



HR1186

LRB097 22288 CEL 71040 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The ongoing drought is having a profound effect on
3 both crop and livestock production; and

4 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Agriculture
5 (USDA) has designated 98 out of 102 counties in Illinois
6 disaster areas due to drought conditions; and

7 WHEREAS, The severe drought conditions are creating poor
8 pasture conditions and reducing forage yields making it more
9 difficult for farmers to feed their livestock; and

10 WHEREAS, The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) has announced
11 that emergency haying and grazing will be allowed as of August
12 2, 2012, for certain Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
13 practices; and

14 WHEREAS, The CRP practices included for emergency haying
15 and grazing do not currently include filter strips as an
16 eligible practice; and

17 WHEREAS, Allowing CRP filter strips to be utilized for
18 emergency haying and grazing would provide desperately needed
19 acreage for farmers to use as feed for their livestock; and

1 WHEREAS, The Illinois State FSA has requested that filter
2 strips be utilized for emergency haying and grazing but the
3 federal government has not yet approved this request; and

4 WHEREAS, Filter strips should immediately be added to the
5 list of conservation practices eligible for emergency haying
6 and grazing; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we urge the Governor, the Director of the Illinois Department
10 of Agriculture, and the members of the Illinois Congressional
11 delegation to take all action possible to encourage the U.S.
12 Secretary of Agriculture to immediately allow filter strips to
13 be recognized as a conservation practice eligible for emergency
14 haying and grazing in Illinois; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 delivered to the Governor, the Illinois Director of
17 Agriculture, and the Illinois Congressional delegation.