



2003 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 52

October 27, 2003 - Introduced by Representatives OTT, GRONEMUS, TOWNS, AINSWORTH, GARD, KREIBICH, MCCORMICK, WARD, KESTELL, FREESE, WEBER, NISCHKE, LOTHIAN, LOEFFELHOLZ, LADWIG, MUSSER, OLSEN, KRAWCZYK, HAHN, OWENS, M. LEHMAN, LEMAHIEU, VAN ROY, BALOW, POPE-ROBERTS, J. WOOD, HINES, M. WILLIAMS, GIELOW, VRUWINK, HEBL, PLOUFF, PETROWSKI, BIES, MOLEPSKE and MILLER, cosponsored by Senators SCHULTZ, WELCH, BROWN, DECKER, A. LASEE, LEIBHAM, ROESSLER, S. FITZGERALD, HARS DORF, LASSA and HANSEN. Referred to Committee on Agriculture.

1 **Relating to:** calling for concerted action to support, renew, and expand the
2 agricultural economy in Wisconsin.

3 Whereas, the agriculture industry in Wisconsin generates \$40 billion in annual
4 revenues, which is an economic engine that drives substantial portions of the
5 nonfarm economy, as well as the agricultural sector; and

6 Whereas, the challenges to agriculture have never been greater, as global
7 competition has had a major impact on agricultural commodity prices; and

8 Whereas, Wisconsin agricultural producers need to meet this competition by
9 modernizing, becoming more efficient, adding value to agricultural commodities,
10 and finding niche markets; and

11 Whereas, Wisconsin is at a critical juncture, with opportunities for economic
12 growth in agriculture and reasons for optimism about the future of agriculture in this
13 state, due to the large existing investment in infrastructure, abundant clean water,
14 climate conducive to agriculture, and a strong work ethic in all who are involved in
15 agriculture; and

1 Whereas, the legislature has long been active in providing support for
2 agriculture in Wisconsin, as evidenced by the many state programs that provide
3 financial and other forms of assistance to agricultural producers and agribusinesses;
4 and

5 Whereas, that support for agriculture needs to be intensified by the
6 introduction and passage of a group of bills to be known as the “Agricultural Renewal
7 Initiative”; and

8 Whereas, the Agricultural Renewal Initiative is designed to create innovative
9 methods of encouraging agricultural growth and modernization, facilitate the
10 adoption of state-of-the-art agricultural equipment and technologies, improve and
11 unify the delivery of financial support to agricultural producers and agribusinesses
12 through state programs, and enhance the economic climate for agriculture and all
13 related industries; and

14 Whereas, although the legislature pledges to do everything that it can to
15 support agriculture in Wisconsin, that effort will fully succeed only with the
16 cooperation and support of every governmental unit, educational institution, private
17 business, and nonprofit organization that is involved in agriculture in this state;
18 now, therefore, be it

19 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
20 Wisconsin legislature call on and challenge the governor, state agencies, local units
21 of government, universities, colleges, schools, the Wisconsin congressional
22 delegation, federal agencies with responsibilities to agriculture, lenders, and
23 farm-related organizations and businesses to join the legislature in supporting the
24 Agricultural Renewal Initiative, to develop other similar initiatives to complement
25 the legislature’s proposals, and to lend all of the knowledge, creativity, energy, and

1 hope that they have to ensuring a bright future for agriculture in Wisconsin; and, be
2 it further

3 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall publicize this joint resolution
4 and transmit copies as appropriate to the individuals and entities listed in the joint
5 resolution.

6 (END)