

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 32

Rep. Neyer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare March 2025 as Agriculture Appreciation
2 Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Every March, states nationwide come together to
4 celebrate the vital role of food and agriculture in driving the
5 national economy.

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 47,600 farms, 99 percent of which
13 are family-owned, farming nearly 10 million acres of farmland and
14 commercially producing more than 300 food and agricultural

1 commodities; and

2 Whereas, Michigan ranks first in the nation for asparagus
3 production, producing up to 30 million pounds annually; and

4 Whereas, Michigan is one of the top blueberry-producing
5 states, with 87 million pounds produced by over 500 farms,
6 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 500 million pounds of dry
11 edible beans, valued at over \$200 million; and

12 Whereas, Michigan ranks seventh in egg production, with more
13 than 16.6 million laying hens on average producing over 5 billion
14 eggs per year, economically impacting the state of Michigan by \$1.4
15 billion; and

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

19 Whereas, Michigan has 10,900 acres of vines, making it the
20 eighth-largest grape-producing state in the nation and home to more
21 than 200 commercial wineries; and

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

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

26 Whereas, Michigan grows 59% of the United States' tart
27 cherries, ranking first in production with 182 million pounds; and

28 Whereas, Michigan grows over 1.2 billion pounds of apples on
29 38,000 acres, with an economic impact of over \$350 million; and

1 Whereas, Michigan grows many varieties of kale, with market
2 growth exceeding 60% in recent years; and

3 Whereas, Michigan produces multiple varieties of lettuce, both
4 indoors and outdoors, benefiting from climate, muck soil, and
5 hydroponic opportunities; and

6 Whereas, Michigan ranks fifth in the nation for maple syrup
7 production, producing approximately 200,000 gallons per year, with
8 an economic impact of \$8.7 million in 2023; and

9 Whereas, Michigan's nursery, landscape, and lawn care
10 industries contribute \$4.5 billion to the economy; and

11 Whereas, Michigan produces approximately 79 million pounds of
12 onions, yielding a total value of \$10 million; and

13 Whereas, Michigan produced more than 11 million pounds of
14 peaches, on roughly 23,000 acres; and

15 Whereas, Michigan has over 500 farms and 500 acres dedicated
16 to raspberry production; and

17 Whereas, Soybeans are Michigan's top agricultural export, with
18 over 105million bushels produced, valued at over \$1.55 billion; and

19 Whereas, Michigan grows tomatoes for both fresh and processed
20 uses, producing 120,100 tons of processing tomatoes and 74 million
21 pounds for the fresh market; and

22 Whereas, Michigan is home to over 1,000 dairy farms, caring
23 for over 440,000, producing an industry-leading 27,680 pounds of
24 milk per cow annually, ranking sixth in the nation for milk
25 production; and

26 Whereas, Michigan grows over 50 types of vegetables, with
27 3,047 farms harvesting over 165,000 acres; and

28 Whereas, Michigan has over 460,000 acres of wheat across 75
29 counties, producing over 36 million bushels annually; and

1 Whereas, Michigan is the leading producer of potatoes for
2 potato chip processing, making potatoes the second-leading produce
3 commodity in the state, with over 1.9 billion pounds of potatoes
4 produced annually, contributing over \$2.5 billion to Michigan's
5 economy; and

6 Whereas, Michigan's pumpkin and squash production generates
7 over \$55 million from approximately 257 million pounds of produce;
8 and

9 Whereas, Michigan ranks first nationally in cucumber
10 production, with over 800 farms harvesting over 29,000 acres and
11 53.6 million pounds of cucumbers; and

12 Whereas, Michigan's food and agriculture sector continues to
13 be a thriving industry, offering new opportunities for
14 Michiganders, making food and agriculture a cornerstone of
15 Michigan's continued prosperity; now, therefore, be it

16 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
17 this legislative body declare March 2025 as Agriculture
18 appreciation Month in the state of Michigan. We encourage all
19 citizens to recognize and celebrate this momentous occasion.