

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 5009

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Congress of the United States to address the conservation and preservation of the High Plains Aquifer.

WHEREAS, The High Plains Aquifer is the most important water resource in the eight-state High Plains Region, including Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Portions of the water tables of the High Plains Aquifer in Kansas, particularly in the Ogallala region, have declined dramatically over the past four decades; and

WHEREAS, The projected depletion of the High Plains Aquifer may require the necessary transition to dryland farming for many areas of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, The State is addressing the groundwater depletion through conservation programs and new management approaches; and

WHEREAS, The federal farm program has a significant impact on farmers' agricultural practices; and

WHEREAS, Some of the farm program costs to the government could be transferred as incentives to the farmers to convert irrigated land to dryland and other conservation actions; and

WHEREAS, Much of the western Kansas economy is based on irrigated agriculture, and assistance is needed to conserve and preserve the High Plains Aquifer: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Legislature of the State of Kansas urges the Congress of the United States to appropriate funds through the federal farm program to assist states to conserve and preserve the High Plains Aquifer consistent with the recommendation contained in the Kansas Water Office Committee Report on Federal Actions Necessary for the Conservation and Environmental Preservation of the High Plains Aquifer dated October 27, 2000; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State is directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution and the Committee Report to the President of the United States, George W. Bush; Senator Richard G. Lugar, Chairman, United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, Room 328A, Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510-6000; Representative Larry Combest, Chairman, United States House Committee on Agriculture, 1301 House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Senator Robert Smith, Chairman, United States Senate Committee on Environment, 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Representative James Hansen, Chairman, United States House Committee on Resources, 1324 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; The United States Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman; and each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

I hereby certify that the above CONCURRENT RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

HOUSE concurred in
SENATE amendments _____

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.

Adopted by the
SENATE as amended _____

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.