

**Lee County Board
Dixon, Illinois**

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LEE COUNTY AGRICULTURE

WHEREAS, Illinois is home to more than 71,000 farms, 96% of which are family-owned and a third of which include livestock.

WHEREAS, Lee County accounts for 829 of those farms.

WHEREAS, those farm properties account for 377,886 acres.

WHEREAS, agriculture supports 3,325 jobs which accounts for an estimated 19 percent of total jobs in the county.

WHEREAS, agriculture and related industries generate total sales or output estimated at \$400 million.

WHEREAS, farm property provides 28.9 percent of taxable value, which provides services to residents.

WHEREAS, Illinois farmers support the food security of our citizens. The international pandemic displayed the importance of American food systems, processing and supply chain weaknesses.

WHEREAS, new livestock development accounts for additional jobs creating additional economic growth within the county.

WHEREAS, farmers are dedicated to caring for their animals in ways that also benefit the land. Using tools and technology to better manage soil nutrients, water runoff and air quality on the farm, farmers are using fewer natural resources and reducing their carbon footprint while producing more food.

WHEREAS, farmland is a finite resource that is vital to agriculture, food production, and the economic well-being of our county.

WHEREAS, farmers in Illinois face multiple layers of regulation involving state and federal agencies providing a comprehensive, robust regulatory program for all farms including those raising livestock.

WHEREAS, data and information from state regulatory agencies demonstrates environmental issues from agriculture are an extremely rare occurrence.

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WHEREAS, the county recognizes the value agriculture contributes to our county and the rural way of life is the backbone of our country. Efforts should be made to accommodate future success of the rural community.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Lee County Board acknowledges and supports agriculture within our county. The jobs created, taxes generated, technologies embraced and environmental practices implemented by farmers make agriculture a valuable industry within our county.

LET IT BE RESOLVED, the County of Lee elected board and county staff will work to support and promote the development of agriculture for the benefit of our county and all its residents.

PASSED BY THE LEE COUNTY BOARD

THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2025

By: _____
Lee County Board Chairman

ATTEST:

Lee County Clerk

All information within the resolution is sourced from the following:

- 2024 Illinois Agriculture Economic Contribution Study
- USDA 2022 Census of Agriculture
- Illinois Department of Revenue