



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**STUART ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR  
VIRGINIA AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY INITIATIVE**

- Committed to Ensuring Future Viability of Virginia's Farmers, Forestry Operations  
and Agribusiness -

**STAFFORD** – As local farmer, former Westmoreland County Commonwealth's Attorney and Virginia Senate 28<sup>th</sup> District Republican candidate Richard Stuart today announced that he is proud to partner with the Virginia Agribusiness Council, the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, the Virginia Forestry Association, and the Virginia Forest Products Association to advocate for key issues outlined in the **Virginia Agriculture & Forestry Initiative 2007-2008**. Stuart is committed to ensuring the future viability of Virginia's farmers, forestry operations, and agribusinesses, and a bountiful supply of food and fiber for all Virginians.

"I grew up picking sweet corn and fishing crab pots, and currently live on an organic farm. My parents taught me what's special about growing up in this region - our values, our traditions and our natural resources," said Stuart. "This is the philosophy and experience that I will take to Richmond to ensure that we continue to promote this important part of Virginia's economy."

Agriculture and forestry industries contribute more than \$47 billion to the economy and account for more than 15 percent of total jobs – making these industries number one in Virginia. As Senator, Richard Stuart will partner with the agriculture and forestry community to advocate for increased profitability through domestic and international trade, economic growth, and fair competition, protection of our natural resources through financially secure, incentive-based programs for agriculture and forestry, and preservation of working farm and forest lands through voluntary programs that enhance the business of farming and forestry.

"Virginia farms and forests continue to hold immense economic potential for the Commonwealth and our nation as they have for 400 years in the Commonwealth. My goal as your Senator is to ensure that State government provides the economic climate for these industries to continue to provide benefits for years to come," added Stuart. "I am committed to work toward these goals if given the privilege of representing the great people of this region as a member of the Virginia Senate."

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