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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

NEW ALBANY, OHIO – *The following statement was issued today in response to the NSIS line speed court decision can be attributed to Cheryl Day, executive vice president, Ohio Pork Council.*

“Ohio pig farmers urge United States Department of Agriculture to intervene before a federal court ruling takes effect at the end of next month. Without interference, our farmers pay the hefty price for this misguided ruling.

“If left unchallenged, harvest capacity shrinks significantly for Ohio’s pig farmers. It jolts the entire state’s pork supply chain, putting our farmers back in the same situation as one year ago with the Covid-19 supply chain disruption. The state’s small pork processing plants are still highly strained. Absorbing the excess pigs already growing to supply the effective plants is impossible. As a result, Ohio pig farmers will be forced to make difficult decisions with no place to harvest pigs.

“Our farmers cannot withstand another financial hit. Just as we are returning to normalcy, another looming disaster threatens their livelihood and prosperity. The court ruling will affect Ohio’s pork producers and trickle down throughout the entire economy. The state’s hog production generates 11,500 jobs and an estimated \$439 million of personal income. All of this could be in jeopardy if this damaging court ruling stands.”

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FOR INTERVIEWS: Contact Cheryl Day at 614-882-5887 Ext. 3.