

National Association of FSA County Office Employees

For Immediate Release

Contact: Myron Stroup 913-285-3398

NASCOE TESTIFIES ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

U.S. House Agriculture Committee Reviews USDA IT Systems

WASHINGTON (RuralWire), March 12, 2009 – Capitol Hill – The National Association of Farm Service Agency County Office Employees (NASCOE) testified on Capitol Hill before the House Agriculture Committee’s Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight and Forestry about issues related to USDA’s IT system.

The National Association of Farm Service Agency County Office Employees is an organization that represents the county level employees of the Farm Service Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). NASCOE was originally chartered in 1959. FSA employees are in contact with virtually every producer in the United States, and NASCOE is proud to represent 85% of all county office employees.

NASCOE Legislative Chairman Mike Mayfield accompanied by NASCOE President Myron Stroup presented the Association’s testimony. Mr. Mayfield reported employee survey results such as, “Do the current software applications provide you with the ability to timely service producers?” 81% said NO! When asked the question by the Subcommittee, “What is an example of efficient changes that need to occur for IT advancement during this budget environment?” Mr. Mayfield responded by saying the duplicative software processes in USDA need to be eliminated, producers should not have to provide the same information multiple times to different USDA Agencies.

The entire testimony can be viewed at www.nascoe.org

NASCOE is committed to improve our IT system to provide timely, efficient and effective service to the farmers and ranchers across America.