

From: London, Sarah [Sarah.London@vermont.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2012 10:53 AM
To: Zamos, Diane; Ross, Chuck; MacLean, Alex; Lofy, Bill
CC: Bothfeld, Diane
Subject: RE: California Proposition 65 and maple syrup

Talked to GPS, yes, happy to send. I'll be in touch with DZ.

From: Diane Zamos [mailto:dzamos@atg.state.vt.us]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 5:22 PM
To: Ross, Chuck; MacLean, Alex; London, Sarah; Lofy, Bill
Cc: Bothfeld, Diane
Subject: RE: California Proposition 65 and maple syrup

Here is a re-worked version. Almost one page. . . still working to shrink it.
Will continue to do so in the am. Happy to talk to any or all of you tomorrow. dz

From: Ross, Chuck [mailto:Chuck.Ross@state.vt.us]
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2012 5:17 PM
To: MacLean, Alex; Sarah London; Lofy, Bill
Cc: Diane Zamos; Bothfeld, Diane; Ross, Chuck
Subject: FW: California Proposition 65 and maple syrup

Alex, Sarah and Bill,

Attached is a draft letter the maple industry would like the Governor to send to the AG in California requesting she squash the effort to sue VT maple importers to label their products as being injurious to human health or stop importing maple products. This prospective suit stems from Prop 65 which has forced a great deal of labeling of a wide range of products.

The issue for VT maple is the allegation that VT maple (and other maple too) contains potentially dangerous levels of lead and therefore needs to be labeled accordingly in compliance with Prop 65. There is an exemption to the Prop 65 requirement for "naturally occurring" presence of lead. The VT maple producers want to exercise this exemption and want the Governor to send a letter like the one attached to the AG.

Diane Zamos, the Agency's attorney, is redrafting the letter to get it to one page and reflect VT's maple interest.

Diane Zamos will have a new draft by Thursday. I have copied her so she can send it to all of you.

THE QUESTION: Is the Governor willing to send such a letter?

Diane is also working to see if AG Sorrell might be willing to send such a letter.

I am willing to sign such a letter if that is more comfortable but a letter from the Gov likely to be more impactful.

The VT Maple producers also want Senator Leahy to send such a letter as well. I am not sure he will but you should know the request is pending.

I have been in touch with David Marvin and an attorney they are using. They are working with a broad array of maple producers including international association which includes Canada.

They are anxious to get a sense from us and send the letter soon.

I am taking a few days off but can be reached on my cell (522 6666) and will be checking emails in spite of the automatic message from my computer.

Thanks

chuck

Chuck Ross
Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets
116 State St.
Montpelier, VT 05620-2901
802-828-1619

From: Moulton, Carolyn **On Behalf Of** Ross, Chuck
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2012 4:32 PM
To: Ross, Chuck
Subject: FW: California Proposition 65 and maple syrup

Is this what you were looking for?

*Carolyn Moulton
VT Agency of Agriculture
Executive Office Manager
116 State Street
Montpelier VT 05620-2901
802-828-1619*

From: John Kingston [<mailto:john@vermontmaplesugarcompany.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 12, 2012 3:10 PM
To: Ross, Chuck
Cc: 'David Marvin'
Subject: California Proposition 65 and maple syrup

Dear Secretary Ross,

David Marvin is enjoying a vacation and has asked that I forward to you the following attachments. As I believe you and David have discussed, these attachments relate to claims being made that pure maple syrup contains levels of lead above those allowed under California Proposition 65. Attached you will

find a letter that we would hope to have sent by Senator Leahy and Governor Shumlin to the Attorney General of California, Ms. Kamala Harris. Also included is a summary of this claim as it relates to this legislation.

Your assistance in this vitally important issue to our industry is greatly appreciated. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

John W. Kingston
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