

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas many of the international partners of the United States are designating 2015 as the “International Year of Soils”;

Whereas soil is vitally important for food security and essential ecosystem functions;

Whereas soil conservation efforts in the United States are often locally led;

Whereas 2015 also marks the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.) on April 27, 1935;

Whereas soils, as the foundation for agricultural production, essential ecosystem functions, and food security, are key to sustaining life on Earth;

Whereas soils and the science of soils contribute to improved water quality, food safety and security, healthy ecosystems, and human health; and

Whereas soil, plant, animal, and human health are intricately linked: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*

2 *concurring*), That Congress—

3 (1) supports the designation of 2015 as the

4 “International Year of Soils”;

1 (2) encourages the public to participate in ac-
2 tivities that celebrate the importance of soils to the
3 current and future well-being of the United States;
4 and

5 (3) supports conservation of the soils of the
6 United States, through—

7 (A) partnership with local soil and water
8 conservation districts; and

9 (B) voluntary landowner participation in—

10 (i) the conservation reserve program
11 established under subchapter B of chapter
12 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Se-
13 curity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et
14 seq.);

15 (ii) the environmental quality incen-
16 tives program established under chapter 4
17 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Secu-
18 rity Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa et
19 seq.);

20 (iii) the conservation stewardship pro-
21 gram established under subchapter B of
22 chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the
23 Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C.
24 3838D et seq.);

1 (iv) the agricultural conservation ease-
2 ment program established under subtitle H
3 of title XII of the Food Security Act of
4 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3865 et seq.);

5 (v) the regional conservation partner-
6 ship program established under subtitle I
7 of title XII of the Food Security Act of
8 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3871 et seq.); and

9 (vi) the small watershed rehabilitation
10 program established under section 14 of
11 the Watershed Protection and Flood Pre-
12 vention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012).

Passed the Senate May 13, 2015.

Attest:

Secretary.

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 10

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Supporting the designation of the year of 2015 as the “International Year of Soils” and supporting locally led soil conservation.