

NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 441

Introduced by Kremer, 34; Baker, 44; Burling, 33; Combs, 32; Connealy, 16; Cunningham, 40; Engel, 17; Erdman, 47; Fischer, 43; Flood, 19; Friend, 10; Heidemann, 1; Hudkins, 21; Langemeier, 23; Louden, 49; McDonald, 41; Mines, 18; Raikes, 25; Schrock, 38; Smith, 48; Stuhr, 24; Stuthman, 22; Wehrbein, 2

Read first time March 30, 2006

Committee:

WHEREAS, having an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy supply is critical to our economy, as well as our national and international food supply; and

WHEREAS, current and future risks to national energy security are mounting while domestic and global energy demands are growing exponentially; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska has tremendous renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, the development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy sources, including wind power, biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters, ethanol, and solar, benefits the environment and will have a direct economic benefit to agricultural landowners and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, rural communities and agriculture sectors will

experience multiple benefits, including establishing additional markets for agricultural commodities, increasing farm income, creating added-value uses for crops, livestock, and their byproducts, more productive use of marginal lands, the resolution of air, water, and soil quality problems that may arise from agricultural operations, improving wildlife habitat, and creating many new job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, solar and wind energy can be captured on the vast land areas managed by American agriculture, and technology and production capabilities allow America's farmers and ranchers to play a major role in ensuring a fully sustainable national energy system; and

WHEREAS, American agriculture is well-positioned to play an expanded role in the development and implementation of new energy solutions and, with appropriate technological innovation, incentives, and investments, America's farms and ranches can become the factories that produce a new generation of fuels to help meet the nation's energy needs; and

WHEREAS, "25 by 25" is an agriculturally led initiative that envisions America's farms and ranches producing twenty-five percent of America's energy demand by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber; and

WHEREAS, agriculture's role as an energy producer will have a positive effect on national security and trade imbalances

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and will serve as a catalyst for rural development in Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature supports the vision of "25 by 25", whereby agriculture will provide twenty-five percent of the total energy consumed in the United States by the year 2025, while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber.

2. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Nebraska Congressional Delegation, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Majority and Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, and President George W. Bush.