

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5009

By Committee on Environment

1-30

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

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

16 WHEREAS, The water tables of the High Plains Aquifer in Kansas,
17 particularly in the Ogallala portion, have declined dramatically over the
18 past four decades; and

19 WHEREAS, The projected depletion of the High Plains Aquifer ~~will~~
20 **may** require the necessary transition to dryland farming for many areas
21 of Kansas; and

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

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

26 WHEREAS, Some of the farm program costs to the government could
27 be transferred as incentives to the farmers to convert irrigated land to
28 dryland and other conservation actions ~~instead of price supports for excess~~
29 ~~productions~~; and

30 WHEREAS, Much of the western Kansas economy is based on irri-
31 gated agriculture, and assistance is needed to transition the economy as
32 well as conserve and preserve the High Plains Aquifer: Now, therefore,

33 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,*
34 *the Senate concurring therein:* That the Legislature of the State of Kan-
35 sas urges the Congress of the United States to ~~take action~~ **appropriate**
36 **funds through the federal farm program to assist states** to conserve
37 and preserve the High Plains Aquifer consistent with the recommenda-
38 tion contained in the Kansas Water Office Committee Report on Federal
39 Actions Necessary for the Conservation and Environmental Preservation
40 of the High Plains Aquifer dated October 27, 2000; and

41 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State is directed to send
42 enrolled copies of this resolution and the Committee Report to the Pres-
43 ident of the United States, George W. Bush; Senator Richard G. Lugar,

1 Chairman, United States Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition
2 and Forestry, Room 328A, Russell Senate Office Building, Washington,
3 D.C. 20510-6000; Representative Larry Combest, Chairman, United
4 States House Committee on Agriculture, 1301 House Office Building,
5 Washington, D.C. 20515; The United States Secretary of Agriculture Ann
6 M. Veneman; and each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

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;