

## New farm bill is passed – finally



This "Action Alert" icon will be displayed whenever action steps exist to help your voice be heard on topical issues. Dealers can expect to see alerts in all forms of NAEDA communications.

Manufacturer Relations		
ISSUE	ACTION SUMMARY	NAEDA'S POSITION
<b>Farmtrac Receivership</b>	<p>NAEDA and its affiliated associations continue to closely watch the situation involving Farmtrac, which is being managed by a court-appointed receiver in North Carolina. Collectively, we have received numerous calls from Farmtrac dealers who are anxious to learn what their future holds and how issues related to parts, warranty and wholegoods will be handled.</p>	<p>As noted in previous updates, NAEDA and its affiliates are working with association legal counsel to provide answers to questions about Farmtrac.</p>

Government Relations		
ISSUE	ACTION SUMMARY	NAEDA'S POSITION
<b>2008 Farm Bill</b>	<p>After several extensions of the old farm bill, the House and the Senate approved a new farm bill and saw it vetoed before both chambers turned aside the president's rejection of the legislation. While NAEDA was unsuccessful in reducing the depreciation schedule on farm equipment, we are now looking for other opportunities to change the rate to five years from seven years.</p>	<p>NAEDA supported a number of the provisions in the new farm bill, particularly in the Energy, Conservation and Rural Development titles.</p>
<b>Columbia Trade Agreement</b>	<p>H.R. 5724, the United States Columbia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act, would put into place the trade promotion agreement signed by the president nearly two years ago. The agreement would eliminate 80 percent of the tariffs on exports of U.S. industrial and consumer products to Columbia. The House voted to suspend the 90-day "fast-track" voting procedure leaving the bill undecided at the time of publication.</p>	<p>NAEDA supports passage of H.R. 5724 and is participating in a business coalition seeking its passage and consideration by the House.</p>
<b>Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</b>	<p>At press time, the Department of Justice confirmed its intent to publish the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Federal Register. Justice plans a 60-day comment period about proposed ADA changes and might hold just one public hearing in Washington, D.C., sometime in July.</p>	<p>NAEDA is working with the Washington, D.C.-based ADA Coalition and legal counsel to 1) gain grandfather status for dealerships that are compliant with current ADA guidelines, and 2) show that meeting more requirements in the future could put undue burden on dealers.</p>

A companion reference is regularly updated in the Dealer Advocacy Center at [www.naeda.com](http://www.naeda.com).

## NAEDA Notes

### Health care

Congress is reviewing seven new pieces of legislation related to health care and small business health plans. Although NAEDA is tracking the legislation and will lobby accordingly, the association does not believe any of the measures will attract much attention or consideration. The best hope for serious discussions about health care may occur after the August summer recess and during the respective party nominating conventions.

### California off-road diesel regulations

The California Air Resource Board (CARB) recently adopted final regulations for off-road diesel fueled fleets. The purpose of the regulation, effective June 15, is to reduce diesel particulate matter (PM) and criteria pollutant emissions from in-use, off-road diesel-fueled vehicles. The regulation applies to any person, business, or government agency that owns or operates within California any diesel fueled or alternative diesel fueled off-road compression ignition vehicle engine (greater than 25 horsepower) that is used to provide motive power in any motor vehicle that 1) cannot be registered and driven safely on-road or was not designed to be driven on-road, and 2) is not an implement of husbandry or recreational off-highway vehicle.

*NOTE: California is expected to draft regulations on implements of husbandry starting this fall with an anticipated effective date in early 2010.*

### Labor / Immigration

NAEDA is reviewing proposed new regulations to change the procedures used to issue labor certifications to H-2B nonimmigrants admitted into the country to perform temporary nonagricultural labor or service. The rules would also amend the procedures to enforce compliance with attestations made by sponsoring employers.

Comments are due by July 7 at the Department of Labor.