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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## National Oilseed Processors Association Urges Immediate Passage of Roberts-Stabenow Agreement on GMO Labeling

**Washington, D.C., June 24, 2016** —The National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA) welcomes Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Roberts (R-KS) and Ranking Member Stabenow's (D-MI) bipartisan Agreement on biotechnology labeling solutions and calls on members of Congress from both parties to support and pass the bill as soon as possible.

NOPA commends Chairman Roberts and Senator Stabenow for their leadership in reaching a solution on the issue of GMO labeling. Tom Hammer, NOPA's President, stated that "The entire U.S. grain and oilseed value chain works extremely hard to ensure that America's families have access to safe, abundant and affordable food, feed and fuel. This bipartisan agreement is greatly needed for the entire value chain from farm to fork, by providing increased transparency and disclosure in a clear and consistent manner. However, the Senate and House must act swiftly and pass this important legislation in order for it to get to the President's desk for prompt signature."

Swift passage of this legislation is an essential step to restoring certainty to the American farmers, processors and food companies who provide food and feed products to the consumers. Hammer added that "passage of the Roberts-Stabenow Agreement is urgently needed to avoid a confusing and costly patch-work of state GMO-labeling laws that otherwise will adversely, and unnecessarily, impact every American consumer's grocery bill."

Biotechnology-derived seed products are perfectly safe and are critical to the production of higher yielding crops that more easily withstand drought and allow farmers to use fewer chemicals - which is better for everyone in the food chain from farm to fork. Hammer stated that "These technological advances have been successful for U.S. growers, processors, exporters and consumers, as well as being more sustainable for the environment. For these important reasons, NOPA has steadfastly supported the use of balanced biotechnology policies to ensure the success of trade and processing of grains and oilseeds and their derivative products."

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Established in 1930, the National Oilseed Processors Association's mission is to assist the U.S. soybean, canola, flaxseed, sunflower seed and safflower seed processing industries to be the most competitive and efficient in the world by utilizing the combined expertise, knowledge and resources of its members to foster market- and science-based policies. NOPA represents 12 member companies who process over 1.8 billion bushels of oilseeds annually at 63 plants in 19 states, including 57 plants that process soybeans