

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Bill Teets at (614) 466-2382  
or Lisa Hackley at (614) 466-2609**JOBS FOR OHIO BOND INITIATIVE GAINING MOMENTUM***Endorsements, bipartisan support mounting for infrastructure measure*

COLUMBUS – Lt. Governor Bruce Johnson today applauded The Ohio Farm Bureau Federation’s (OFBF) announcement that it is supporting State Issue 1, the Jobs for Ohio bond initiative. The OFBF joins the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, which announced its support earlier this week.

“The support of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce demonstrates the far-reaching scope of this measure,” said Lt. Governor Bruce Johnson, who also serves as Director of the Ohio Department of Development. “From investments in local infrastructure to technological advancements based on agricultural products grown right here in Ohio, the Jobs for Ohio package will position Ohio for continued economic advancements and improvements.”

Johnson pointed to the creation of the Ohio BioProducts Innovation Center, as an example of how agriculture can benefit from state technology investments. With the help of state technology grants, the Ohio State University’s College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences will develop chemical conversion technologies to produce products such as lubricants and adhesive from raw materials grown in Ohio, giving Ohio farmers a new market for their goods.

“Many of the scientific and technological advancements we’re anticipating will start on Ohio’s farms,” said John C. (Jack) Fisher, OFBF executive vice president. “Farmers appreciate that their state government took the time to learn more about agriculture’s potential.”

The Jobs for Ohio Bond Initiative was placed on the November ballot with overwhelming bipartisan support, passing 84-7 in the Ohio House of Representatives and unanimously in the Ohio Senate. It is expected to have a far-reaching, positive impact on Ohio cities, rural communities and many industry sectors. The \$2 billion initiative packages three important measures to stimulate economic growth in Ohio, including \$500 million for technology infrastructure, \$150 million for job-ready sites development, and \$1.35 billion for traditional infrastructure improvements.

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