

**CONGRESSMAN HOLDEN APPOINTED VICE
CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CONSERVATION, CREDIT, ENERGY AND RESEARCH.**

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WASHINGTON, DC (January 17, 2007) Congressman Tim Holden (PA-17) was appointed Vice Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee by Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin C. Peterson (MN-7) and was selected to serve as Chairman of the Agriculture Committee's Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research today.

The Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research will have jurisdiction over soil, water, and resource conservation, small watershed program, energy and biobased energy production, rural electrification, agricultural credit, and agricultural research, education, and extension services.

"I am honored and excited about the leadership opportunities I will have both on the full Committee and Subcommittee level as we write the next Farm Bill," Congressman Holden said. "As we move forward, I will work with my colleagues to put agriculture first and to improve, develop, and fund opportunities for conservation, energy, and research that will stimulate and contribute to the success of our rural communities. "

"Agriculture Committee Vice Chairman Holden is a great advocate for our nation's agriculture producers and rural communities, and his leadership will help us write a Farm Bill that addresses the growing importance of renewable energy, conservation, credit and research to our farm communities," Agriculture Committee Chairman Peterson said.

One of the major responsibilities of the Agriculture Committee during the 110th Congress will be to reauthorize federal farm programs in the farm bill. The bill authorizes commodity support, conservation, trade, nutrition, and rural development policies.

Congressman Holden served as Ranking Member for the Conservation, Credit, Rural Development, and Research Subcommittee during the 107th, 108th and 109th Congress.

Congressman Holden has been a member of the House Agriculture Committee since elected to Congress in 1992 and served as a conferee on the 2002 farm bill (PL-107-171).

In addition to being Chairman of the Subcommittee, Congressman Holden will also serve as a member of the Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry.

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