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Minnesota Farmers Union applauds confirmation of Sonny Perdue to lead USDA

St. Paul, Minn. (April 24, 2017) – Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) today applauds the confirmation of former Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue to serve as Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) by the Senate by a bipartisan vote of 87-11. MFU also appreciates both Minnesota Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken vote in favor of the Perdue nomination.

"MFU is pleased that the vote as finally occurred and Mr. Perdue can get to work as the Secretary of Agriculture on the many pressing issues including a struggling agricultural economy, trade and the looming 2018 farm bill" said MFU President Gary Wertish.

MFU is encouraged that trade will be a top focus for Perdue and that he has been a strong advocate for easing restrictions on trade with Cuba. Perdue has also stated his intent to seek an immediate solution for dairy farmers who are struggling with lagging prices and trade issues with Canada.

MFU looks forward to working with Secretary Perdue and his administration in the future and is hopeful during his term the USDA will continue to work and within the best interest of America's farmers.

Minnesota Farmers Union—Standing for Agriculture, Fighting for Farmers (<u>www.mfu.org</u>).