



Northern  
**Pulse Growers**  
Association



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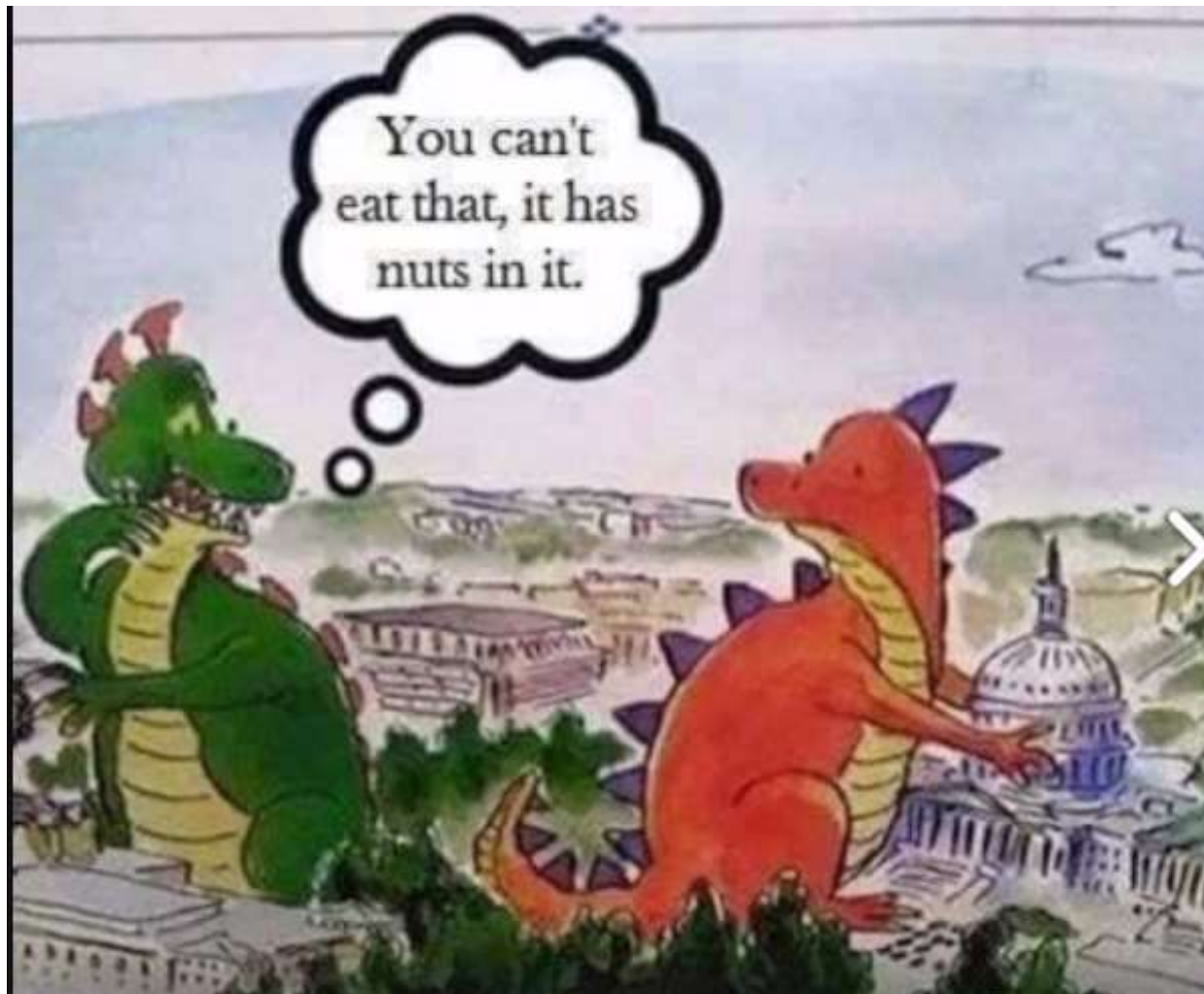
## **Annual Convention**

**Holiday Inn—Riverside, Minot, ND**

**January 22, 2018**

**Dale Thorenson – Gordley Associates**  
**Washington DC**

# Who Knew the Godzilla Family Had a Peanut Allergy? – Better try some Hummus!



# Background – Dale Thorenson

- Gordley Associates – since 2002
  - USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council
  - US Dry Bean Council
  - National Sunflower Association
  - US Canola Association
  - National Barley Growers Association
  - American Soybean Association

## Background – Dale Thorenson – Cont.

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  - May 1999 in North Central ND:





## Background – Dale Thorenson – Cont.

- Farmed in Bottineau County ND 1975-1999
  - Son Kelly & Nephews Todd & Tyler Hunskor still farming...



