



League of Rural Voters To Hold Second National Rural Summit

2008 Presidential Candidates invited to speak during daylong event

(09/20/07) MINNEAPOLIS—The League of Rural Voters (LRV) in partnership with the Main Street Project is pleased to announce the second National Summit on Agriculture and Rural Life to be held October 27th at the Scheman Education Center on the campus of Iowa State University in Ames.

Throughout the day, panels and discussions will feature national rural policy makers speaking on issues including energy, food, and rural development policy. The entire roster of 2008 Presidential candidates from both parties has been invited to speak to the audience of family farm advocates and rural leaders as part of a moderated afternoon session hosted by Iowa Public Radio and the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues at the University of Kentucky. As part of the Presidential candidate portion of the event, questions and answers will be taken from the audience.

GenerationEngage, a leader in innovative youth civic engagement strategies, will bring remote audiences from Raleigh, NC and San Jose, CA directly into the candidate forum by using Apple's iChat technology, video cameras, large screen projection and a broadband link. By bringing rural youth from other key states, the candidates will have a chance to see and speak to the future of rural America, from coast-to-coast.

"This is a golden opportunity to bring to the rural issues and policy to the forefront and in front of audiences that will play an important role in determining the Presidential candidates in 2008, said Niel Ritchie, executive director of The League of Rural Voters. This non-partisan event is being organized to raise the visibility of rural policy issues to advance the vital conversation concerning the future of rural America."

To register or for more information, please visit the League of Rural Voters website at www.leagueofruralvoters.org

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The League of Rural Voters was founded in 1985 as a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the representation of rural people in the public policy making process. The League seeks to build awareness of the economic challenges facing rural communities while advocating for federal and state policies that focus government resources on education, health care and local and regional economic development.

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