

# Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### National Institute of Food and Agriculture

#### Stakeholder Listening Opportunity for Priorities in Research, Education and Extension

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of listening sessions and stakeholder feedback opportunities.

**SUMMARY:** USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture announces its stakeholder listening initiative “NIFA Listens: Investing in Science to Transform Lives.” This stakeholder listening opportunity informs the research, extension and education priorities of NIFA, which has the mission of investing in and advancing agricultural research, education and extension to solve societal challenges. These investments in transformative science directly support the long-term prosperity and global pre-eminence of U.S. agriculture. This listening opportunity allows stakeholders to provide feedback on the following questions: “What is your top priority in food and agricultural research, extension or education that NIFA should address?” and “What are the most promising science opportunities for advancement of food and agricultural sciences?”

This effort to obtain input on NIFA’s science priorities will be carried out through online and in-person submission mechanisms. Stakeholder input received from the two mechanisms is treated equally. The priorities and opportunities obtained from this effort will be evaluated in conjunction with input from NIFA staff. This information will be critical for NIFA’s evaluation of existing science emphasis areas to identify investment opportunities and gaps in the current portfolio of programs. The information

obtained through this iterative analysis and synthesis will help to ensure the strategic positioning and relevancy of NIFA’s investments in advancing agricultural research, education and extension.

**DATES:**

(A) *Online Input:* Submission of online stakeholder input to the target questions will be open upon publishing of this Notice through 5 p.m. Eastern time December 1, 2017.

(B) *In-person Listening Sessions:* Four listening sessions, each a full day, will be organized throughout the United States to obtain input from all stakeholders, including small institutions, local business and other stakeholder groups. The listening sessions will take place on October 19, 2017, October 26, 2017, November 2, 2017 and November 8, 2017. Each session will begin at 8:30 a.m. and is scheduled to end by 5:00 p.m. local time. Each session will include a presentation of the goals and background information on NIFA programs, followed by comments from stakeholders. Each registered speaker will receive 5 minutes to share their comments with the Agency. If time allows after all comments from registered speakers are made, unscheduled speakers will be allowed 5 minutes to present their comments to the Agency. The length of the sessions will be adjusted according to numbers of participants seeking to provide input. All parties interested in attending an in-person listening session must RSVP no later than October 12, 2017. These sessions will be webcast and transcribed. Information about registering for the in-person session, providing written comments and viewing the webcast can be found at <https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens>.

*Registration:* The Web site, <https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens>, includes instructions on submitting written comments and registering to attend or speak at the in-person listening sessions. All parties interested in attending an in-person listening session must RSVP no later than October 12, 2017. The number of attendees and oral commenters is limited due to time and space constraints (see below). Oral commenter slots will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis. All interested stakeholders, regardless of

attendance, are welcome to submit written comments.

*Comments:* Written comments are due by December 1, 2017. Written comments must be submitted electronically through <https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens> or emailed to [NIFAlistsens@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:NIFAlistsens@nifa.usda.gov).

**ADDRESSES:** The in-person listening sessions will take place at conference facilities in Kansas City, MO (October 19, 2017), Atlanta, GA (October 26, 2017), Sacramento, CA (November 2, 2017), and Hyattsville, MD (November 8, 2017).

All parties interested in attending an in-person listening session must RSVP no later than October 12, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Megan Haidet, Program Specialist, NIFA, at 202-401-6617, email [NIFAlistsens@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:NIFAlistsens@nifa.usda.gov), or visit <https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens> for detailed information about providing written comments, joining the in-person sessions remotely, or registering to speak at an in-person session.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The science priority-setting process at NIFA involves soliciting stakeholder input on agricultural research, education and extension needs, obtaining input from NIFA’s science staff who are informed through interactions with scientific communities, and evaluating existing programs to identify critical gaps in the current portfolio of programs in order to address challenges in U.S. agriculture.

This listening effort will focus on answers to the following questions, “What is your top priority in food and agricultural research, extension or education that NIFA should address?” and “What are the most promising science opportunities for advancement of food and agricultural sciences?”

