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national farmers union

In Union Is Strength

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NFU APPLAUDS MANITOBA GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWAL OF BILL 40

SWAN RIVER, MB – The Government of Manitoba has “done the right thing” by withdrawing Bill 40, says Ken Sigurdson, Manitoba Coordinator of the National Farmers Union (NFU).

Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Scott Smith announced today the provincial government had decided “not to proceed with Bill 40.” Sigurdson said he is very encouraged by the move, noting it is clear the government “was listening to the people of Manitoba.”

The NFU, along with many other organizations, has spoken out against provisions in the legislation which limited the right of rural municipalities to regulate intensive livestock operations. “Public pressure played a role in this decision,” stated Sigurdson. “This legislation really didn’t please anybody, and I believe the government members, over the course of the debate, gained a clearer understanding of the far-reaching negative implications of this legislation.”

Sigurdson said people appreciate the fact that the democratic process is working in Manitoba, and that the government appears willing to listen to people’s legitimate concerns. “We’re hoping this sets a trend for the future,” he said. “We’re very prepared to work with the government to address important environmental issues, as well as the serious financial problems facing family farmers in this province.”

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