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news release

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SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING PLANNED ON USDA REORGANIZATION

For immediate release, Thursday March 4, 1993

WASHINGTON -- The House Agriculture Subcommittee on Department Operations and Nutrition will kick off a series of hearings on the need to reorganize and streamline the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) March 11, announced Subcommittee Chairman Charles Stenholm, D-Texas.

The March 11 hearing will begin at 10:00 a.m. in room 1300 of the Longworth House Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The Subcommittee has invited former government officials, including several former Secretaries of Agriculture, to discuss their own experiences and suggestions. Specialists in the field of resource management and government organization have been invited to discuss the problems and opportunities presented with a broad-scale reorganization effort.

"Before we can seriously consider specific proposals, it is important that the Subcommittee review the generic and overall issues of resource management and organizational change. This initial hearing will provide the necessary frame of reference for the Subcommittee to adequately pursue this effort," Rep. Stenholm said.

The Subcommittee's Ranking Minority Member Robert F. (Bob) Smith, R-Oregon, said, "It has been said that the longest journey begins with a single step. This hearing will lay the foundation for what promises to be a long and complex process. It is my desire that our work will lead to improvements in USDA service to producers and prudent savings for taxpayers."

Questions concerning the hearing should be directed to Stan Ray or Rob Wight of the Subcommittee staff at 202-225-2171.

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