



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OFB's Bushue running for AFBF presidency

SALEM, OREGON — Barry Bushue, president of Oregon Farm Bureau and vice president of American Farm Bureau, will run for the position of president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

On July 14, Bob Stallman, who has served as AFBF president for 16 years, announced he would not seek reelection in January 2016. The election will take place at the AFBF Annual Convention in January 2016 in Orlando, Florida, with voting done by representatives from all state Farm Bureaus.

Involved in Farm Bureau since childhood, Bushue has served as president of Multnomah County Farm Bureau, a regional director on the Oregon Farm Bureau Board of Directors, and as OFB's first vice president. He was elected as state president in December 1999 and is currently serving his eighth two-year term.

In 2008, Bushue was elected vice president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. His leadership at the national level includes service on the AFBF Nursery & Greenhouse Committee, AFBF Trade Advisory Committee, a national labor taskforce, and a National Food Quality Protection Act workgroup.

Bushue continues to serve on the USDA Advisory Committee on Biotechnology & 21st Century Agriculture, the Executive Committee of the United States Biotech Crop Alliance, and the Board of Directors of the Generic Event Marketability & Access Agreement (GEMMA) Biotech Accord. In Oregon, he serves on the Executive Committee of Oregonians for Food & Shelter, a coalition that protects and advocates for access and safe use of pesticide, fertilizers, and biotech tools for the agriculture and natural resource communities.

Named Agriculturalist of the Year in 2014 by the Oregon Agri-Business Council, Bushue has worked on numerous taskforces at the request of the Oregon Governor, the state legislature,

and with natural resource agencies on critical issues, including water quality and quantity, pesticide use, biotech, labor, navigability, public land grazing, and wildlife depredation.

“In recent years, Oregon has been on the front line of numerous challenges facing American agriculture. We continue to engage in public policy debates around genetically modified organisms, immigration, animal welfare, pesticides, water use, endangered species, and other environmental issues,” said Bushue. “I’ve been blessed as a leader to work for farmers in my community, county, state, and across the country. To serve as AFBF president would be an unrivaled opportunity to use these experiences for the benefit all American farmers and ranchers on the national stage.”

Bushue is the third member of his family to run the farm in Multnomah County, Oregon. He and his wife raise a variety of vegetables, berries, flowers, and pumpkins at the nearly century-old farm near Portland. They sell directly to the public and host events for the local community.

After attending college, Bushue taught high school in South Australia. It was during those years “down under” that he met his wife Helen. The Bushues returned to Oregon in the late 1980s to take over the family farm. They have three grown children.

“At the county, state, and national level, Farm Bureau is a true grassroots, democratic organization,” said Bushue. “Farms and ranches of all sizes, commodities, and production types have an opportunity to bring their issues forward and have their voices heard. Our unity is our strength, and there is no more effective way for family agriculture to be heard in the legislative arena than Farm Bureau. It would be an honor to serve our members at the national level.”

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* Note to Editors: “Farm Bureau” is a registered trademark; please capitalize in all cases.

The state’s largest farm and ranch family organization, Oregon Farm Bureau is a grassroots, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that serves as the voice of Oregon’s farmers and ranchers in the public and policymaking arenas. Starting with a single county Farm Bureau in 1919, Oregon Farm Bureau is organized in all 36 counties.

