Statement by Bob Stallman, President, American Farm Bureau Federation, Regarding Senate Passage of Permanent Normal Trade Relations for Russia

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 6, 2012 – "The Senate's passage today of legislation granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations with Russia will ensure the U.S. benefits from Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization and remains competitive in that market. We applaud Senate members for approving this critical legislation.

"America's farmers and ranchers will have more certain and predictable market access as a result of Russia's commitment not to raise tariffs on any products above the negotiated rates and to apply international food safety standards in a uniform and transparent manner. Russia's membership in the WTO will provide significant commercial opportunities for U.S. agriculture, including increased sales of poultry, pork and beef."

-30-

Contacts: Tracy Taylor Grondine Mace Thornton

(202) 406-3642 (202) 406-3641 <u>tracyg@fb.org</u> <u>macet@fb.org</u>