

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

WHEREAS, Missouri's long-standing agriculture tradition continues to thrive and contribute to our economy and to our families; and

WHEREAS, the state of Missouri has maintained a robust and lucrative agriculture culture, frequently ranking in the top ten among states with regard to the number of operating farms, hay, cotton, and corn production, cattle, hog, and turkey production, and more; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefits from these agricultural operations are profoundly important to our communities, to our state, and to our nation; and

WHEREAS, the farm family is the backbone of our state, as we, a legislative body, do swear to uphold and promote our farming community and protect the freedoms we share; and

WHEREAS, with the introduction of the Missouri Animal ID Program, a coordinated effort between the Missouri Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the issues of food security and personal freedom became a reality for Missouri agriculture producers; and

WHEREAS, the USDA National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is currently and should remain a voluntary program with regard to animal identification programs and marketing practices; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Missouri General Assembly oppose such animal identification programs being mandatory:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-Fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge the United States Department of Agriculture to continue the National Animal Identification System program as a voluntary program to allow agricultural families to direct their own future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the United States Department of Agriculture and the Missouri Department of Agriculture.

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