

01/16/2009 Moran Invites New Secretary of Agriculture to Kansas

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran participated in a meeting this week with former Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack, President-elect Barack Obama's nominee for Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Moran said. "During our meeting, I extended a written invitation for him to visit Kansas so that he could discuss issues with our farmers and ranchers in the state."

"Gov. Vilsack will be the fifth Secretary of Agriculture I have worked with during my tenure in Congress," Moran said. "I have been fortunate to have had a good working relationship with past secretaries and I anticipate such a relationship with Gov. Vilsack. Agriculture is the backbone of the Kansas economy, and the position of Secretary of Agriculture plays an important role in the success of agriculture in our state. I invited the new Secretary to come to Kansas early in his tenure to learn more."

"As Gov. Vilsack serves as the Secretary of Agriculture, it will be vital that he work to ensure that the needs of our country's farmers and ranchers are met, and avoid simply acting as a spokesman for the administration. He will have to deal with many issues over the next few months and one of the most important issues will be the full implementation of the 2008 Farm Bill."

"I look forward to Gov. Vilsack making a trip to Kansas so that he becomes better acquainted with agricultural practices

of our state."

Moran is a senior member of the House Agriculture Committee.

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