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## FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative Statement on Selecting Vilsack as Secretary of Ag

Statement from FarmFirst General Manager, Jeff Lyon

Madison, Wis. [December 9, 2020] -

"FarmFirst applauds President-elect Joe Biden's selection of Tom Vilsack to serve as the USDA Secretary of Agriculture. Among the many qualified individuals considered for the position, FarmFirst believes Vilsack has the ideal set of qualifications to advocate for the dairy industry.

Vilsack brings expertise to the position, having served as Secretary of Agriculture during both Obama Administrations. Additionally, his experience leading the team at the U.S. Dairy Export Council (USDEC) further qualifies him to advance trade opportunities in the eyes of U.S. dairy farmers.

As the former governor of Iowa Vilsack knows the economic importance of agriculture to the Upper Midwest. This personal knowledge will ensure that dairy farmers from the Upper Midwest will receive solid representation under Vilsack.

FarmFirst is confident he will serve U.S. agriculture well in addition to being a champion for U.S. dairy farmers as the new Secretary of Agriculture."

FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative, established in 2013 and based in Madison, Wis., represents farmers in Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Michigan, Iowa, Illinois and Indiana by providing legislative and regulatory advocacy, dairy marketing services, disaster protection, laboratory testing opportunities and industry promotion. FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative is a merger of three long-time prominent Wisconsin-based cooperatives. Learn more about FarmFirst Dairy Cooperative by visiting: www.FarmFirstDairyCooperative.com.

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