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Arkansas Agriculture Department Applauds Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Task Force

Little Rock, Ark. – In April of 2017, the President of the United States issued Executive Order 13790 which created the Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Task Force. The task force was chaired by United States Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, and was tasked with identifying legislative, regulatory, and policy changes to achieve rural prosperity in seven areas: rural American agriculture, economic development, job growth, infrastructure improvements, technological innovation, energy security, and quality of life in rural America.

The full task force report was released today and includes over 100 actions that the federal government should consider to better promote agriculture and rural prosperity in America. These recommendations were organized around five key indicators of rural prosperity: e-Connectivity, Quality of Life, Rural Workforce, Technological Innovation, and Economic Development. The full Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Task Force is available, [here](#).

“We applaud the President for supporting agriculture and rural America and we applaud Secretary Perdue, and other senior federal government officials, for their work on the Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Task Force,” says Arkansas Agriculture Secretary Wes Ward.

“As our largest industry, agriculture and the rural areas where agricultural production takes place are tremendously important to our state. We have participated in an unprecedented amount of collaboration with the White House and senior officials from federal agencies such as the United States Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency during the last year across a broad range of topics that have included infrastructure, tax reform, federal regulations, and agriculture and rural prosperity. Governor Hutchinson has been a tremendous contributor to these efforts and is a constant advocate for the success of our industry at the state, national, and international level. Under the Governor’s leadership we look forward to continued collaboration with our federal partners as we work together for the success of our agriculture industry and our state’s rural areas.”

The AAD is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation. Learn more: www.aad.arkansas.gov.

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