

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 218

By Brooks K

A RESOLUTION to support use of science-based data to assess the impacts and regulation of modern agricultural technologies.

WHEREAS, the treatment, prevention, and control of agricultural pests is critically important to the health and welfare of our residents and the safety of our global food, feed, and fiber supply; and

WHEREAS, modern agricultural technologies, such as precision farming equipment, crop protection chemistries, genetically engineered or enhanced traits, and agricultural nutrients, are critically important tools that allow farmers to expand yields, reduce environmental impacts, improve profitability, and provide a safe, healthy, abundant, and affordable food supply; and

WHEREAS, the agriculture and food production industries have a long history of success and safety in protecting and further enhancing the food, feed, and fiber supply of Tennessee residents and the world; and

WHEREAS, the agriculture industry is recognized as an important contributor to the economic vitality of the State of Tennessee through jobs, capital investment, farm income, value-added sectors, and contributions to the State's tax base; and

WHEREAS, the crop protection industry is among the most studied and regulated of all industries at both the state and federal levels; and

WHEREAS, the continued success of these industries and our nation's position as a world leader in crop protection chemistries, genetically engineered or enhanced traits, and nutrients depend on state and federal regulators utilizing science-based data to assess both product and ingredient safety; and

WHEREAS, sound science rather than “precautionary principle” should be the bedrock of our nation’s regulatory scheme; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the State of Tennessee supports the use of science-based data to assess the impacts and the regulation of modern agricultural technologies, including, but not limited to, crop protection chemistries, genetically engineered or enhanced traits, and nutrients.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State of Tennessee opposes legislative or regulatory action, whether at the federal, state, or other local level, that may result in unnecessary restrictions on the use of modern agricultural technologies, including, but not limited to, crop protection chemistries, genetically engineered or enhanced traits, and nutrients that are not based on sound science.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared and transmitted to the Tennessee Congressional delegation.