April 26, 2017

The Honorable Michael Crapo
The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate
United States Senate
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sens. Crapo and Stabenow:

Farm Bureau supports S. 487, the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program Enhancement Act. By eliminating the withholding tax on grants awarded under the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), this legislation will increase grants that encourage veterinarians to practice in veterinary shortage areas.

The VMLRP provides grants to veterinary school graduates who agree to work for three years in underserved areas. Many farmers and ranchers operate in areas that lack adequate veterinary services for their livestock. Expansion of the VMLRP will not only help to improve the health of farm animals but will contribute to the safety of our food supply.

Passage of S. 487, the Veterinary Medicine Repayment Program Enhancement Act, will expand the reach and effectiveness of the VMLRP. We commend you for introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Zippy Duvall
President
April 26, 2017

The Honorable Adrian Smith
United States House of Representatives
320 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ron Kind
United States House of Representatives
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kurt Schrader
United States House of Representatives
2431 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Reps. Smith, Kind and Schrader:

Farm Bureau supports H.R. 1268, the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program Enhancement Act. By eliminating the withholding tax on grants awarded under the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), this legislation will increase grants that encourage veterinarians to practice in veterinary shortage areas.

The VMLRP provides grants to veterinary school graduates who agree to work for three years in underserved areas. Many farmers and ranchers operate in areas that lack adequate veterinary services for their livestock. Expansion of the VMLRP will not only help to improve the health of farm animals but will contribute to the safety of our food supply.

Passage of H.R. 1268, the Veterinary Medicine Repayment Program Enhancement Act, will expand the reach and effectiveness of the VMLRP. We commend you for introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Zippy Duvall
President