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Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas Withdraws Affiliate Status with R-CALF USA

Lockhart, Texas – March 8, 2007 – For Immediate Release –The Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas announced today that effective immediately the Texas-based association of Texas cattle producers would cease to be affiliated with R-CALF USA. ICA's state board of directors voted unanimously to support this action.

According to ICA State President Bruce Dopslauf, the board believes that a national organization must be mindful of and represent the interests of cattle producers from all regions of the United States. Recent changes in the R-CALF board of directors and subsequent policy shifts emphasize a more regional approach to cattle producer problems. President Dopslauf also stated that the board felt R-CALF's move towards increased use of aggressive litigation to solve issues is costly and not productive for ICA members.

"The recent resignations of numerous board members, committee chairs and the entire Washington, D.C., staff have left R-CALF without valid representation to express producer views in the U.S. Congress and U.S. Department of Agriculture," said Dopslauf. He went on to say that it is difficult to forge working relationships in the courtroom.

"The Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas will continue to affiliate with national organizations that work on issues important to our members," Dopslauf added. "We remain committed to mandatory country-of-origin labeling, abolishing the estate tax and numerous other issues critical to the survival and profitability of our members.

"We anticipate full support from our fellow Texans as we strive to represent the cow/calf producers of our state," said Dopslauf.

The Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas represents land and cattle owners on legislative and regulatory issues of importance to the cattle industry and agribusiness. For more information, contact ICA at 512.620.0162 or visit www.icatexas.com.