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A Win for Agriculture, NSP Applauds FTA Passage

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Sorghum Producers commends Congress for ratifying yesterday three bilateral trade agreements between the United States and Korea, Columbia and Panama.

The FTAs passed with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate chambers and are being hailed as the largest jobs bill of the year by some individuals. These votes came a little more than a week after the administration sent the package to congress to be considered.

“We are extremely pleased to see Congress move so quickly to pass these long-standing free trade agreements,” said NSP Chairman Terry Swanson of Walsh, Colo. “This is a big step for agriculture and our industry stands to benefit from this opportunity by creating new market access for U.S. sorghum producers.

“The agriculture industry has waited nearly five years for this to happen, and given the state of our struggling national economy, an agreement that is expected to generate more than \$2 billion annually to U.S. farm exports and support nearly 20,000 American jobs just makes sense.”

President Obama now must certify the Colombian, South Korean and Panamanian governments have approved their own versions of the agreement. He will then set an implementation date for the phase-out of trade barriers, taxes and tariffs on American products to begin, which is most likely to happen early next year.

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NSP represents U.S. sorghum producers and serves as the voice of the sorghum industry coast to coast through legislative representation, regulatory representation and education. To learn more about NSP, visit www.sorghumgrowers.com.