

Approved April 11, 1986  
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND SMALL BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order by Lloyd D. Polson at  
Chairperson

1:45 ~~am~~/p.m. on April 7,, 1986 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representatives Eckert, Long, Hamm, Dean, Solbach, Teagarden and Weaver, who were excused.

Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department  
Mary Jane Holt, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

The Committee met to consider introducing a concurrent resolution urging the Congress of the United States to enact legislation which will mandate the implementation of a hardness determination tester for accurate wheat classification, Attachment I.

Representative Bryant moved that the Committee introduce the concurrent resolution. Representative Rezac seconded and the motion passed.

Representative Bryant moved and Representative Rezac seconded to approve the minutes of March 23, 31 and April 1, 1986. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Congress of the United States to enact legislation which will mandate the implementation of a hardness determination tester for accurate wheat classification.

WHEREAS, Agriculture is the number one industry in Kansas and is the foundation of the American economy; and

WHEREAS, The United States has lost a large share of the export market in recent years, and those markets must be regained if agriculture is to recover economically; and

WHEREAS, Advancements in wheat breeding have produced varieties of wheat that have greater potential for yield, disease and pest resistance, and protein, milling and baking quality. These wheats, unfortunately, are nearly impossible to classify accurately, because kernal characteristics do not fit typical patterns; and

WHEREAS, Without accurate classification, these newly developed wheat varieties and hybrids are classed by the Federal Grain Inspection Service, as "mixed wheat," a classification that drastically lowers the value of each bushel. Discounts of from \$.25 to \$.80 per bushel are expected on 1986 harvested wheat; and

WHEREAS, It has been estimated that the Kansas wheat crop alone could be devalued as much as \$40 million due to the classification problem; and

WHEREAS, Since the cross-breeding techniques that produced these new varieties have been employed by all segments of the wheat industry, and all seven classes of United States wheat are affected, the problem is nationwide in scope; and

WHEREAS, If the classification problem is not solved, the wheat industry will suffer further losses of export markets for all types of wheat; and

4/7/86 Hs. ASB.  
Attachment I

WHEREAS, Kansas wheat producers and agri-businesses have taken a leadership role in seeking a solution to the classification dilemma; and

WHEREAS, The Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture has developed a single kernal hardness testing instrument which has exhibited an extremely high degree of accuracy and consistency in measuring wheat hardness and was recognized by a Kansas Wheat Classification Industry Task Force as having strong potential for accurate hardness evaluation and further capabilities in the milling industry; and

WHEREAS, The hardness determination tester can be developed at a cost that is affordable for federal and state inspection programs and local elevators and terminal facilities as well; and

WHEREAS, In order to avoid major disruptions in our marketing system due to inaccurate classification of wheat, we must abandon the outdated visual-only inspection of wheat and utilize state-of-the-art technology: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That we urge the Congress of the United States to enact legislation which will mandate the implementation of a hardness determination tester, or an instrument of equal capability and cost effectiveness, to the Federal Grain Inspection Service system by mid-April, 1987, so that accurate wheat classification may be possible for the 1987 wheat harvest; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the Governor, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation and the United States Secretary of Agriculture.