

## **2 FEBRUARY 2007**

### **Additional Funding in Farm Bill**

The American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) joined with more than 90 other agricultural organizations in urging the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives budget committees to adopt a budget resolution that provides an adequate level of resources to address the challenges that confront agriculture's diverse stakeholders and fully take advantage of the new opportunities that are available to this important sector of our economy and society.

The current Farm Bill represents a delicate balance among many priorities by effectively addressing the stability of our agricultural production base, protecting our important natural resources and enhancing nutrition and food assistance programs for our nation. As Congress begins crafting new farm legislation this year there are both increased challenges and new opportunities that must be considered and addressed.

Given the cuts agricultural programs have already sustained over the last several years and the substantial savings as a result of farm bill programs, the coalition asked that the committees adopt mandatory and discretionary spending levels that provide for additional funding and resist efforts to force further budget reductions on agricultural, food assistance, conservation and other critical programs.

*Staff contact: Peter Orwick, ext. 33*