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1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.
 2 BY ANGELO, DRAKE, KIBBIE, FRAISE, McKIBBEN, JUDGE,
 3 VEENSTRA, IVERSON, BARTZ, BOETTGER, ZIEMAN, SHEARER,
 4 JENSEN, SCHUERER, GASKILL, REDWINE, REHBERG, and BEHN
 5 A Concurrent Resolution to urge and petition the
 6 United States Department of Agriculture to make
 7 lands which are under the conservation reserve
 8 program eligible for grazing by livestock.

9 WHEREAS, the state of Iowa, one of the major
 10 agricultural states in the United States, is a leading
 11 producer of livestock and livestock products which
 12 represents a multibillion dollar industry; and

13 WHEREAS, the economic viability and welfare of this
 14 nation is contingent upon food and materials
 15 efficiently produced by farmers and ranchers receiving
 16 a fair market price for their goods; and

17 WHEREAS, the conservation reserve program provided
 18 in 7 U.S.C., chapter 45, subchapter III, authorizes
 19 the United States Secretary of Agriculture to enter
 20 into contracts and make payments to eligible owners
 21 and operators of eligible cropland to assist them in
 22 conserving and improving the soil and water resources
 23 of their farms and ranches by converting cropland to
 24 land with permanent vegetation cover; and

25 WHEREAS, farmers and ranchers in this state, like
 26 those in many states, have conscientiously entered
 27 into contracts with the United States Secretary of
 28 Agriculture to set aside highly erodible land in order
 29 to conserve soil and water resources; and

30 WHEREAS, Iowa, like other agricultural states, has

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1 not received adequate rainfall, threatening the
2 economic viability of areas suffering hardship due to
3 the lack of water required to sustain livestock; and
4 WHEREAS, the United States Department of
5 Agriculture's policy prohibiting the grazing of
6 livestock on land subject to contract under the
7 conservation reserve program will force the depletion
8 of livestock herds, resulting in depressed commodity
9 markets, unnecessary economic hardship on producers,
10 and the premature slaughter of livestock; NOW

11 THEREFORE,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the Iowa General
14 Assembly hereby petitions the Congress of the United
15 States, the President of the United States, and the
16 United States Secretary of Agriculture to take all
17 necessary actions to ensure that livestock immediately
18 be allowed to graze on land subject to contract under
19 the conservation reserve program; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
21 resolution be submitted to the President of the United
22 States, the United States Secretary of Agriculture,
23 and the members of Iowa's congressional delegation.

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