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Ohio AgriBusiness Association Announces Support for Passage of State Issue 2

COLUMBUS, OH—October 10, 2011—The Ohio AgriBusiness Association (OABA) Board of Directors announces its support of a “yes” vote on Ohio State Issue 2. The vote, which took place at its September meeting, was unanimous.

“The OABA board voted to support Issue 2 because they believe it is imperative to take a proactive stance on an issue that is extremely important to OABA’s membership and the future of Ohio,” said OABA President and CEO Christopher Henney. “Issue 2 provides reasonable alternatives to get government labor costs under control, keep hard working public employees on the job, and prevent the tax burden on business and private workers from increasing.”

In some cases, public-sector labor costs account for up to 80 percent of local government budgets in Ohio. As a result, many communities are struggling to balance their budgets. With a tax burden that already ranks 16th in the nation, Ohio’s private-sector businesses and workers cannot afford to pay more.

If Ohio is to move forward and create jobs, state and local governments need the ability to negotiate labor costs and get their budgets under control, without having to raise taxes. OABA believes Issue 2 is a reasonable approach to setting the state on a path to becoming a better place for all Ohioans to live, work and do business.

The Ohio AgriBusiness Association is a commercial agribusiness state trade association which has promoted an active, professional, profitable and environmentally sound agribusiness industry in Ohio since 1880. OABA provides government representation, education and training, information services, member services and industry networking to its membership, which includes feed processors and distributors, independent and cooperative grain elevators, fertilizer dealers and processors, agricultural chemical companies, equipment companies, consultants, agribusiness law firms, agricultural financiers, agribusiness insurance and more.

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