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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 142

BY BOETTGER

A Resolution urging the federal government to establish a National Center for Rural and Agricultural Behavioral Health in Iowa.

WHEREAS, Iowa is widely recognized as a leading agricultural producing state in the world and its farmers and rural residents are recognized for their work ethic in providing food and other products to consumers in this nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, persons in rural America, including farm families, are affected by a number of health issues, including those relating to improving physical safety, alleviating stress, and promoting family relationships; and

WHEREAS, Iowa has a number of outstanding state and local institutions, including universities, which administer programs that focus upon agriculture, health, and rural health, and which include the Center for Rural Health and Primary Care; and

WHEREAS, there is a vital need for a national rural behavioral health initiative in order to provide opportunities to rural populations and families who do not have access to appropriate care; and

WHEREAS, preliminary planning and work by individuals and organizations in Iowa and in other upper midwestern states have concluded that there is a need for a National Center for Rural and Agricultural Behavioral Health; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the United

SR 142
RULES & ADMINISTRATION

1 States Congress, together with interested private and
2 public interests, is urged to cooperate at all levels
3 to assist in the planning, funding, and development of
4 a National Center for Rural and Agricultural
5 Behavioral Health to be established in Iowa; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this
7 Resolution be sent to the President of the United
8 States, the United States Secretary of Agriculture,
9 the United States Secretary of Labor, the United
10 States Secretary of Health and Human Services, the
11 President of the Senate of the United States, the
12 Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United
13 States, the Chair of the United States Senate
14 Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, the
15 Chair of the United States House of Representatives
16 Committee on Agriculture, and the members of Iowa's
17 congressional delegation.

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