

77th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments July 9 – 12, 2023 Resolution on the 2023 U.S. Farm Bill

whereas, the farm bill supports our nation's farmers, ranchers, forest owners, food security, natural resources and wildlife habitats, rural communities, and the 21.1 million Americans whose jobs directly depend on the food and agriculture industry; and

WHEREAS, the farm bill represents a delicate balance between America's farm, nutrition, and conservation programs and requires strong bipartisan support; and

WHEREAS, failure to pass a farm bill could not only result in the United States reverting to permanent agriculture law, dating to the 1930's and 1940's, it could increase consumer prices and end current agriculture safety nets; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the farm bill represents 2.4% percent of federal mandatory and discretionary spending; and

WHEREAS, it is vital to bring together a broad coalition of lawmakers to pass a farm bill; now therefore be it;

RESOLVED, that the Midwestern Legislative Conference urges the United States Congress to pass said bill before the expiration date of September 30, 2023; and be it further;

RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state and federal officials.

Adopted this 12th day of July, 2023 at the 77th MLC Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan