

Reps. Tyler, Haines, Franz, Zorn, Liss, Clemente, Damrow, Cotter, Olson, Daley, Wayne Schmidt, Pscholka, Kurtz, Horn, Rendon, Pettalia, Lund, Opsommer, Farrington, Goike, Lyons, MacGregor, Agema, Jenkins, Walsh, Potvin, McBroom, Rogers, Ouimet, Foster, Johnson, Denby, LaFontaine, Kowall, Callton, Haveman, Lori, Moss, Glardon, Huuki, Forlini, Barnett, Constan, Crawford, Dillon, Heise, Hooker, Knollenberg, Poleski, Price and Slavens offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 43.

A resolution to declare March 15, 2011, as Agriculture Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Agriculture is the second largest industry in the state of Michigan and during our most recent economic hardships, agriculture in Michigan has grown; and

Whereas, Michigan is a national leader in the production of more than 125 separate commodities on a commercial basis; and

Whereas, Michigan's agricultural economy is stronger than the economy in general. Michigan has over 500 food processors. The state has seen 3,000 new farms develop in the past decade. There are 56,000 farms in Michigan; and

Whereas, Michigan farmers and ranchers contribute more than \$72 billion in high-quality food, fiber and flower crops annually to the state's economy; and

Whereas, Michigan's many microclimates permit the growing of grains, corn, beans, celery, apples, cherries and grapes among others; and

Whereas, Michigan's livestock and dairy sector produce superior quality beef, poultry and pork products enjoyed throughout the world; and

Whereas, Our abundant natural resources continue to make Michigan a great place to live, work and play. As the state continues to recover from the most recent economic struggles, agriculture will continue to play a vital role in our long-term recovery; and

Whereas, Michigan agriculture is a renewable economic resource for the state, employing more than one million people and creating income that is replenished every year in the state; and

Whereas, Michigan agriculture is a family affair, with families or partners owning the overwhelming majority of the state's farms and agricultural facilities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare March 15, 2011, as Agriculture Day in the state of Michigan. We recognize and honor the achievements and contributions of farmers, ranchers, and the thousands of people involved in jobs relating to Michigan agriculture.