

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 63

Reps. Alexander, Breen, Cherry, Fink, Garza, Haadsma, Hope, Kuppa, Liberati, Morse, Sneller and Weiss offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare March 23, 2021, as Agriculture Day in
2 the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Each year, states across the nation recognize March
4 as a time to celebrate the importance of food and agriculture as a
5 significant contributor to the national economy; and

6 Whereas, The Michigan food and agriculture industry
7 contributes more than \$104.7 billion annually to the state's
8 economy. It is a major source of employment for the state's
9 workforce, supporting approximately 805,000 jobs and roughly 17.2
10 percent of the state's workforce; and

11 Whereas, Michigan's food and agriculture sector are the second

1 most diverse in the country with nearly 47,000 farms, 99 percent of
2 which are family-owned, farming nearly 10 million acres of
3 farmland, and commercially producing more than 300 food and
4 agricultural commodities. The state is the largest producer of
5 asparagus, cucumbers, squash, and many bedding plants grown in
6 greenhouses, and ranks in the top ten for 29 additional
7 commodities, including apples, blueberries, and cherries; and

8 Whereas, Michigan greenhouses and nurseries rank 3rd
9 nationally in overall economic impact of plant production.

10 Greenhouses are the 4th largest segment of Michigan's agriculture
11 economy. Greenhouse and nursery products generate 14% of Michigan's
12 total agricultural revenues. Michigan greenhouse production boast
13 first in production of many bedding plants including petunias,
14 geraniums, and impatiens; and

15 Whereas, Twenty-four percent of Michigan's agricultural
16 revenues are generated by dairy products, most notably, milk, and
17 cheese; and

18 Whereas, Michigan exports about one-third of its agricultural
19 commodities each year, generating nearly \$2 billion. Almost 40
20 percent of Michigan's agricultural exports go directly to Canada,
21 our number one export market, and rounding out the top countries
22 eager for Michigan-grown products are Mexico, Japan, South Korea
23 and China; and

24 Whereas, Michigan's food and agricultural sector continues to
25 be a growing industry offering new business and career
26 opportunities for Michiganders, making food and agriculture a
27 cornerstone of Michigan's continued prosperity; and

28 Resolved by the House of the Representatives, That the members
29 of this legislative body declare March 23, 2021, as Agriculture Day

1 in the state of Michigan. We encourage all citizens to recognize
2 and celebrate this momentous occasion.