

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 1067

By: DeWitt, Armes, Fields and
Ritze of the House

and

Justice of the Senate

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8 A Concurrent Resolution urging Congress to protect
9 and support the Capper-Volstead Act and other related
10 federal statutes; and directing distribution.

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12 WHEREAS, the ability of farmers and ranchers in the United States
13 to join together in cooperative efforts is vital to their continued
14 economic viability; and

15 WHEREAS, the Capper-Volstead Act and other federal statutes have
16 long recognized the importance of protecting and strengthening the
17 ability of farmers and ranchers to join together in cooperative
18 enterprises, including cooperatively marketing their products,
19 serving as bargaining agents, ensuring access to competitive markets
20 worldwide, helping agricultural producer members engage in value-
21 added processing and helping achieve other meaningful public policy
22 goals; and

23 WHEREAS, farmer- and rancher-owned cooperatives play a
24 significant role in helping farmers and ranchers improve their

1 operational success through increasing income from the marketplace,
2 managing risk, meeting credit and input needs and competing more
3 effectively in a rapidly changing global economy; and

4 WHEREAS, farmer- and rancher-owned cooperatives also play an
5 important role in providing consumers in the United States and
6 abroad with a dependable supply of safe, affordable, high-quality
7 food, fiber, and related products; and

8 WHEREAS, in addition, farmer- and rancher-owned cooperatives help
9 meet the energy needs of the United States through the production
10 and marketing of renewable fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel; and

11 WHEREAS, there are nearly 3,000 farmer- and rancher-owned
12 cooperatives located throughout the United States with a combined
13 membership representing a majority of the nearly 2 million farmers
14 and ranchers in the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, the benefits of farmer owned cooperatives go well beyond
16 the farm gate, directly supporting rural America by providing over
17 250,000 jobs, with a total payroll in excess of \$8 billion. Total
18 profits for farmer cooperatives in 2008 were \$4.2 billion, with this
19 money either returning to farmer members or being reinvested into
20 the cooperative which benefits the cooperative members and further
21 bolsters local communities.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
23 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
24 CONCURRING THEREIN:

1 THAT the Oklahoma Legislature urges Congress to continue to
2 protect and support the Capper-Volstead Act and other related
3 federal statutes in order to ensure the ability of farmers and
4 ranchers to join together in cooperative efforts to:

- 5 1. [http://www.govtrack.us/embed/sample-billtext.xpd?bill=sc109-
6 \[119&version=rfh&nid=http://www.govtrack.us/congress/?bill=sc109-
7 \\[119&version=rfh&nid=\\]\\(http://www.govtrack.us/congress/?bill=sc109-119&version=rfh&nid=\\)Improve their income from the marketplace;\]\(http://www.govtrack.us/congress/?bill=sc109-119&version=rfh&nid=\)](http://www.govtrack.us/embed/sample-billtext.xpd?bill=sc109-119&version=rfh&nid=http://www.govtrack.us/congress/?bill=sc109-119&version=rfh&nid=)
- 8 2. Capitalize on new market opportunities;
- 9 3. Help meet the food and fiber needs of consumers;
- 10 4. Provide for increased energy production;
- 11 5. Promote rural development;
- 12 6. Maintain and create needed jobs; and
- 13 7. Contribute to a growing United States economy.

14 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the National
15 Council of Farmer Cooperatives, the Oklahoma Agricultural
16 Cooperative Council, the President of the United States Barack
17 Obama, the United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, and
18 the members of the Oklahoma Congressional delegation.
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