INTRODUCED

March 29, 2022

**H. 4980**

Introduced by Reps. Hiott, Yow and D.C. Moss

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Read the first time March 29, 2022.

**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO MEMORIALIZE CONGRESS TO ACT SWIFTLY TO ADDRESS RISING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION COSTS TO PROTECT SOUTH CAROLINA FARMS AND THE RURAL ECONOMY.

Whereas, agribusiness is the number one industry in South Carolina, and the backbone of our rural economy and fertilizer costs account for approximately fifteen percent of total cash input costs for the production of crops; and

Whereas, all major nutrients used in the production of primary row crops in the United States, nitrogen (in the forms of anhydrous ammonia, urea, or liquid nitrogen), phosphorus (diammonium phosphate ‑ DAP and monoammonium phosphate ‑ MAP), and potassium (potash), have experienced varying degrees of upward price pressure. Compared to September 2020 prices, ammonia has increased over 210 percent, liquid nitrogen has increased over 159 percent, urea is up 155 percent, and MAP has increased 125 percent, while DAP is up over 100 percent and potash has risen above 134 percent; and

Whereas, fertilizer is a global commodity and can be influenced by multiple market factors beyond the control of American producers, but the effects of those market factors can have devastating impacts for South Carolina farmers and agribusinesses; and

Whereas, American agricultural production costs are increasingly important to the near‑ and long‑term viability of South Carolina farms and its economy. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly memorialize Congress to act swiftly to address the multiple market factors impacting rising agricultural production costs to save South Carolina farms and the rural economy.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and the members of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation.

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