

Mahoney gets waiver to serve on Agriculture Committee

Mahoney's Dual Appointments to Financial Services and Agriculture Committees a Major Coup

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(Washington, D.C.) - The Democratic Steering and Policy Committee today granted Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16) a special waiver to serve on the House Committee on Agriculture while concurrently serving on the exclusive Financial Services Committee.

Mahoney is the first Florida Democrat recommended to serve on the House Committee on Agriculture in the 110th Congress. No other Florida Democrats are expected to be seated on the committee.

"My appointments to the Financial Services and Agriculture Committees are a major victory not only for my constituents, but for every Floridian struggling under the skyrocketing costs of insurance, and every Florida farmer awaiting the 2007 Farm Bill. I take my responsibility on these issues very seriously and will work across the aisle to deliver results for Florida," said Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16)

Congressman Allen Boyd (FL-02), a member of the House Appropriation Committee's Agriculture subcommittee and a fifth-generation farmer said, "Tim Mahoney's experience as both a businessman and a rancher makes him the right choice to serve on the Agricultural and Financial Services Committees. Congressman Mahoney will bring his knowledge and expertise to the table, and his appointment to these committees is good news for Florida."

The Democratic Caucus and the Republican Conference each set their own rules regarding the exclusivity of House Committees, whereby a Member seated on an exclusive committee cannot simultaneously serve on any other committee without the approval of the caucus.

Currently, the Democratic Caucus has designated the Ways and Means, Appropriations, Energy and Commerce, Financial Services Committees as exclusive.

Citrus, sugar, dairy, and cattle are important industries in Florida's 16th District. Appointment to the House Agriculture Committee puts Congressman Mahoney in a unique position of influence as the 2007 Farm Bill approaches.

In addition, Congressman Mahoney's seat on the House Financial Services Committee gives him a major role in addressing the homeowners' insurance crisis in Florida.

The Democratic Caucus is expected to ratify the recommendations of the Steering & Policy tomorrow.