

A RESOLUTION urging support for the "25 by 25" initiative promoting agricultural-based renewable energy.

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

WHEREAS, current and future risks to U.S. energy security are mounting, while domestic and global energy demands are escalating; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has tremendous renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, the development 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, agricultural communities and their partners will experience multiple benefits, including establishing additional markets for agricultural commodities; increasing farm income; creating added-value uses for crops, livestock, and their byproducts; and creating new job opportunities; and

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

WHEREAS, 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 25 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, and will serve as a catalyst for rural development in the Commonwealth of Kentucky;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

Section 1. We, the members of the Kentucky House of Representatives, support and endorse the vision of "25 by 25" whereby agriculture will provide 25 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.

Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to send copies of this Resolution to President George W. Bush, each member of the Kentucky delegation to the Congress of the United States, the Clerk of the United States Senate, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy, and the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture.