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LRB096 11369 GRL 21828 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Having an affordable, reliable, and plentiful  
3 energy supply is critical to our economy, as well as our  
4 national and international food supplies; and

5 WHEREAS, Current and future risks to national energy  
6 security are mounting, while domestic and global energy demands  
7 are growing; and

8 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has abundant renewable  
9 energy resources; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has significant  
11 agriculture, business, education, and research resources; and

12 WHEREAS, The development of a broad spectrum of renewable  
13 energy sources, including ethanol, wind, solar, biomass,  
14 methane digesters, hydroelectric, biodiesel, and next  
15 generation biofuels benefits the environment and will have a  
16 direct economic benefit to farmers, rural communities, and  
17 businesses throughout Illinois; and

18 WHEREAS, Rural communities and agriculture sectors will  
19 experience multiple benefits, including establishing  
20 additional markets for agricultural commodities, increasing

1 farm income, creating value-added uses for crops, livestock,  
2 and their byproducts, improving air and water quality,  
3 improving wildlife habitat, and adding many traditional and  
4 green job opportunities; and

5 WHEREAS, Wind and solar energy can be captured on the vast  
6 land areas in agriculture; technology and production  
7 capabilities will allow Illinois to play a major role in  
8 ensuring a fully sustainable national energy system; and

9 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is well-positioned to play  
10 an expanded role in the development and implementation of new  
11 energy solutions and, with appropriate technological  
12 innovation, incentives, and investments, Illinois farms can  
13 produce a new generation of fuels to help meet the nation's  
14 energy needs; and

15 WHEREAS, "25x'25" is an agriculturally-led initiative that  
16 envisions America's farms and ranches producing twenty-five  
17 percent of America's energy demand by the year 2025, while  
18 producing a sustainable and abundant supply of safe and  
19 affordable food and fiber; and

20 WHEREAS, Agriculture's role as an energy producer will have  
21 a positive effect on national security and trade and will serve  
22 as a catalyst for rural development in Illinois; therefore, be

1 it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
3 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
4 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we support the "25x'25 Vision" and its  
5 goal of having agriculture provide renewable energy and safe  
6 and affordable food and fiber; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be sent  
8 to President Barack Obama, Governor Pat Quinn, the members of  
9 the Illinois congressional delegation, and the various  
10 agencies and commissions of the State of Illinois.