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NFU Commends House on Historic Health Care Vote

WASHINGTON (March 21, 2010) – National Farmers Union President (NFU) Roger Johnson today commended the U.S. House of Representatives on the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590).

“This is a historic day,” said Johnson. “Today’s vote is a huge victory for the nation, especially farmers, ranchers and rural Americans.”

NFU has long stood behind the need for health care reform. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will bring down the cost of coverage; bring more physicians to rural hospitals; and prevent insurers’ discriminatory practices with regards to preexisting conditions.

“The United States has a moral obligation to stop insurance companies from dropping coverage on ailing patients,” said Johnson. “Rural Americans are among the oldest in the population, and denying them the coverage they need based on preexisting conditions must be stopped.”

Accessible, affordable coverage for rural Americans will be strengthened through the establishment of health insurance exchanges for the self-employed and small businesses.

“As we await the President’s signature on this groundbreaking legislation, NFU praises the diligent work of all involved in shaping this legislation that is crucial to the well-being of farmers and ranchers and rural communities,” said Johnson.

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.