

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 100

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to establish a cost share program to assist landowners and producers with the purchase and application of lime for enhancement of crop and grass production.

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted by Cornell University, researchers found that the United States is losing valuable top soil ten times faster than nature can replenish and that poor soil health is a contributor to this loss; and

WHEREAS, the liming of soils to an optimum pH level is critical to crop and grass production and nutrient management and is a necessary component of a conservation plan for overall soil health; and

WHEREAS, acidic soils cause significant losses in production and biomass, which negatively impact the ability for carbon sequestration; and

WHEREAS, the NRCS is a vital federal partner that works to improve, protect, and conserve natural resources on private lands through a cooperative partnership with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture office of soil and water conservation and state and local soil and water conservation districts, forming the widely recognized Louisiana conservation partnership; and

WHEREAS, the NRCS's assistance to landowners is essential not only to help them conserve their soil, water, and related natural resources, including grazing lands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat, and to maintain the highest level of environmental stewardship on all working farmland, but to also enable the highest yield potential regardless of commodity grown, by developing and delivering a liming cost share program that is beneficial to the natural resources conservation effort; and

WHEREAS, a cost share program for the purchase and application of lime will provide valuable soil and watershed protection by increasing plant vigor and vitality, thereby aiding in increased soil carbon and the reduction of erosion through the improvement of soil structure and ensuring the availability of vital nutrients for cropland and grassland.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service to establish a cost share program to assist landowners and producers with the purchase and application of lime for the enhancement of crop and grass production.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE