

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

House Concurrent Resolution No. 20

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5632H.02C

2 **WHEREAS**, the total economic impact of agricultural sectors in Missouri is over \$31.4
3 billion annually and contributes to our nation's robust agricultural tradition; and

4 **WHEREAS**, Missouri's production of corn, cotton, and soybeans alone is valued at more
5 than \$3.7 billion per year, with nearly 80 percent of corn and cotton and 50 percent of soybeans
6 exported annually; and

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8 **WHEREAS**, these yields are threatened due to no less than six weed species having
9 developed glyphosate resistance throughout important agricultural counties in the state; and

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11 **WHEREAS**, without access to new modes of action, farmers soon will be forced to
12 revert to outdated, costly, and environmentally unsustainable farming practices to manage weeds
13 such as tillage and weeding by hand; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, crops tolerant to 2,4-D and dicamba represent new technologies that will
16 inhibit herbicide-resistant weeds from reducing crop yields in Missouri and allow farmers to
17 employ ecological and economical farming practices; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, these new seed technologies have been under review by the United States
20 Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for three to
21 four years or more; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, these delays by federal regulatory agencies put Missouri farmers at a
24 competitive disadvantage in the global marketplace as Canada and Brazil have already approved
25 some of these crops; and

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27 **WHEREAS**, American farmers also must have access to these same tools to provide a
28 livelihood to their families and ensure that Missouri remains a top agricultural producing state:

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30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
31 Representatives of the Ninety-seventh General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
32 concurring therein, hereby request the United States Congress to urge the USDA and EPA to
33 quickly approve 2,4-D and dicamba tolerant crops to allow Missouri farmers fair access to
34 needed advancements in agriculture; and

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36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
37 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
38 Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate and the United States House of
39 Representatives and each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

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