



Media Release

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Central Coast Legislators Score 100% on Family Farm Scorecard

Legislative session is over, votes have been counted and scorecards sent out. Wondering how farm-friendly your local legislator was in 2007? California Farm Bureau reports that Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee scored a perfect nine of nine and Senator Abel Maldonado scored a perfect eight of eight on their scorecard, which represents their voting record on proposed legislation that could have been harmful to family farms.

“Our county is very fortunate to have Legislators that care so much about the continued viability of our farms and ranches,” said Mark Moore, President San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau. “Both Assemblyman Blakeslee and Senator Maldonado do a great service to the agriculture industry and the State each time they go on record to preserve agriculture.”

The commitment to agriculture, by these legislators, is evident by their ongoing support. Since 2005, Assemblyman Blakeslee has scored a perfect 34 of 34 and Senator Maldonado has scored an almost perfect 25 of 28 on the Family Farm Scorecard.

As part of its continuing effort to protect family farms and ranches, the California Farm Bureau Federation produces its annual listing of votes on key bills before the state Legislature. The Family Farms Scorecard can be found online at www.cfbf.com/scorecard. Key bills are chosen based on the Farm Bureau Plan to Protect California Family Farms, which outlines policy objectives that uphold California’s agricultural heritage.

Remember that it is only one tool for evaluating a legislator’s performance. A voting record alone cannot tell the entire story of a legislator’s views towards issues of importance to farmers and ranchers. For example, the scorecard does not take into account the cooperation Farm Bureau received from key legislators on important committee votes, or behind-the-scenes support provided in caucus or on the floor.

The San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau is the county’s largest farm and ranch organization, representing 2,100 members countywide, and works in the protection, promotion and advocacy of agriculture for the benefit of our members and the community.

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Mission Statement:

“To lead San Luis Obispo County in the protection, promotion and advocacy of agriculture for the benefit of our members and community”