

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.258

Rep. Alexander offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to declare March 21-27, 2022, as Agriculture Week  
2 in the state of Michigan.

3       Whereas, Each year, states across the nation recognize March  
4 as a time to celebrate the importance of food and agriculture as a  
5 significant contributor to the national economy; and

6       Whereas, The Michigan food and agriculture industry  
7 contributes more than \$104.7 billion annually to the state's  
8 economy and is a major source of employment for the state's  
9 workforce, supporting approximately 805,000 jobs, which is roughly  
10 17.2 percent of the state's workforce; and

11       Whereas, Michigan's food and agriculture sector is the second  
12 most diverse in the country with nearly 51,000 farms, 99 percent of  
13 which are family-owned, farming nearly 10 million acres of farmland

1 and commercially producing more than 300 food and agricultural  
2 commodities; and

3       Whereas, Michigan ranks first in the nation for asparagus  
4 production, producing up to 23 million pounds annually; and

5       Whereas, Michigan is one of the top blueberry producing states  
6 with more than 100 million pounds produced by 575 farms  
7 contributing nearly \$132 million to the state's economy; and

8       Whereas, Michigan has 12,221 farms with 1,201,383 cattle and  
9 calves and cash receipts over \$575 million; and

10       Whereas, Michigan produced roughly 400 million pounds of dry  
11 edible beans with a value of \$126 million; and

12       Whereas, Michigan ranks seventh in production of eggs with  
13 more 15.4 million laying hens that produce 4,548 million eggs per  
14 year, contributing \$655 million to the Michigan economy annually;  
15 and

16       Whereas, Michigan leads the nation in many floriculture crops,  
17 including impatiens, begonias, Easter lillies, geraniums, hostas,  
18 and petunias with a wholesale value of \$467 million; and

19       Whereas, Michigan has 13,100 acres of vines, making Michigan  
20 the eight-largest grape producing state in the nation and home to  
21 more than 100 commercial wineries; and

22       Whereas, Michigan is now the fourth-largest hop growing state  
23 in the United States and ranks 14th in the world for hop  
24 production; and

25       Whereas, Michigan has 47,641 farms with 2,068,138 acres under  
26 irrigation; and

27       Whereas, Michigan grows 70% of the United States supply of  
28 juicy tart cherries, ranking first in production with 201 million  
29 pounds valued at \$280 million; and

1       Whereas, Michigan grows many varieties of kale and the market  
2 has grown by over 60% in recent years; and

3       Whereas, Michigan grows multiple varieties of lettuce both  
4 indoors and outdoors with a rapid expansion of production due to  
5 climate, muck soil and hydroponic opportunities; and

6       Whereas, Michigan ranks #5 in the nation for maple syrup  
7 production and produces about 90,000 gallons of syrup per year with  
8 an economic impact of \$2.5 million annual; and

9       Whereas, Michigan nursery, landscape, and lawn care industries  
10 have an economic impact of \$4.5 billion; and

11       Whereas, Michigan onion production is approximately 79 million  
12 pounds which yield a total value of \$10 million; and

13       Whereas, Michigan produced more than 21.2 million pounds of  
14 peaches valued at more than \$9.2 million; and

15       Whereas, Michigan has a total of 79 farms raising quail, with  
16 34 farms selling quail; and

17       Whereas, Michigan has over 500 farms and 500 acres in  
18 raspberry production; and

19       Whereas, Soybeans are Michigan's top export with over 109  
20 million bushels produced with a value over \$941 million; and

21       Whereas, Michigan grows tomatoes for both fresh and processed  
22 uses. In 2016, Michigan produced 120,100 tons of tomatoes for  
23 process and 74 million pounds for fresh market; and

24       Whereas, Michigan is home to nearly 1,200 dairy farms who care  
25 for over 445,000 cows giving 27,000 pounds of undeniably nutritious  
26 milk each year. Michigan is ranked 6th in milk production in the  
27 United States; and

28       Whereas, Michigan grows over 50 types of vegetables with 3,047  
29 farms harvesting over 101,750 acres; and

1       Whereas, Michigan is home to 500,000 acres of wheat in 75  
2 Michigan counties producing over 35 million bushels annually; and

3       Whereas, Michigan is the leading producer of potatoes for  
4 extra crispy potato chip processing and they are the state's second  
5 leading produce commodity with over 1.8 billion pounds of potatoes  
6 produced annually generating \$182 million in sales; and

7       Whereas, Michigan pumpkins, yellow, and various other species  
8 of squash generate over \$24 million from production of  
9 approximately 220 million pounds of pumpkins and squash; and

10       Whereas, Michigan ranks first nationally with 822 farms  
11 harvesting over 29,000 acres and 236,700 tons of zesty cucumbers;  
12 and

13       Whereas, Michigan's food and agricultural sector continues to  
14 be a growing industry offering new business and career  
15 opportunities for Michiganders, making food and agriculture a  
16 cornerstone of Michigan's continued prosperity, now, therefore, be  
17 it

18       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
19 this legislative body declare March 21-27, 2022, as Agriculture  
20 Week in the state of Michigan. We encourage all citizens to  
21 recognize and celebrate this momentous occasion.