

Costello Media Release  
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## **Family Farm to Benefit**

### **Costello Calls Government Farm Rules Withdrawal “Short-Term Victory”**

Oklahoma City – Oklahoma Labor Commissioner Mark Costello calls the “withdrawal” of the Fair Labor Standards Act rules, a short-term victory for the family farm. The US Department of Labor’s notification that it is withdrawing proposed rules that would have prevented many young people from working in agriculture is the result of thousands of farmers, ranchers and legislators voiced outrage to the US Labor Department.

In a 2011 letter, Costello asked US Labor Secretary Hilda Solis to “stand down” of implementing new rules and explained that the backbone of rural Oklahoma was the family farm.

Costello stated, “In my opinion this is a short-term victory for the family farm. The Obama administration has lost this battle for today.” Costello believes, “Obama is currently more concerned about the loss of the agricultural swing states, but if he is re-elected, we can anticipate a continued assault on the family farm.”

Costello, duly elected by the citizens of Oklahoma stated, “I have a lawful obligation to speak out for the economic well-being of the citizens of this state. I will work to ensure parental exemptions that are important to the family farm remain.”

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