

# State Of Florida

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the role of agriculture as an energy producer has the potential to positively impact national security and trade imbalances; and

**WHEREAS**, an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy supply is critical to the economy of Florida, and although the state ranks third nationally in total energy consumption, it also possesses vast renewable energy resources which currently are not being utilized for potential energy production; and

**WHEREAS**, the development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy sources, including biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters, and ethanol, is not only immensely beneficial to the environment, but also provides multiple benefits to rural communities and agricultural sectors by spawning additional markets for agricultural commodities, increasing farm income, creating added-value uses for crops, livestock, and their byproducts, using marginal lands more productively, resolving air, water, and soil quality problems that arising from agricultural operations, improving wildlife habitat, and creating new job opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, American agriculture is strategically positioned to play an expanded role in the development and implementation of new energy solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, with appropriate technological innovation, incentives, and investments, this country's farms and ranches could well 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 American farms and ranches producing 25 percent of America's energy demand by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber; and

**WHEREAS**, "Farm to Fuel" is an initiative designed to encourage the use of Florida crops and biomass for production of energy for the state's future energy stability, protection of its environment, and continued viability of its agriculture industry.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida do hereby support the vision of

"25 by '25"

and encourage the production of renewable energy and fuels by farms and ranches to help meet future energy needs.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF** the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida have hereunto subscribed their names and have caused the Official Seal of the State of Florida to be hereunto affixed in the City of Tallahassee on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2006.



JER BUSH  
GOVERNOR

CHARLIE CRIST  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

TOM GALLAGHER  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

CHARLES H. BRONSON  
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE