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Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Melissa Rekeweg Appointed Deputy Director
of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture**

INDIANAPOLIS - Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann today announced that Melissa Rekeweg has been appointed as the new Deputy Director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA).

"Melissa is a great addition to our team at the State Department of Agriculture. As we focus on the future of modern agriculture and agri-business in Indiana, her work with students and young farmers brings a helpful perspective to the agency. She is also a capable administrator who will complement the outstanding leadership of ISDA Director Ted McKinney and his staff," said Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann.

"Melissa has a sterling reputation and lifelong experience in Indiana agriculture," said ISDA Director Ted McKinney. "We're delighted to have her join our team and expect only the best from her as she helps further solidify Indiana as a global leader in agriculture."

Rekeweg grew up on a family livestock and grain farm in Carroll County. After graduating with a degree in Agricultural Education from Purdue University, she began a successful career through education and agriculture. She has worked as the Executive Director for the Indiana FFA Association while it was housed under the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), Vice President of Deposit Operations at Crossroads Bank, State Director of Secondary Career and Technical Education and Assistant Director of College and Career Readiness at IDOE, and most recently from the AgrInstitute.

In her role as Deputy Director, Rekeweg will support the Director of ISDA in handling the wide range of issues impacting Indiana agriculture. She will assist other state agencies and organizations in engaging with the agriculture community and will represent ISDA at various events and meetings.

Rekeweg currently resides in Zionsville with her husband, Matt and their two children.

ABOUT ISDA

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) was established as a separate state agency by the Legislature in 2005. The Director is appointed by the Governor and is a member of the Governor's Cabinet. Administratively, ISDA reports to Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, who also serves as Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture. Major responsibilities include advocacy for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level, managing soil conservation programs, promoting economic development and agricultural innovation, serving as a regulatory ombudsman for agricultural businesses, and licensing grain firms throughout the state.

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