

CHAPTER 28**(HCR 10)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION requesting the establishment of the Kentucky Farming Museum Task Force.

WHEREAS, Kentucky retains close links to its colonial origins through its rural communities where land is still farmed and Kentucky's traditions and heritage remain firmly rooted; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's farming traditions are preserved through farm and service agencies such as Kentucky 4H, the Cooperative Extensive Service, Local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and the Future Farmers of America; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky ranks fourth in the nation, tying Tennessee, in the number of farms in the state; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky's farm sector's annual contribution to the state's economy is approximately \$4,583,858,000 from the value of commodities and services produced in rural communities each year; and

WHEREAS, the long history of farming in the state is slowly eroded as, farm by farm, the land, the buildings, the tools, the farming techniques, and the people give way before urbanization across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission is requested to direct that a study be conducted to determine the feasibility of establishing a Museum of Kentucky Agriculture. The study shall consider, but not be limited to: potential sites for locating an agriculture museum in the state, potential sources of private and public funding for planning, construction, and operation of an agriculture museum, potential management structure of a museum, and the public mission of the museum.

Section 2. The study shall be conducted with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture; the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy; the Tourism Development Cabinet; the Kentucky Historical Society; the colleges and departments of agriculture or agricultural extension programs at the Kentucky universities, including, but not limited to the University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Eastern Kentucky University, Murray State University, and Western Kentucky University; and agricultural interest organizations that represent farmers, including, but not limited to, the Community Farm Alliance and the Kentucky Farm Bureau.

Section 3. The study findings and recommendations shall be reported to the Legislative Research Commission not later than October 30, 2002.

Section 4. Provisions of this resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.

Approved March 07, 2002