

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1010

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting the "25 by 25" Initiative and promoting the increased production of renewable energy by the agricultural community.

WHEREAS, having an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy supply is critical to our economy, as well as our national and international food supply; and

WHEREAS, current and future risks to United States energy security are mounting while domestic and global energy demands are growing exponentially; and

WHEREAS, South Dakota is recognized to have tremendous renewable energy resources with the potential to become a significant energy exporter in the future; and

WHEREAS, the development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy sources, including wind power, biodiesel, biomass, methane digesters, ethanol, and solar, benefits the environment and will have a direct economic benefit to agricultural landowners and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, rural communities and agriculture sectors will experience multiple benefits, including establishing additional markets for agricultural commodities; increasing farm income; creating added-value uses for crops, livestock, and their byproducts; more productive use of marginal lands; the resolution of air, water, and soil quality problems that may arise from agricultural operations; improving wildlife habitat; and creating many new job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, solar and wind energy can be captured on the vast land areas managed by U.S. agriculture, and technology and production capabilities allow America's farmers and ranchers to play a major role in ensuring a fully sustainable U.S. energy system; and

WHEREAS, American agriculture is well positioned to play an expanded role in the development and implementation of new energy solutions. With appropriate technological innovation, incentives, and investments, America's farms and ranches can become the factories that produce a new generation of fuels to help meet the nation's energy needs; and

WHEREAS, "25 by 25" is an agriculturally led initiative that envisions America's farms and ranches producing twenty-five percent of America's energy demand by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food, fiber, feed, and fuel; and

WHEREAS, Agriculture's role as an energy producer will have a positive effect on national

security and trade imbalances and will serve as a catalyst for rural development in South Dakota:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-Third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature supports the vision of "25 by 25" whereby agriculture will provide twenty-five percent of the total energy consumed in the United States by the year 2025, while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food, fiber, feed, and fuel.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

February 25, 2008
February 27, 2008

Thomas J. Deadrick
Speaker of the House

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House

Dennis Daugaard
President of the Senate

Trudy Evenstad
Secretary of the Senate