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National Black Farmers Association President Endorses Obama

RICHMOND , VA – Dr. John Boyd, President of the National Black Farmers Association, announced today his endorsement of U.S. Sen. Barack Obama for president.

“Barack Obama has been a champion for black farmers, fighting for legislation that’s not going to earn him headlines,” Boyd said. “And that fight tells me something important: Americans will be able to count on Obama to do what’s right and work hard to make our government work for everyone.”

Boyd has worked closely with Obama on the Pigford settlement. Signed in 1999, the settlement was intended to make up for decades of discrimination in which black farmers were denied USDA loans and credit. However, the USDA has denied thousands of claims for various reasons. Obama has introduced and championed the Pigford Claims Remedy Act of 2007, which would allow certain previously denied farmers an opportunity to re-file their settlement claims and have them reviewed. The Obama legislation has passed the Senate Agriculture Committee and was included in the Farm Bill.

Boyd formed The National Black Farmers Association in 1995 after his own experiences with the USDA.

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