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Secretary Vilsack Reappoints Two Members to FCIC Board of Directors

WASHINGTON, April 11, 2014 — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has reappointed two members to the [Federal Crop Insurance Corporation](#) (FCIC) Board of Directors. Producers Ellen Linderman of Carrington, N.D., and Maggie Goode of Niarada, Mont., who joined the board in 2010, will each serve another four-year term of office.

The FCIC Board oversees the federal crop insurance program, managed by the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA). The board reviews crop insurance products presented by outside parties and RMA, and determines which programs will best help farmers and ranchers.

“We appreciate the good work and dedication of these two board members on behalf of American farmers and ranchers,” Secretary Vilsack said.

Maggie Goode, a third generation Montana cattle rancher, runs a cow/calf operation on the Flathead Indian Reservation. In addition to serving on the Farm Service Agency County Committee in Sanders County, Miss., Goode also serves on the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes Agriculture Advisory Committee. She is a past recipient of the USDA Farm Service Producer of the Year and USDA Farm Services Volunteer of the Year awards.

Ellen Linderman grows a variety of wheat, food-grade soybeans, corn, sunflowers, barley, and millet on her North Dakota farm. She has participated in the federal crop insurance program for 20 years. Linderman chaired the North Dakota Farm Service Agency State Committee for eight years and also served as a commissioner on the USDA Commission on the Application of Payment Limitations for Agriculture. She currently sits on the North Dakota Farmers Union Board of Directors, and is a director at both the North Dakota Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Company and the Farmers Union Service Association.

The Federal Crop Insurance Act requires that non-USDA board members be: four producers, at least one of whom is a specialty crop producer; one individual involved in insurance (often an agent); and one individual knowledgeable about reinsurance or regulation.

The act also requires that the four producer board members come from diverse geographic areas and represent a cross-section of agricultural commodities.

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation promotes the economic stability of agriculture through a sound system of crop insurance and by providing the means for research and experience helpful in developing such insurance. Management is vested in the board of directors subject to the general supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture. The board is responsible for maintaining and creating new programs for risk management and risk mitigation in agriculture.

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