

2025 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 561

Commending hemp farmers in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 3, 2025
Agreed to by the Senate, February 13, 2025

WHEREAS, hemp farmers in Virginia support the production of numerous items that not only benefit consumers, but enhance other aspects of the agricultural sector; and

WHEREAS, many of the Commonwealth's hemp farmers produce hemp-based animal bedding, which has proven to be a superior option for animal health and environmental sustainability, offering a natural, hypoallergenic, and absorbent alternative to traditional bedding materials; and

WHEREAS, horse farmers, livestock farmers, and companion animal owners throughout the Commonwealth work hard to provide the best care for their animals and recognize that hemp-based animal bedding can significantly reduce odors, dust, and the risk of mold and mildew, creating a healthier environment for animals and farmers alike; and

WHEREAS, certain hemp-based animal bedding products have also earned the prestigious Climate Smart certification from the United States Department of Agriculture, demonstrating a strong commitment to environmentally friendly practices and reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the hemp farmers that produce Climate Smart certified hemp-based animal bedding have contributed to a more sustainable and environmentally conscious approach to animal care, aligning with the Commonwealth's efforts to promote eco-friendly practices and mitigate climate change; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend hemp farmers in Virginia for their innovative practices within the industry and commitment to environmental sustainability; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to hemp farmers in Virginia as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the their work in reducing their environmental footprint through the use of hemp-based animal bedding and other eco-friendly practices.

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