



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Statements of Support for the Harvest Price Subsidy Prohibition Act

"As the 2014 farm bill continues to be implemented by the USDA, recent reports by the CBO have proven conservative concerns over the cost of the bill to have been warranted. Senator Flake and Representative Duncan have long championed reforming our outdated, Depression-era farm policies and with the introduction of the Harvest Price Option, they are taking a strong interim step to try to curb the cost to the American taxpayer. We not only applaud their leadership in this area, but support this bill as a much-needed first step."

--- **Heritage Action for America**

"The costly 'Cadillac' crop insurance subsidies that would be eliminated by the Harvest Price Subsidy Prohibition Act are a giveaway to growers and anything but a safety net.

"Rather than compensating farmers for actual losses, these 'Cadillac' insurance policies have been paying producers for imaginary revenue losses that never even occurred. In 2014 alone, taxpayers paid out nearly \$5 billion under these policies, and until now they've gotten little of the bad press they deserve.

"EWG thanks Senator Flake and Congressman Duncan for their leadership in introducing this legislation to eliminate subsidies for these deeply flawed policies, a reform that would save nearly \$19 billion over 10 years."

--- **Mike Lavender, Environmental Working Group**

"HPO is not necessary and it wastes billions of taxpayer dollars. Ending the HPO subsidy would not undercut the fundamental objective of the federal crop insurance program to provide farmers with reasonable subsidized protection against crop losses, and would almost surely save taxpayers at least \$18-\$20 billion over the next decade."

--- **Dr. Vincent Smith, Visiting AEI Scholar and Professor of Economics, Montana State University**

"The R Street Institute welcomes the introduction of the Harvest Price Subsidy Prohibition Act. Federal crop insurance payments repeatedly cost far more than projected, and this bill will go a long way toward securing vital protections for the American taxpayer, while still allowing reasonable protections for farmers who rely on the system as their main source of support. We praise Representative Duncan and Senator Flake for their leadership on this important issue, and encourage their colleagues to both support this measure and to continue to look for ways to limit taxpayer exposure by shifting more risk into the private market."

--- **R Street Institute**