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### **MFU Vice President Named By Vilsack to Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee**

St. Paul (July 1, 2015) – Gary Wertish, Minnesota (MFU) Vice President was one of 129 agricultural specialists names to trade advisory positions. The individuals named to the committees will play an important role as they represent one of the most important sectors to America’s export economy and they will provide advice as the discussions happen surrounding the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). This will help to play an integral part of the export opportunities for American agriculture and will hopefully be the most ambitious trade agenda ever for America’s family farmers, ranchers and businesses of all sizes.

The advisory committee system was established back in 1974 by Congress to help ensure the voice of the private-sector was heard when establishing the U.S agricultural trade policies.

“Having a voice in Congress is always something that MFU has worked hard for. Being able to represent American family farmers on this committee will allow me to be that voice, and I am proud to do so” stated MFU Vice President Gary Wertish.

As trade negotiations get underway, the members of the committees will be informed of the content of the proposed changes to trade rules and asked for their feedback and expertise in the matter. These positions are considered highly prestigious and come with great discretion.

*Minnesota Farmers Union ([www.mfu.org](http://www.mfu.org)), Standing for Agriculture, Fighting for Farmers.*

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