

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 151

BY SENATOR GALLOT

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Agriculture to complete the approval process for certain new weed control system products.

WHEREAS, American farmers play a pivotal role in providing food and fiber for the world's population; and

WHEREAS, the world's population is estimated to exceed nine billion by the year 2050; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations predicts that the global demand for food, feed, and fiber will nearly double in the next forty years as populations grow; and

WHEREAS, farmers are finding it harder to stay competitive in the marketplace given economic and environmental challenges, including weed resistance; and

WHEREAS, farmers must utilize innovative technologies to help them stay competitive while meeting food demands in a sustainable manner; and

WHEREAS, through the new Enlist Weed Control System, Dow Agrosciences has introduced a product that provides exceptional weed control while increasing the overall productivity and efficiency of farming operations; and

WHEREAS, delays in access to new products can lead to soil loss, water waste, and increased fuel costs on farms; and

WHEREAS, while the Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Agriculture started the review process five years ago, these innovative products have not received regulatory approval and remain unavailable to American farmers; and

WHEREAS, Canadian authorities have already approved the new weed control system perhaps putting American and Louisiana farmers at a competitive disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, new systems, such as the Enlist Weed Control System, provide long-term sustainability through innovative education and training programs, research and development efforts, technology improvements and in-field performance testing; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana farmers need access to the newest innovative products in order to compete in the global marketplace.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Agriculture to complete the approval process for certain new weed control system products.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Agriculture.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE