

Resource Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval w/ Amendment
Resolution Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval w/ Amendment
Approval by CFM Delegates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Do Not Pass	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval w/ Amendment

Committee: Ecology, Environment & Energy
 Author: CLC

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Renewable Fuel Source Biomass and CRP Land

1 WHEREAS 37 million acres are in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) in the nation;
 2 AND WHEREAS of the 44 million acres in Missouri only 1.5 million acres are in CRP at this time
 3 after a loss of 2 million acres of contracted CRP ground this past September;
 4 AND WHEREAS the farming of corn, soybeans, and wheat encompasses 8.95 million acres of the
 5 remaining Missouri land;
 6 AND WHEREAS Missouri contains 4.8 million acres of pasture ground;
 7 AND WHEREAS the Conservation Reserve Program was established to take marginal and highly
 8 erodible farm ground and re-establish native vegetation to support conservation practices;
 9 AND WHEREAS CRP is an excellent tool for managing wildlife and rehabilitating native ground it
 10 is somewhat wasteful in a production standpoint;
 11 AND WHEREAS the contract mandates the owner must cut 1/3 of the ground and is not allowed under
 12 ordinary circumstances to utilize wasteful trimmings for agricultural production;
 13 AND WHEREAS agricultural has been pressured to produce nontraditional alternative fuels;
 14 AND WHEREAS there are currently 11 renewable fuel facilities who harbor cultivated crops and there
 15 are several cellulosic energy projects underway;
 16 AND WHEREAS the need for an increase in energy independence will require feed stocks be obtained
 17 from other sources beyond corn ethanol and soybean biodiesel;
 18 AND WHEREAS our current standard for renewable fuels is 7.5 billion gallons and the President has
 19 called for a new standard of 35 billion gallons by the year 2017;
 20 AND WHEREAS this initiative could prove beneficial towards land owners and their surrounding
 21 communities by stimulating economic growth through the purchase of new equipment, other

22 agricultural good and services, as well as providing an additional cash inflow for the landowner;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conservation Federation of Missouri assembled at

24 the Lodge of Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, MO, this 24th day of February, 2008, calls upon the United

25 States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to implement changes on the current CRP regulations that

26 would allow contract holders the flexibility to harvest biomass with minimally invasive practices that

27 would not be detrimental to the ecosystem. Under this resolution, let it be understood that 1/3 of the

28 land can be used annually for commercial harvesting of a biomass product to meet the growing demand

29 of the Renewable Fuels Standard.