



HR0177

LRB104 12680 ECR 23478 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The hardworking farmers and ranchers of this
3 country feed the United States, yet the bureaucrats of
4 Washington, D.C. who control agriculture policy are out of
5 touch with the realities of rural America; and

6 WHEREAS, It is imperative that the U.S. Department of
7 Agriculture (USDA) be located where the real work of American
8 agriculture happens; rather than be based in the "swamp" of
9 Washington, D.C., the department should be in the heartland of
10 the United States, among the farmers, agribusinesses, and
11 rural communities that keep this country running; and

12 WHEREAS, Illinois is one of the top agricultural states in
13 the nation, leading the way in corn, soybeans, pork, and
14 livestock production, and Bloomington-Normal and Decatur are
15 at the center of the action; and

16 WHEREAS, Central Illinois, particularly
17 Bloomington-Normal and Decatur, is home to major agricultural
18 research institutions, agribusinesses, and food processing
19 companies, including Archer Daniels Midland (ADM), Primient,
20 Growmark, and the Illinois Farm Bureau; and

21 WHEREAS, Bloomington-Normal serves as a hub for

1 agricultural innovation and agronomic research, and Decatur is
2 known as the "Soybean Capital of the World"; and

3 WHEREAS, Central Illinois is a natural fit for the USDA,
4 offering lower costs, a skilled workforce, and easy access to
5 America's farmers, ranchers, and agribusinesses, unlike the
6 overpriced, disconnected bubble of Washington, D.C.; and

7 WHEREAS, Illinois is centrally located in the United
8 States and offers excellent transportation infrastructure,
9 such as major highways, railways, and airports, which would
10 facilitate USDA operations; and

11 WHEREAS, Moving the USDA to Central Illinois would create
12 significant economic opportunities for the region, improve
13 coordination with farmers and agribusiness leaders, and
14 provide taxpayers with a more cost-effective and efficient
15 department; and

16 WHEREAS, Congress has recognized the urgent need to move
17 federal agencies closer to the communities they serve, as
18 demonstrated by the Strategic Withdrawal of Agencies for
19 Meaningful Placement (SWAMP) Act, introduced by Congresswoman
20 Ashley Hinson (R-IA-02) and Congressman Jared Golden
21 (D-ME-02), which seeks to decentralize federal agencies and
22 ensure they are placed in regions most relevant to their

1 missions; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
3 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we urge President Donald J. Trump and the United States
5 Congress to immediately begin the process of relocating the
6 U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to Central Illinois,
7 specifically to Bloomington-Normal or Decatur, where the
8 department can serve the people it was meant to serve; and be
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be delivered to
11 the President of the United States, the U.S. Secretary of
12 Agriculture, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives,
13 the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, and all members of the
14 Illinois Congressional Delegation.