

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Joint House Resolution

J.R.H. 62

Joint resolution in support of the 25 by 25 agricultural energy initiative

Offered by: Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Natural Resources and Energy and Committee on Commerce

Whereas, the 25 by 25 initiative proposes that America's agricultural and forestry sectors produce 25 percent of the nation's energy requirements from renewable sources by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant and safe food and fiber, and

Whereas, the presence of an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy supply is critical for our state and national economy and the national and international food supply, and

Whereas, current and future risks to the nation's energy security are mounting while global energy demands are growing exponentially, and

Whereas, Vermont's farms through the use of new and appropriate technological innovations, incentives, and investments can become the future sources for a new generation of fuels to help meet the state's and nation's energy needs, and

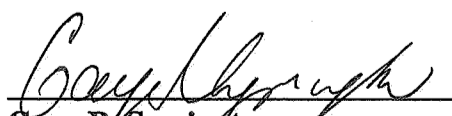
Whereas, the development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy sources, including but not limited to wind power, biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters, ethanol, and solar, would be beneficial to both farmers and rural communities by: establishing additional markets for agricultural commodities; increasing farm income; creating added-value use for crops; developing new products from livestock byproducts; improving the productive use of marginal lands; resolving air, water, and soil quality problems that may arise from agricultural operations; improving wildlife habitat; and creating many new job opportunities, and

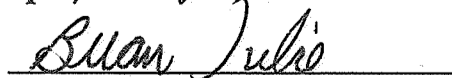
Whereas, agriculture's and forestry's role as an energy producer will have a positive effect on national security and United States trade imbalances and will serve as a catalyst for rural development in Vermont, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly supports the goal of the 25 by 25 initiative that the agricultural and forestry sectors provide 25 percent of the nation's energy needs by the year 2025 while they continue to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber, and be it further

Resolved: That the secretary of state be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Secretary of Agriculture Michael Johanns, Governor Douglas, Lt. Governor Dubie, University of Vermont President Dan Fogel, Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets Steve Kerr, Commissioner of Economic Development Michael Quinn, Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation Jonathan Wood, Commissioner of Public Service David O'Brien, the members of the Vermont Congressional Delegation, and the Ag Work Group in Brooklandville, Maryland.


Gaye R. Symington
Speaker of the House


Brian E. Dubie
President of the Senate

Attested to:


Donald G. Milne
Clerk, House of Representatives

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