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## **HCPA Commends the USDA on Its Decision to Delay Implementation of the Lacey Act**

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Washington D.C. – The Household & Commercial Products Association (HCPA) released the following statement today, attributed to Steve Caldeira, President and CEO of HCPA, after the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) [announced](#) that it will delay implementation of phase six of the Lacey Act enforcement schedule, which was scheduled to take effect on October 1, 2020.

“HCPA was one of the lead advocates that called on the USDA to delay implementation of phase six of the Lacey Act enforcement schedule due to concerns about operational and economic setbacks caused by the coronavirus pandemic. We commend the USDA for agreeing to our request for a delay, which will help the industry address COVID-19 supply chain issues related to the import of natural essential oils that are critical to household and commercial products.”

The Lacey Act requires that companies submit a declaration for importing certain plants and plant products, which are typically used in formulating essential oils.

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### **About HCPA**

The Household & Commercial Products Association (HCPA) is the premier trade association representing companies that manufacture and sell \$180 billion annually of trusted and familiar products used for cleaning, protecting, maintaining, and disinfecting homes and commercial environments. HCPA member companies employ 200,000 people in the U.S. whose work helps consumers and workers to create cleaner, healthier and more productive lives.