems and waterways across the nation. This destructive form of agriculture should not be receiving so much federal money in the first place. It is not morally upright to make organic farmers pay even more money to provide safe and healthy chemical-free foods to their communities. We have enough costs to navigate.
881	6/30/2016	Joan	Basore	CA	94960	No	
882	6/30/2016	Beth	Webb	HI	96704	Yes	While I farm 100% organically, I dropped my certification due to a program that is woefully lacking. This checkoff system is not farmer friendly.
883	6/30/2016	Bill	Brammer	CA	92025	Yes	
884	6/30/2016	Cody	turner	ID	83330	Yes	
885	6/30/2016	Bob	Steininger	PA	19460	No	
886	6/30/2016	Anne	Schwartz	WA	98283	Yes	I have been working to develop organic agriculture in one way or another since 1977. I have watched several check off programs lose favor with conventional crops and livestock for 30 years. This is not the way to move the industry forward. Organic ag does not need the check off to grow, We need more farmers to learn how to do it, and we need to pay farmers more for their crops, not tax them to run overstuffed marketing programs. No on the organic check off.

887	6/30/2016	Garrick	Elston	MI	48416	Yes	We pay more than enough taxes. We do not need a check off to sell our products. We are more than capable of doing this ourselves.
888	6/30/2016	Deborah	Raley	CA	95005	Yes	We should make it easier for Organic farmers, not harder. Subsidies them, instead of the Monsanto crops of Corn, soy, and cotton!! Organic is our future~ Lets help get er done`
889	6/30/2016	Rachel	Kasa	CA	95776	Yes	I have been opposed to the checkoff since I first heard at a CCOF chapter meeting that the USDA will not allow us to promote our organic food as better or healthier, or even more environmentally friendly than conventional with the funds from the checkoff. So if we can't promote our food and organic systems, what are we paying for? The answer is more industry lobbyists that will sit in Washington and Sacramento and suck off us like parasites.
890	6/30/2016	Rodney	Graham	NY	14846	Yes	In 20 years or less, organic farmers will find themselves in the same boat that our conventional farming neighbors are in: \$4.00 corn and \$13.00 milk. Hold the line.
891	6/30/2016	Antonio	Manzanares	NM	87575	Yes	I have served on a national check-off board and have seen how the big players co-opt the program.
892	6/30/2016	Louis	Lego	NY	13021	Yes	Very Bad Idea. We went through this with the apple growers association... and it hurt our business.
893	7/1/2016	Chad	Gates	OR	97526	Yes	
894	7/1/2016	Roger	Brockman	NE	68028	Yes	
895	7/1/2016	Mark	Gillen	MI	48659	Yes	I, too, don't trust the USDA to spend the checkoff money to benefit our operation. I see more benefit going to the large producers and retailers. Already I pay a \$950 fee for my organic certification each year, partly to show the public that what I grow meets strict standards of safety, ecology and sustainability for the land we steward. How is it that the chemical farmers can avoid this kind of oversight for the use of the deadly chemicals pushed on them by the chemical manufacturers in order for their UN-natural (GMO) seeds to survive? What label is used to designate these chemical uses on the non - organic foods in the stores and farm markets? Am I missing something? If the chemical farmers are so proud of their methods, what's wrong with labeling their products as such? How about promoting them with check-off funds?
896	7/1/2016	Lillian	McCracken	CO	81149	Yes	
897	7/1/2016	stephen	josephson	CA	95118	No	NO to check -offs
898	7/1/2016	ralph	josephson	CA	95118	No	NO to check-offs
899	7/1/2016	susan	pelican	CA	95695	Yes	Thanks for doing this.
900	7/1/2016	Andy	Leppert	IA	52151	Yes	
901	7/1/2016	Diane	Kistler	NY	13637	Yes	Saying no to OTA money grabbing fund.
902	7/1/2016	Jeffrey	Harris	OH	45177	Yes	We don't need more government less is better.
903	7/1/2016	Jerry	Clay	IL	61018	Yes	Already file to get organic soybean check-off back. We do not need this intrusion.
904	7/1/2016	Courtney	Hellie	MT	59544	Yes	
905	7/2/2016	Jason	Hellie	MT	59544	Yes	