September 28, 2007

The Honorable Wally Herger U.S. House of Representatives 2268 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0502 (202) 226-0852

The Honorable Ron Kind U.S. House of Representatives 1406 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-4903 (202) 225-5739

Dear Representatives:

Farm Bureau supports your legislation, H.R. 3660, the Equity for Our Nation's Self-Employed Act, which would allow the self-employed to take a tax deduction for the health insurance premiums they pay against the 15.3 percent self-employment tax.

Self-employed individuals, including includes most farmers and ranchers, are finding it more difficult to obtain health insurance coverage with premiums on the rise and benefits on the decline. Congress recognized this problem and now allows self-employed individuals an income tax deduction for the cost of their health insurance premiums. This legislation will help make health insurance more affordable by also allowing a deduction against the 15.3 percent self-employment tax.

We commend you for taking the lead on this important matter and pledge to help you enact this important legislation. It will make health insurance more affordable for farmers and ranchers who already have it, and it will help those without insurance to afford coverage.

Sincerely,

Bob Stallman President

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