

# House Concurrent Resolution 8 - Introduced

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1 1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_  
1 2 BY MERTZ and DRAKE  
1 3 (COMPANION TO LSB 2831SS BY JOHNSON)  
1 4 A Concurrent Resolution relating to recommendations  
1 5 proposed by the United States Department of  
1 6 Agriculture for the federal farm bill of 2007.  
1 7 WHEREAS, agricultural production serves as the  
1 8 foundation of this nation's economy, provides abundant  
1 9 supplies of nourishment to the people of the United  
1 10 States and the world, and results in billions of  
1 11 dollars of annual United States exports to world  
1 12 markets; and  
1 13 WHEREAS, the State of Iowa is one of the most  
1 14 productive agricultural states in the nation, bringing  
1 15 this abundance forth from the most fertile soils in  
1 16 the world, and is one of the leading grain, fiber, and  
1 17 livestock producers in the world; and  
1 18 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has  
1 19 traditionally supported agricultural production by  
1 20 setting target prices and providing support payments  
1 21 to ensure market security and stability, by providing  
1 22 an adequate safety net to protect producers of  
1 23 commodity crops from market recessions, and by  
1 24 providing insurance against losses related to price  
1 25 fluctuations; and  
1 26 WHEREAS, the rich and fertile soils, woodlands, and  
1 27 waters of the United States, including Iowa, have been  
1 28 traditionally protected by Acts of Congress, and must  
1 29 continue to be preserved for future generations of  
1 30 Americans; and  
2 1 WHEREAS, conservation policies are critical to the  
2 2 ability of farmers and ranchers to meet public  
2 3 expectations for water quality and environmental  
2 4 enhancement within a framework that supports this  
2 5 nation's farms and ranches; and  
2 6 WHEREAS, American agricultural producers must  
2 7 compete in both domestic and international markets,  
2 8 and accordingly require proper government policies in  
2 9 order to remain competitive vis-a-vis heavily  
2 10 subsidized foreign producers; and  
2 11 WHEREAS, the development of this nation's rural  
2 12 communities is critical to the infrastructure of the  
2 13 United States economy; and  
2 14 WHEREAS, off-farm employment and income are  
2 15 increasingly crucial to the livelihood of this  
2 16 nation's farmers and ranchers, and;  
2 17 WHEREAS, it is vital to improve this nation's rural  
2 18 areas through funding for infrastructure and job  
2 19 growth; and  
2 20 WHEREAS, renewable fuel sources have emerged as the  
2 21 primary and most promising solution to reducing this  
2 22 nation's dependency on the petroleum resources of  
2 23 other nations, as well as creating growth in the  
2 24 agricultural economy of Iowa and the United States;  
2 25 and  
2 26 WHEREAS, young farmers are the next generation of  
2 27 American agriculture and must therefore be supported  
2 28 as the seeds of our future; and  
2 29 WHEREAS, the United States Congress will begin  
2 30 drafting the federal farm bill of 2007, which will  
3 1 have substantial impact on farmers and ranchers  
3 2 throughout the nation, including farmers in Iowa; NOW  
3 3 THEREFORE,  
3 4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
3 5 SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly urges the  
3 6 United States Congress to fortify the federal farm  
3 7 bill of 2007 by ensuring the continued support of an  
3 8 adequate, market-driven safety net for American  
3 9 agricultural producers which is structured in a manner  
3 10 that ensures the equitable distribution and  
3 11 consistency of support between the different

3 12 agricultural commodities and production methods; and  
3 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
3 14 of 2007 support crops primarily produced in Iowa and  
3 15 the other midwestern states, which are among those  
3 16 with the greatest potential growth in production and  
3 17 demand, with support provided in proportion to their  
3 18 production and their value to the United States  
3 19 economy; and  
3 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
3 21 of 2007 support the stewardship of agricultural land  
3 22 by the expansion of land-retirement programs and other  
3 23 programs which encourage practices that minimize the  
3 24 environmental impacts of crop production; and  
3 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Congress increase  
3 26 conservation payments to farmers and ranchers who  
3 27 practice conservation-oriented production; and  
3 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
3 29 of 2007 provide for increased market access to and  
3 30 market development of American products; and  
4 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
4 2 of 2007 include provisions that spur accelerated rural  
4 3 development through funding for infrastructure and job  
4 4 growth in the rural areas of the United States,  
4 5 including Iowa; and  
4 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
4 7 of 2007 provide rural development strategies to ensure  
4 8 that rural communities contribute to the United States  
4 9 economy; and  
4 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the rural development  
4 11 title of the federal farm bill of 2007 include funding  
4 12 and technical assistance for rural utilities and the  
4 13 expansion of utility services to rural communities;  
4 14 and  
4 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
4 16 of 2007 stimulate the expansion of renewable fuel  
4 17 production and development through broadening economic  
4 18 support for both current technologies and resources,  
4 19 and the development of new technologies and resources;  
4 20 and  
4 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
4 22 of 2007 stimulate the use, manufacture, and transport  
4 23 of renewable fuels including biodiesel and  
4 24 ethanol-blended fuels by providing for payments  
4 25 allocated directly to the producers of the respective  
4 26 grains or biomass products, as well as to those  
4 27 persons who convert grains or biomass products to  
4 28 usable energy; and  
4 29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the federal farm bill  
4 30 of 2007 continue or expand and fully fund the United  
5 1 States Department of Agriculture's programs to assist  
5 2 beginning farmers; and  
5 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of  
5 4 this Resolution be sent to the President of the United  
5 5 States; the President of the United States Senate; the  
5 6 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives;  
5 7 the chairperson of the United States Senate Committee  
5 8 on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; the  
5 9 chairperson of the United States House of  
5 10 Representatives Committee on Agriculture; the  
5 11 Secretary of the United States Department of  
5 12 Agriculture; and the members of Iowa's congressional  
5 13 delegation.  
5 14 LSB 2831HH 82  
5 15 da:rj/cf/24.1