

Washington, DC- Congressman Steve King released the following statement after Governor Branstad and Lt. Governor Reynolds announced that Benjamin Victor will be creating the Norman Borlaug statue to be placed in the United States Capitol. Norman Borlaug, an agronomist, received the Nobel Peace Prize, Presidential Medal of Freedom and Congressional Gold Medal for his contributions to increasing food stability. Victor was chosen by the Borlaug Statue Committee, created in 2011, when the Iowa legislature approved Governor Branstad's resolution that directed a statue of Borlaug to be placed in the Capitol.

"Dr. Norman Borlaug was a hero for Iowa, America and the world," said King. "When I first met him, I concluded I wanted to one day see his statue standing in our nation's capitol alongside other great leaders. Borlaug was one of history's rare blends of genius, insight, instinct, and persistence. His life's work is credited with saving as many as a billion people from starving to death. No one has made Iowans more proud. I look forward to the statue created by Benjamin Victor. I'm confident he will do Dr. Borlaug the honor he deserves."