WHEREAS, the destiny of all rural communities in the Progressive 15 region fundamentally depends on the ability to attract Economic Development either from within their communities or outside, and

WHEREAS, adequate transportation and telecommunications, are two critical tools that allow for rural communities to prosper, and

WHEREAS, with an aging population, limited resources, one of the highest motor vehicle death rates in the state, rural health can take on several definitions, and

WHEREAS, for the prevention and detection of infectious diseases, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention rely heavily on local health departments, and

WHEREAS, allowing tax benefits to retiring farmers or ranchers that help establish younger farm or ranch families on the land offers the reality of another generation in rural communities, and

WHEREAS, offering innovative financing by changing the state and federal statutes to allow the FSA (90%) guaranteed loans and the Colorado Ag bond program to be combined under one loan would encourage lenders and secure young agriculture producers in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Progressive 15 encourages legislation in the new Farm Bill to include these key points and to help secure rural community survival.

Adopted this 5th day of June 2001.
Extended for 5 years this 16th day of March, 2007