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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION WHEREAS, The Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program has 2 3 helped Illinois dairy farmers survive over the last few years 4 by compensating milk production during periods of extremely low 5 prices; and WHEREAS, The MILC program expires in September and, without 6 an extension by Congress, the end of the program will deprive 7 8 Illinois dairy farmers of a valuable safety net that has provided over \$38,000,000 in necessary funding to an important 9 10 Illinois industry; and WHEREAS, It is foreseeable that price fluctuation in the 11 12 future, without a MILC safety net, may have a profound negative 13 impact on the economic viability of dairy farms in this State; 14 and 15 WHEREAS, Dairy farming serves an important role in the 16 modern, diverse economy of this State; it also functions as a cultural, social, and historic anchor for many of Illinois' 17 rural communities; therefore, be it 18 19 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RESOLVED, ΒY THE $\cap F$ THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that 20 we strongly urge the United States Congress to pass legislation 21 22 that extends the MILC program until at least 2007, when it may 23 be reviewed in the context of the next farm bill process; and 24 be it further 25 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be provided to the 26 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and each member of the 27 28 Illinois Congressional delegation.