

Rep. Cotter offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 145.

A resolution to urge the U.S. Congress and the United States Department of Labor to amend proposed work regulations that would limit youth employment on farms.

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Labor has proposed new federal regulations that would severely limit the work that youths may perform on farms. Among other things, the proposed regulations would prohibit youths from operating most power-driven equipment, working at grain elevators, stockyards, and livestock auctions, and storing, marketing, or transporting farm product raw materials; and

Whereas, For generations in our country, teenagers have safely worked at farm jobs that challenge them and instill a strong work ethic. The proposed regulations would largely end this practice. While the children working on their own parents' farm would be exempted, the proposed regulations ignore the multigenerational tradition of family farming and would still prohibit children from working on their grandparents' or other relative's farm; and

Whereas, Today's youth are our nation's future farmers but less and less are interested in pursuing a career in farming. Without proper hands-on opportunities to learn and experience work on a farm, the task of recruiting the next generation of farmers grows even more difficult; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the U.S. Congress and the United States Department of Labor to amend proposed work regulations that would limit youth employment on farms; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the U.S. Secretary of Labor.