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4 **House Concurrent Resolution No. 5003**

5  
6 By Committee on Agriculture

7  
8 1-23

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10 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress  
11 to provide emergency disaster assistance to agricultural producers **and**  
12 **to enact the national drought policy act.**

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14 WHEREAS, Agricultural producers have suffered substantial losses as  
15 a result of natural disasters in the 2001 and 2002 production years; and

16 WHEREAS, Devastating negative economic impacts are being experi-  
17 enced by Kansas and American farmers, ranchers and their communities  
18 throughout much of rural America due to natural disasters beyond their  
19 control; and

20 WHEREAS, This production disaster is caused by a myriad of natural  
21 causes from drought and reduced water supplies for livestock, flooding,  
22 increased incidence of crop pests and diseases and frost and heavy freeze  
23 conditions; and

24 WHEREAS, Almost 90% of U.S. Counties have received a USDA dis-  
25 aster designation in 2002; and

26 WHEREAS, Drought and reduced water supplies have hit Kansas ex-  
27 tremely hard with related crop losses estimated at between \$1.1 and \$1.4  
28 billion in 2002 alone; and

29 WHEREAS, Kansas will produce 346.34 million less bushels of its pri-  
30 mary crops and Kansas producers abandoned 1.69 million acres more  
31 than normal of its primary crops; and

32 WHEREAS, Kansas livestock losses total nearly \$300 million; and

33 WHEREAS, Net farm income in Kansas is forecast to average ap-  
34 proximately \$10,000 in 2002 which is \$35,000 less than necessary to cover  
35 family living expenses and income taxes; and

36 WHEREAS, Government payments will decrease approximately 60%  
37 or \$24,000 per farm in 2002; and

38 WHEREAS, Traditional forms of relief cannot effectively respond to  
39 this unprecedented and expansive devastation being experienced across  
40 Kansas and a large part of the United States of America: Now, therefore,

41 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,*  
42 *the Senate concurring therein:* That we urge the United States Congress  
43 to provide emergency disaster assistance to agricultural producers to re-

1 spond to severe crop losses and livestock losses incurred in 2001 and 2002  
2 **and to ensure the allocation and distribution of such emergency**  
3 **disaster assistance through programs that emphasize demon-**  
4 **strated loss standards in order that those who have suffered the**  
5 **greatest damage receive the most assistance; and**

6 *Be it further resolved:* **That we urge the United States Congress to**  
7 **enact the national drought policy act to provide for a cohesive**  
8 **federal policy, similar to that in place for other types of disasters,**  
9 **to reduce serious economic and other losses due to drought; and**

10 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State is directed to send  
11 enrolled copies of this resolution to the ~~President~~ **Majority Leader** of  
12 the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker  
13 of the United States House of Representatives and each member of the  
14 Kansas Congressional Delegation.

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