

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 31

Reps. Miller, Paiz and Rheingans offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare March 2025 as Agriculture Month in the
2 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 \$125.8 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 roughly 47,600 farms, 99 percent
13 of which are family-owned, farming nearly ten million acres of

1 farmland and commercially producing more than three hundred food
2 and agricultural commodities; and

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

5 Whereas, Michigan is one of the top blueberry producing states
6 with eighty- seven million pounds produced by over five hundred
7 farms contributing nearly \$130 million to the state's economy; and

8 Whereas, Michigan has about 12,000 farms with 1.1 million
9 cattle and calves, contributing \$140 million in beef exports
10 annually; and

11 Whereas, Michigan produced over five hundred million pounds of
12 dry edible beans with a value of over \$200 million; and

13 Whereas, Michigan ranks seventh in production of eggs with
14 more than 16.6 million laying hens that produce 4.9 billion eggs
15 per year, contributing \$1.4 billion to the Michigan economy
16 annually; and

17 Whereas, Michigan leads the nation in many floriculture crops,
18 including impatiens, begonias, marigolds, geraniums, hearty
19 chrysanthemums, and petunias with a value of \$\$695 million; and

20 Whereas, as of 2024, Michigan's wine grape and wine industry
21 has a \$6.3 billion economic impact, generating \$209 million in
22 tourism spending and creating nearly 47,000 jobs. Michigan has
23 10,900 acres of vines, making Michigan the eighth-largest wine
24 producing state in the nation and home to 200 commercial wineries;
25 and

26 Whereas, Michigan is now the fourth-largest hop growing state
27 in the United States; and

28 Whereas, In 2022, Michigan had 2,066,138 acres of farms under
29 irrigation; and

1 Whereas, Michigan grows 59% of the United States supply of
2 juicy tart cherries, ranking first in production with 182million
3 pounds; and

4 Whereas, Michigan grows over one billion pounds of apples
5 produced on 38,000 acres with an economic impact of over \$350
6 million; and

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

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

12 Whereas, Michigan ranks #5 in the nation for maple syrup
13 production and produces about 200,000 gallons of syrup per year
14 with an economic impact of \$8.7 million 2023; and

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

17 Whereas, Michigan onion production is approximately seventy-
18 nine million pounds which yield a total value of \$10 million; and

19 Whereas, Michigan produced more than eleven million pounds of
20 peaches on roughly 23,000 acres; and

21 Whereas, Michigan has a total of seventy-nine farms raising
22 quail, with thirty-four farms selling quail; and

23 Whereas, Michigan has over five hundred farms and five hundred
24 acres in raspberry production; and

25 Whereas, Soybeans are Michigan's top export with about 105
26 million bushels produced on with a value over \$1,548 million; and

27 Whereas, Michigan grows tomatoes for both fresh and processed
28 uses. In 2018, Michigan produced 112,750 tons of tomatoes for
29 process and fifty million pounds for fresh market; and

1 Whereas, Michigan is home to over 1,000 dairy farms who care
2 for over 440,000 cows giving the US over 27,000 pounds of
3 undeniably nutritious milk each year. Michigan is ranked sixth in
4 milk production in the United States; and

5 Whereas, Michigan grows over fifty types of vegetables with
6 3,047 farms harvesting over 165,000 acres; and

7 Whereas, Michigan is home to over 460,000 acres of wheat in 75
8 Michigan counties producing over thirty-six million bushels
9 annually; and

10 Whereas, Michigan is the leading producer of potatoes for
11 extra crispy potato chip processing and they are the state's second
12 leading produce commodity with over 1.9 billion pounds of potatoes
13 produced annually contributing over \$2.5 billion to Michigan's
14 economy; and

15 Whereas, Michigan pumpkins, yellow, and various other species
16 of squash generate over \$55 million from production of
17 approximately 257 million pounds of pumpkins and squash; and

18 Whereas, Michigan ranks first nationally with 822 farms
19 harvesting over 29,000 acres and 246,000 tons of zesty cucumbers;
20 and

21 Whereas, Michigan's food and agricultural sector continues to
22 be a growing industry offering new business and career
23 opportunities for Michiganders, making food and agriculture a
24 cornerstone of Michigan's continued prosperity; now, therefore, be
25 it

26 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
27 this legislative body declare March 2025 as Agriculture Month in
28 the state of Michigan. We encourage all citizens to recognize and
29 celebrate this momentous occasion.