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# CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

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The undersigned, as a director, officer, committee member or employee of American Aberdeen Association ("AAA"), hereby acknowledge and agree to this Conflict of Interest Policy. I understand that from time to time, in the fulfillment of my duties to the American Aberdeen Association, conflicts of interest may arise or appear to arise from time to time. The existence or the appearance of conflicts of interest between my personal interests and those of American Aberdeen Association may have an affect or appear to have an affect upon the exercise of my judgment in behalf of American Aberdeen Association. The purpose of this policy is to protect the integrity of AAA and is to enable the constituents of AAA to have the appropriate trust and confidence in the integrity and reputation of the directors, officers and employees of AAA.

In the course of the fulfillment of my duties at AAA, if an apparent conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest arises, I will promptly disclose such to the Executive Director of AAA or to the President of AAA and ask that a written record be made of such disclosure. If the Chief Executive officer or the President so determines it to be appropriate, I will abstain from any measure brought before the Board of Directors or any committee on which I may serve, concerning any matter in which it may appear that I have such conflict. I further understand that if I am asked to leave the room where such measure or measures are being discussed, that I will do so and that I will not be offended by such action, as I understand that such step may be taken in order to protect both myself and the interests of AAA.

I further understand and acknowledge that I may not perceive a matter to involve a conflict of interest on my part, but that the Executive Director or President of AAA or another Board Member or Committee Member may believe that I could have a conflict of interest on a particular matter. If such issue is brought up by such other person, I will not take offense and will abide by the determination of the Executive Director or President whether I should abstain from such measure. I further state that if I believe another person may have a potential conflict of interest on a matter that I will bring such to the attention of the Executive Director or President of AAA.

Conflicts of interest may arise from time to time between the interests of AAA on the one hand, and my own personal, professional and business interests on the other hand. Conflicts of interest may further exist if myself, my family, employer, employees, or close associates have a material or significant interest in the outcome of dealings with the AAA. Apparent conflicts of interest which are an insignificant nature are those which would not have a material financial or other affect with respect to the decision at hand.

I further understand that the discussions held by the Board of Directors of AAA may be confidential. Thus, I agree that I will not disclose the contents of such discussions if any conflict exists or appears to exist. I further understand that this policy is meant to be a supplement to good judgment and I agree to respect its spirit as well as its wording.

Agreed to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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# “BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS”

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***As a member of the American Aberdeen Association Board team, I will:***

- listen carefully to my fellow board members.
- respect the opinion of my fellow board members.
- respect and support the majority decisions of the board.
- recognize that all authority is vested in the full board only when it meets in legal session.
- keep well-informed of developments relevant to issues that may come before the board.
- participate actively in board meetings and actions.
- bring to the attention of the board any issues that I believe will have an adverse effect on AAA.
- attempt to interpret the needs of the livestock industry to the American Aberdeen Association, and interpret the actions of AAA to the livestock industry.
- refer complaints to the proper level on the chain of command.
- recognize that my job is to ensure that the American Aberdeen Association is well-managed, not to manage AAA.
- represent all those whom the American Aberdeen Association serves and not a particular geographic area or interest group.
- consider myself a “trustee” of the American Aberdeen Association and do my best to ensure it is well-maintained, financially secure, growing and always operating in the best interests of the livestock industry.
- always work to learn how to do my job better.
- Declare conflicts of interest between my personal life and my position on the board, and abstain from voting when appropriate.

***As a member of the American Aberdeen Association Board team, I will not:***

- criticize fellow board members of their opinions, in or out of the board room.
- use the American Aberdeen Association for my personal advantage or that of my friends and relatives.
- discuss the confidential proceedings of the board outside the board room.
- promise how I will vote on any issue before a meeting.
- interfere with the duties of the Executive Director or undermine her authority with staff members.

Agreed to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_