# I Still get back to “Help” Occasionally – to stress test the machinery...



# Overview

- **2018 Farm Bill**
  - Pulse Priorities
  - Timeline
  - Issues standing in the way
- **Questions & (Hopefully) Answers**



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- Legislative & Report Language establishing “plant-based food that are major sources of nutrients of concern” in the “Priority Areas” for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.

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  - Trump’s FY 2018 Proposals for Crop Insurance
    - Crop Insurance cut by \$28.5 billion – 36%
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  - Trump’s FY 2018 Budget Proposed Elimination of MAP/FMD

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- 2014 Farm Bill expires September 30, 2018
  - A little over 8 months away... still plenty of time, right?
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  - Process officially started on August 2, 2011;  
and was signed into law on February 7, 2014,
  - 2 years, 6+ months; or 920 days



# Farm Bill Time-Line / 2017

- Ag Groups developed policy – shared with the House & Senate Ag Committees.
- Committees held Hearings
- Hopes were for mark-ups by end of 2017
- Too many issues stood in their way
  - ObamaCare repeal
  - Ongoing Appropriations work
  - Nominations
  - Tax Reform
  - Immigration Reform
  - Trade Worries – NAFTA/KORUS
  - Russia!

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  - **The USADPLC supports an immediate amendment to Code Section 199A of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 to provide equitable treatment for tax purposes of all income from sales of agricultural products sold by producers to farmer owned cooperatives or private entities.**

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# Trump Administration Nominations Tally as of January 19

- **633 positions require Senate confirmation:**
  - 244 (38.5%) have yet to be nominated
  - 5 (0.8%) are awaiting nominations
  - 143 (22.6%) have been formally nominated and waiting for hearings or confirmation
  - 241 (38.1%) have been confirmed.

## Nominations Tally – Cont.

- 13 Positions to be Filled at USDA
- 4 have been Confirmed
  - Secretary Perdue
  - Dep. Sec. Steve Censky
  - Under Secretaries for
    - Trade & Foreign Ag Affairs Ted Mckinney
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- 2 Nominations put forward for:
  - General Counsel (Steve Vaden)
  - Under Sec for Farm & Foreign Ag Services (Bill Northey) – Sen Ted Cruz (TX) has a hold in place
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- **7 Nominees Yet to be Named:**
  - Under Sec for Research, Education & Economics
  - Chief Financial Officer
  - Asst. Sec. for Civil Rights
  - Asst. Sec. for Congressional Relations
  - Under Sec for Food Safety
  - Under Sec for Food, Nutrition & Consumer Services
  - Under Sec for Natural Resources & Environment

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- **This Shutdown is sucking up time!**

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- This Shutdown is sucking up time!
- If the Farm Bill isn't finished by June, the 2018 mid-term Elections will become a factor

# 2018 Elections Will Throw a Crowbar into the Farm Bill Process

## Senate Dynamics

- **23 Democrats & 2 Independents** up for re-election in 2018, including **10 in states Trump won**
- \* **8 Ds and 1 R on the Ag Committee are up for Re-election**
  - **Tester (MT-D)**
  - \* **Heitkamp (ND-D)**
  - \* **Donnelly (IN-D)**
  - \* **Stabenow (MI-D)**
  - \* **Casey (PA-D)**
  - \* **Klobuchar (MN-D)**
  - \* **Gillibrand (NY-D)**
  - **Manchin (WV-D)**
  - \* **Brown (OH-D)**
  - **McCaskill (MO-D)**
  - **Baldwin (WI-D)**
  - **Nelson (FL-D)**
  - \* **Tina Smith (MN-D)**
  - \* **Deb Fisher (NE-R)**

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- A Conference Committee would then resolve the differences in April
- Final Consideration and passage of the Conferenced Bill would take place in April/May



# What Then?

- If Regular Order Doesn't Happen....

# What Then?

- If the Election prevents finishing the farm bill....
- We will be looking at an Extension of the 2014 Farm Bill at the end of September, or Permanent Law will kick in.

# Farm Bill Not a Heavy Lift

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- ARC-CO will see some possible reforms
  - NASS Yields to RMA Yields
  - Payment counties will be based on physical location, not administrative counties?

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- Cotton/Dairy Issues must be resolved
- Expectation are the House will produce a “southern” Bill; the Senate, a “Midwestern” Bill, with the differences resolved in conference.
- But it remains to be seen if all the other issues stand in the way of passing a farm bill by Sep 30

So....



# Clear as Mud?!?



## Questions?