

RESOLUTION OF THE MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD In Support of McLean County Agriculture

WHEREAS, Illinois is home to more than 71,000 farms, 96 percent of which are family-owned and a third of which include livestock; and McLean County accounts for 1,416 of those farms producing a diverse range of grain, specialty crops and livestock; and consistently produces the largest volume of corn and soybeans of any county in the nation; and

WHEREAS, agriculture represents the largest land use in the county representing approximately 85 percent of total land area; farmland is a finite resource that is vital to agriculture, food production and the economic well-being of our county with approximately 93 percent of the total acreage in McLean County designated as prime farmland based on soil types and productive capacity; and

WHEREAS, agriculture in McLean County supports 5,593 jobs, representing an estimated 5 percent of total jobs in the county with a total economic impact estimated at \$1.5 billion annually

WHEREAS, agribusiness has been identified as one of five key economic sectors targeted for growth by the Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council; with new livestock development providing opportunities for economic growth, additional jobs and the next generation of farmers; and

WHEREAS, farmers in Illinois comply with robust regulations involving state and federal agencies to ensure environmentally responsible practices; data and information from state regulatory agencies demonstrates environmental issues from agriculture are an extremely rare occurrence; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the McLean County Board acknowledges the value of agriculture to our local economy and rural communities and expresses support for the continued growth and development of agriculture within our county.

Adopted by the McLean County Board this 16th day of February, 2023.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kathy Michael, Clerk
McLean County Board

John D. McIntyre, Chairman
McLean County Board

McLEAN COUNTY BOARD PROCLAMATION
Proclaiming March 21, 2023 National Ag Day

WHEREAS, National Ag Day marks a nationwide effort to tell the story of American agriculture and remind us that agriculture plays an essential part of all of our daily lives.

WHEREAS, National Ag Day has been celebrated since 1973 and has been proclaimed as such annually by each sitting U.S. President.

WHEREAS, the 2023 National Ag Day theme is Agriculture: Growing a Climate for Tomorrow and 2023 marks the 50th anniversary of the event

WHEREAS, National Ag Day encourages every American to:

- Learn about where their food comes from and the farmers that grow it
- Appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable food, feed, fuel and fiber
- Acknowledge the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy, protecting our environment; and
- Consider the wide range of career opportunities in the agriculture, food and fiber industry

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The McLean County Board thanks farmers and our local agriculture business for their contributions to our local communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the McLean County Board that March 21, 2023 is designated as National Ag Day in McLean County.

ADOPTED by the McLean County Board this 16th day of March, 2023.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kathy Michael, Clerk
McLean County Board

John D. McIntyre, Chairman
McLean County Board