

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **AGree Looks to Thompson, Stabenow to Align on Farm Bill that Prioritizes Producers, Conservation and Profitability**

*Farm Bill Advances out of House Committee on Agriculture*

Washington, DC -- Today, following the advancement of the Farm Bill out of the House Committee on Agriculture, Deb Atwood, Meridian Institute Senior Fellow and Senior Advisor to AGree, released the following statement:

“We are pleased to see movement on the U.S. House Committee’s Farm Bill and urge Congress to find agreement on this important legislation. We need strong support for farmers and ranchers as they adopt conservation practices.

Farmers are the backbone of our food systems, and crop insurance policies help make up the ground they stand on. We must build on crop insurance policies to incorporate risk-reducing practices and cover farmers growing multiple crops in rotation.

We must also listen to farmers and prioritize policies that bolster agricultural data protection and access. Farmers need and want to know how adopting new practices will impact their farm’s resilience and profitability.

AGree is committed to supporting a bipartisan Farm Bill that takes advantage of this critical opportunity to advance policies that work for farmers and support conservation. The Coalition is advocating for the Farm Bill to establish a secure data service to collect, link, and analyze data on conservation practices, while ensuring farmer privacy. Demonstrating the impacts of conservation practices and diversified farming systems is critical to building evidence of lowered financial risk of conservation and improving Farm Bill conservation program outcomes.”

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**About The AGree Initiative**

AGree, an initiative of Meridian Institute, focuses on developing innovative and scalable policies and pilot programs that support farmers in improving agronomic and environmental outcomes while adapting to climate change. AGree partners believe there are real opportunities to use federal agricultural policy to incentivize and scale agricultural practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve soil health, and enhance water quality while reducing farmer costs and improving profitability.