



MICHIGAN SOYBEAN
PROMOTION COMMITTEE

a new release



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Contact: Gail Frahm, Executive Director

gfracm@michigansoybean.org or 989.652.3294

Senator Stabenow Again Asks Soybean Office for Assistance at Her Bio-based News Conference

Bio-based Products from the Soybean Touted by the Senator as Opportunity for Creating Michigan Jobs

An article in the fall *Michigan Soybean News* described both in print and pictures how the soybean office was instrumental in making the Senator's August 8, 2011 news conference a success. While the October 24, 2011 news conference which announced the Senator's *Grow It Here, Make It Here* initiative was not held at the Frankenmuth soybean office, the Senator again asked for our involvement for both comments and a soy bio-based product display which, this time, was held at the Al Serra Auto Plaza in Grand Blanc.

Michigan US Senator Debbie Stabenow is chairperson of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. She is the first chairperson of this committee from Michigan in over 50 years! The *Grow it Here, Make it Here* initiative will advance Michigan's emerging bio-based manufacturing industry. Bio-based manufacturing, using agriculture goods to make value-added products, is an industry poised to grow and create jobs in Michigan and the soybean industry leads the way. The *Grow it Here, Make it Here* initiative provides a 30% tax cut for new, expanded, or re-equipped bio-manufacturing projects.

Chairwoman Stabenow said: "When we grow things and make things in Michigan, we create jobs here in Michigan. With bio-based manufacturing, Michigan businesses are using agriculture goods grown in Michigan to make products here in Michigan. It's a win-win for our economy. Michigan is at the forefront of bio-based manufacturing, and this tax cut will help businesses who want to invest and create new jobs here in America."

"On behalf of Michigan's soybean producers, we express our appreciation of Senator Stabenow's unending support in promoting bio-based interest at both a manufacturing and a consumer level which generates greater demand for Michigan soybeans. That means farm jobs as well as manufacturing jobs for the state. Bio-based activities are poised for tremendous growth in Michigan – a benefit for all," stated Keith Reinholt, Field Operations Director of the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee.

Jim Wilson, soybean producer from Yale who is a member of the United Soybean Board New Uses Committee, said, "Farming goes beyond growing food, feed, fiber, and fuel. Our crops are going into the production of many manufactured products such as soy foam for automotive seats, soy plastic in vehicle parts, and bar chain oil for chain saws. I'm glad to know that our work in the field is supporting new innovation and economic growth, and am thankful Senator Stabenow is behind us."

The bio-based economy is valued at approximately \$1.25 trillion nationally. Michigan innovators and entrepreneurs are processing Michigan-grown crops for use in advanced manufactured goods across the state. In Michigan alone, there are over 80 companies manufacturing bio-based products and even more using bio-based components and materials in their products. Bio-based manufacturing is a key sector of Michigan's agriculture industry. Agriculture is Michigan's second largest industry, supporting one out of every four Michigan jobs.