CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FARMERS

FEEDING UTAH

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

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LONG TITLE

General Description:
This concurrent resolution addresses the Farmers Feeding Utah program.

Highlighted Provisions:
This resolution:

- outlines past difficulties for Utah's resilient agriculture community and Utah families;
describes the creation of the Farmers Feeding Utah program; and
• recognizes the Farmers Feeding Utah program and its benefits to Utah.

Special Clauses:
None

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:
WHEREAS, agriculture has always been a vital part of Utah's communities and culture;
WHEREAS, the trials of the year 2020 and COVID-19 showcased the resilience of Utah's agricultural community;
WHEREAS, Utah farmers and ranchers were no different than farmers and ranchers across the nation who were faced with difficulties of getting their products processed and delivered to market;
WHEREAS, many farmers and ranchers faced the very real possibility of the farmer's or rancher's products spoiling, ending up in a landfill, or being dumped onto the ground like many dairy farmers had to do;
WHEREAS, at the same time, many Utah families faced financial difficulties, many for the first time, and the state experienced a 300% increase in food assistance;
WHEREAS, the Utah Farm Bureau, which has been a part of Utah since Utah was a fledging state, has as the Utah Farm Bureau's mission to "Inspire all Utah Families to connect, succeed and grow through the Miracle of Agriculture";
WHEREAS, the Utah Farm Bureau partnered with Utah State University Extension and the university's Create Better Health Program and Hunger Solutions Institution to form the Farmers Feeding Utah program;
WHEREAS, the Farmers Feeding Utah is a program of the Miracle of Agriculture Foundation;
WHEREAS, the Miracle of Agriculture Foundation has partnered with local law enforcement to distribute food to families in need at events such as the recent "Cops & Crops" Thanksgiving Miracle Project in Weber County;
WHEREAS, this partnership created a way to facilitate the delivery of Utah produced food from Utah farmers and ranchers to Utah families in need;

WHEREAS, to date, Farmers Feeding Utah has raised more than $800,000, enabling them to deliver more than 1 million pounds of Utah produced food to 20,000 Utah families and over 24 food pantries throughout the state;

WHEREAS, the Navajo Nation, one of the hardest hit areas of the United States, was one of the first to receive Farmers Feeding Utah attention with deliveries of hundreds of live sheep along with food to the devastated residents;

WHEREAS, Farmers Feeding Utah was proactive in finding a way to both sustain Utah farmers and ranchers, as well as families throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, this process has helped unify communities through volunteer service and donation opportunities:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, recognizes the Farmers Feeding Utah program as a grassroots effort to care for the needs of Utah families that exemplifies the generous and caring spirit of Utah's farmers and ranchers, and consequently showcasing Utah Farm Bureau's mission of connecting Utah families with Utah's agriculture.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the resolution be sent to the Utah Farm Bureau, the Utah State University Extension, the Create Better Health Program, the Hunger Solutions Institution, and the Miracle of Agriculture Foundation.