

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 25, 2015

OHIO LIVESTOCK FARMERS SUPPORT EFFORTS TO ADDRESS WATER QUALITY

COLUMBUS, OH — Earlier today, the House of Representatives passed Senate Bill 1, which works to decrease phosphorus runoff in Lake Erie's western basin.

Ohio's beef, dairy, pork, and poultry organizations are proud to have been a part of the discussions involved in the development and consideration of SB 1, leading the effort on behalf of livestock and poultry farmers. We thank the legislature for encouraging a collaborative dialogue on water quality standards.

“SB 1 is an opportunity to develop long-term strategies that preserve Ohio's waterways, and we welcome others to follow Ohio's farm community's leadership in continuing the conversation about effective ways to address water quality issues such as Lake Erie algae blooms,” said Bill Knapke, Ohio Pork Council President, speaking on behalf of Ohio livestock and poultry farmers.

Ohio's livestock and poultry farmers are committed to being good stewards of the land, air and water. By utilizing innovative methods on their farms and adhering to best management practices, farmers are able to work toward continued improvement and protection of our state's valuable natural resources. While meeting the provisions of this legislation (SB 1) may create certain challenges in livestock and poultry production, it is a positive step toward improving and preserving Ohio's water supply.

###

Sent on behalf of the Ohio Cattlemen's Association, the Ohio Dairy Producers Association, the Ohio Poultry Association and the Ohio Pork Council