

By: Representative Fortner

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING ARKANSAS FARMERS, RANCHERS, AND FORESTERS FOR THEIR VITAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE STATE AND THE NATION AND FOR PRODUCING THE FOOD AND FIBER THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTH AND SECURITY OF THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE AND PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

### Subtitle

COMMENDING ARKANSAS FARMERS, RANCHERS, AND FORESTERS FOR THEIR VITAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE STATE AND THE NATION.

WHEREAS, nearly twenty percent (20%) of Arkansas's economy is based on food, fiber, and forestry; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds (2/3) of Arkansas's counties rely heavily on farming and forestry as their economic base; and

WHEREAS, agriculture and food-related activities and industries provide more than two hundred eighty thousand (280,000) jobs and employ one (1) in every seven (7) Arkansans; and

WHEREAS, agricultural pursuits in this state generate a value in excess of nineteen billion dollars (\$19,000,000,000) to the Arkansas economy annually, which contributes to Arkansas's stable and well-balanced economy; and



WHEREAS, Arkansas ranks in the top twenty (20) states in production of thirteen (13) agriculture commodities, including being a top-five producer of rice, broilers, cotton, catfish and turkeys; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas has more than forty-two thousand (42,000) farms on fourteen million (14,000,000) acres and more than nineteen million (19,000,000) acres of forestland; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas ranks fifteenth in agricultural cash receipts in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas farmers, ranchers, and foresters feed and clothe people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, farmers, ranchers, and foresters provide the bulk of the state's wildlife habitat, practice sound environmental stewardship, and supply community leadership throughout rural Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the agricultural community contributes a substantial portion of the revenues that finance state and local services to all of Arkansas's citizens; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas farmers, ranchers, and foresters are deserving of public commendation and appreciation,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives express sincere appreciation to Arkansas farmers, ranchers, and foresters for their outstanding contributions to the economy of the state and nation and to the well-being of the people and commend them for their dedication to the wise utilization of our resources.