



KARL VAN ROY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

For Immediate Release
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Van Roy Named "Friend of Agriculture"

MADISON – Rep. Karl Van Roy (R-Howard) has been named a "Friend of Agriculture" by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation (WFBF). The designation is given to legislators who have demonstrated their support for agriculture issues in the past session.

"I am honored to be named a 'Friend of Agriculture'," said Van Roy. "Wisconsin has a rich agricultural tradition that has defined the character of our state and the hard-working nature of our citizens. Hey, nothing builds a work ethic like learning that the cows need milking whether you're tired or not!"

With more than 75,000 farms in Wisconsin, agriculture generates \$51 billion in economic activity in the state each year. Ninety-nine percent of Wisconsin farms are family-owned, and each farmer feeds 144 people. Growing everything from cranberries to Christmas trees, Wisconsin's agricultural community employs approximately 420,000 people, or about 12 percent of the state's workforce.

"Agriculture is a fundamental part of Wisconsin's economy," Van Roy said. "Whether or not you live on a farm, the success of agriculture in our state will affect your economic well-being. The industry creates jobs and provides goods that we all depend on."

The WFBF is a voluntary, non-governmental organization controlled and supported financially by farmers themselves. The organization has more than 43,000 members and is a leading voice on agriculture issues on a local, state and federal level. Van Roy attended a reception in Madison for the organization to mark the honor.

"The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation does great work for the people of Wisconsin," said Van Roy. "We all reap the benefits of their expertise, and I hope our relationship continues to grow."

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