President's Letter Luke Woelber March, 2014

The last month has been an eventful one for agriculture in the political arena. Both on the state and federal level, we have new things to be happy about. First off on the federal level, I am sure you are aware that a Farm Bill was finally passed. In my opinion, it has its ups and downs, but all in all I think it is an improvement over what we have.

On the state level, agriculture won a small victory in the Right to Farm legislation. As one group, agriculture in the state was able to make a change to the legislation making it a little harder for farmers, ranchers and dairymen to get sued for something meritless. The sheer fact that it was passed in a short 30-day session should give you an idea about how much work has gone into this effort. I do concede that it is not everything we wanted or needed, but it sure is a big step in the right direction.

There are so many people to thank and recognize for their hard work. If you see your local legislators, please thank them for their support of the bill. Many of them realize the importance of agriculture to the state and showed it by supporting our efforts.

Thanks to everyone who made the trip to Santa Fe, made calls and sent emails. Your help was greatly appreciated.

As always thank you for your support of DPNM. If you need any more information regarding either of these bills, please call the office.