

A RESOLUTION underscoring agriculture's vital role in America and the world as exemplified by the unique observance of National Agriculture Day.

WHEREAS, National Agriculture Day occurs in March of each year, fittingly near the official start of spring, an especially busy time for farmers; and

WHEREAS, National Agriculture Day has been observed since 1973 and was founded by the Agriculture Council of America. With the theme, "Agriculture: Sustaining Future Generations," National Agriculture Day occurred this year on March 18, during the week that this honorable body was not in session in these hallowed chambers; and

WHEREAS, just a few generations ago, most people were part of, or had relatives or friends involved with, agriculture, but today that is no longer the case; and

WHEREAS, National Agriculture Day encourages everyone to understand how America's food, fiber, and renewable resource products are produced, and to celebrate and learn more about the vital role that agriculture plays in our society; and

WHEREAS, America's farmers are working harder than ever, and it shows, given that each American farmer feeds more than 144 people; and

WHEREAS, the fact that agriculture is the nation's No. 1 exporter shows that the contributions of American agriculture to the world are dramatic; and

WHEREAS, even though agriculture has been deemed as "big business," the United States Department of Agriculture reports that 97 percent of the 2.1 million farms in the United States are family-owned operations. U.S. farm output more than doubled from 1948 to 2011, growing at an average rate of 1.49 percent; and

WHEREAS, even though fewer people are involved in agriculture, everyone needs to understand how our food and fiber products are produced, to appreciate the role that agriculture plays in providing safe, affordable, and abundant products, and to value the essential role of farming in maintaining a strong economy;

NOW, THEREFORE,

***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***

*Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

→Section 1. This honorable body officially recognizes National Agriculture Day and its focus on the noteworthy role of agriculture in the daily lives of the citizens of this great nation.