

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

WHEREAS, “25 by 25” is a renewable energy initiative proposing that America's agricultural and forestry sectors produce 25 percent of the nation's energy requirements from renewable resources by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant and safe food and fiber; and

WHEREAS, having 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, Missouri's productive farms and forests can become the future sources for renewable fuels to help supply these growing energy demands; 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 Missouri's farmers and rural communities by opening additional markets for agricultural commodities, increasing farm income, developing new products from livestock byproducts, improving the productive use of marginal lands, improving wildlife habitat, and creating many new job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, American agriculture is well-positioned to play an expanded role in the development and implementation of new energy solutions and, with appropriate technological innovation, incentives, and investments, America's farms and forests can become the factories that produce a new generation of fuels to help meet the nation's critical energy needs; 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:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, express our support of the “25 by 25” renewable energy initiative that America's 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 the Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for each member of Missouri's congressional delegation, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, and President Barack Obama.