

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 31

Rep. Miller 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  
14 farmland and commercially producing more than three hundred food

1 and agricultural commodities; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29       Whereas, Michigan grows 59% of the United States supply of

1 juicy tart cherries, ranking first in production with 182million  
2 pounds; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29       Whereas, Michigan is home to over 1,000 dairy farms who care

1 for over 440,000 cows giving the US over 27,000 pounds of  
2 undeniably nutritious milk each year. Michigan is ranked sixth in  
3 milk production in the United States; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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