



National Farmers Union

N E W S R E L E A S E

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NFU Delegates Outline Estate Tax

RAPID CITY, S.D. (March 16, 2010) - National Farmers Union (NFU) delegates today adopted a special order of business calling on policy makers to consider the unique challenges facing rural America when debating policy solutions regarding the nation's estate tax.

“The federal estate tax was allowed to expire in 2010, leaving farmers, ranchers and small businesses vulnerable when the estate tax will return at a lower exemption level and higher rate in 2011,” said NFU President Roger Johnson.

Stable and predictable taxes are necessary for the planning and operation of all private enterprises. The uncertainty in the estate tax code has negative effects upon businesses as well as farmers and ranchers. Delegates discussed a repeal of the estate tax will cost the federal government an estimated \$1 trillion in lost income over the next ten years.

“NFU will continue to advocate for a permanent estate tax exemption at \$4 million per person (\$8million per couple), subject to annual indexing with a step up bases,” said Johnson. “NFU also calls for the exemption qualification rules and requirements to be simplified to facilitate a more seamless and less economically troubling transition between generations of farm families.”

National Farmers Union has been working since 1902 to protect and enhance the economic well-being and quality of life for family farmers, ranchers and rural communities through advocating grassroots-driven policy positions adopted by its membership.

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