NIFA welcomes stakeholder input from any group or individual interested in agricultural research, extension or education priorities for NIFA. NIFA is eager to listen to stakeholder’s comments on the priorities, solutions and opportunities that will facilitate long-term sustainable agricultural production, research, education and extension. This listening effort will focus on the agricultural science that NIFA invests in, but not on NIFA processes or procedures.

All parties interested in attending an in-person listening session must RSVP no later than October 12, 2017.

Abstracts from in-person speakers can be submitted upon registration via <https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens>.

Written comments by all interested stakeholders are welcomed through 5 p.m. Eastern time, December 1, 2017. All input will become a part of the official record and available on the NIFA Web site, <https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens>.

Done at Washington, DC, on September 8, 2017.

**Sonny Ramaswamy,**

*Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.*

[FR Doc. 2017-19714 Filed 9-14-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-22-P

## COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

### Notice of Public Meeting of the Kentucky Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the Kentucky Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Thursday, October 12, 2017, for continuing committee discussion of potential project topics.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday October 12, 2017 at 12:00 EST.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be by teleconference. Toll-free call-in number: 1-877-719-9795, conference ID: 9658974.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Hinton, DFO, at [jhinton@usccr.gov](mailto:jhinton@usccr.gov) or 404-563-7006.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Members of the public can listen to the discussion. This meeting is available to the public through the following toll-free call-in number: 1-877-719-9795, conference ID: 9658974. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. Callers can expect to incur charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, and the Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Persons with hearing impairments may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-977-8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and conference ID number.

Members of the public are also entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office by October 6, 2017. Written comments may be mailed to the Southern Regional Office, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 61 Forsyth Street, Suite 16T126, Atlanta, GA 30303. They may also be faxed to the Commission at (404) 562-7005, or emailed to Regional Director, Jeffrey Hinton at [jhinton@usccr.gov](mailto:jhinton@usccr.gov). Persons who desire additional information may contact the Southern Regional Office at (404) 562-7000.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Southern Regional Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meeting will be available via [www.facadatabase.gov](http://www.facadatabase.gov) under the Commission on Civil Rights, South Carolina Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's Web site, <http://www.usccr.gov>, or may contact the Southern Regional Office at the above email or street address.

#### Agenda

Welcome and Roll Call of advisory committee members

Dr. Betty Griffin, Chairman/Jeff Hinton, Regional Director, SRO, USCCR

Kentucky Advisory Committee update/discussion of potential project topics

Dr. Betty Griffin, Chairman

Open Comment

Advisory Committee

Public Participation

Adjournment

Dated: September 11, 2017.

**David Mussatt,**

*Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.*

[FR Doc. 2017-19550 Filed 9-14-17; 8:45 am]

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## COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

### Notice of Public Meeting of the Alabama Advisory Committee for Orientation and To Discuss Civil Rights Topics in the State

**AGENCY:** U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

**ACTION:** Announcement of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the Alabama Advisory Committee (Committee) will hold a meeting on Thursday, September 28, 2017, at 11:00

a.m. (Central) for the purpose of orientation and a discussion on civil rights topics affecting the state.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. (Central).

*Public Call Information:* Dial: 888-287-5563, Conference ID: 4247572.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Barreras, DFO, at [dbarreras@usccr.gov](mailto:dbarreras@usccr.gov) or 312-353-8311.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Members of the public can listen to the discussion. This meeting is available to the public through the following toll-free call-in number: 888-287-5563, conference ID: 4247572. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. The conference call operator will ask callers to identify themselves, the organization they are affiliated with (if any), and an email address prior to placing callers into the conference room. Callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Persons with hearing impairments may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-977-8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and conference ID number.

Members of the public are also entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the Midwestern Regional Office, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 55 W. Monroe St., Suite 410, Chicago, IL 60615. They may also be faxed to the Commission at (312) 353-8324, or emailed to Carolyn Allen at [callen@usccr.gov](mailto:callen@usccr.gov). Persons who desire additional information may contact the Midwestern Regional Office at (312) 353-8311.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Midwestern Regional Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meeting will be available via [www.facadatabase.gov](http://www.facadatabase.gov) under the Commission on Civil Rights, Alabama Advisory Committee link (<http://www.facadatabase.gov/committee/committee.aspx?cid=233&aid=17>). Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the