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Helena Compact Commission Votes Unanimously to Support Compact

The Helena Compact Commission public meeting attendees show that the Compact Commission as well as farmers, ranchers, and water users are united in overwhelming support of the Compact.

(Helena, Mont.)—Late last night the Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission voted unanimously to pass the Compact on to be considered by the Montana State Legislature.

In attendance at the meeting were ranchers, farmers, landowners, and water users from across Montana that came to express their support for the Compact.

"The Montana Farm Bureau supports the Compact and supports Montana's farmers and ranchers," said Chelci Cremer, spokesperson for the Montana Farm Bureau Federation. "It protects the property and water rights of Montanans and provides the certainty necessary for our agriculture industry to flourish."

"The Farm Bureau conducted a rigorous review of the Water Compact and came to the same conclusion that has already been voiced by our agricultural community —that the Compact provides secure and reliable access to critical water resources and should be approved," said Walt Sales, Co-chair of Farmers And Ranchers for Montana. "Our agricultural economy is essential to the livelihood of our state— and the Compact is essential to preserving that livelihood . We need to make sure that Montanans know the facts about the tremendous benefits of the Water Compact."

The Compact will be sent to legislative services for drafting and will be introduced for legislative approval. The Legislature must pass the Compact during this legislative session to avoid litigation and in order for Congress to ratify the Compact.

Farmers And Ranchers for Montana (FARM), is a coalition of more than 250 farmers and ranchers, united with local leaders, tribal governments, businesses, water-users, and other Montanans who support the approval of a Water Compact.

For more information please visit www.montanawatercompact.com.