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Contact: Justin Darisse, 202-879-0816

### **Agriculture Workforce Coalition Applauds House Hearing on Farm Labor Crisis, Urges Congressional Action**

Washington, D.C. (April 3, 2019)—“Today’s hearing in the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship shines a light on the labor crisis being faced by farmers, ranchers and growers across the U.S. We would like to thank Chairwoman Zoe Lofgren and Ranking Member Ken Buck for holding this hearing and bringing attention to an issue that will impact the future of American agriculture. The impact goes far beyond the farm gate, as each on-farm employee supports two to three other jobs up and down the food and agriculture supply chain.

“The AWC hopes that this hearing will lead to legislation that preserves agriculture’s experienced workforce and provides for agriculture’s future needs with a flexible, market-based agricultural worker visa program that provides access to a legal and reliable workforce moving forward. It is important that any legislation recognizes the needs of all producers, those with seasonal needs and those with year-round work.

“We look forward to working with the committee to move forward legislation in a bipartisan, bicameral way so as to find a legislative path for vital immigration reform for agriculture.”

#### **About the Agriculture Workforce Coalition**

The AWC brings together organizations representing the diverse needs of agricultural employers across the country. The coalition serves as the unified voice of agriculture in the effort to ensure that America’s farmers, ranchers and growers have access to a stable and secure workforce now and in the future.