Introduced Version

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the FFA and its Indiana state officers.

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_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

First Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2015)

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the FFA and its Indiana state officers.

Whereas, The FFA is the student organization component of Indiana's total agricultural education program;

Whereas, As an intracurricular activity, FFA empowers students to apply the knowledge and competencies gained from classroom laboratory instruction and supervised agricultural experiences;

Whereas, The Indiana FFA and agricultural education provide a strong foundation for the youth of Indiana and the future of the food, fiber, and natural resource systems for Hoosiers statewide;

Whereas, The Indiana FFA nurtures the next generation of Hoosier agriculturalists who will be involved in the leadership of every facet of our food and fiber system, including food safety, research and development, environmental protection, sales and marketing, food production, food processing, international trade, and education;

Whereas, The Indiana FFA promotes premier leadership, personal growth, and career success among its members and assists students in discovering the power they possess through the State Agri-Entrepreneurship Awards Program, conferences and workshops, agriculture career development events, chapter retreats, district officer program, leadership

career development events, The Living to Serve: Community Initiative, The Living to Serve: Safety Initiative, and the state FFA convention;

Whereas, The FFA motto "Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve" gives purpose to students who take an active role in succeeding in agricultural education;

Whereas, 2014-15 Indiana FFA State President Brittany Faith Young, 18, graduated from Hauser High School in Bartholomew County with the Indiana CORE 40 Academic Honors Diploma, ranked in the top 25 percent of her class, and was a member of the National Honor Society her junior and senior years;

Whereas, Brittany has served as the Hope FFA Chapter Reporter, Secretary, Vice President, and President, as well as the District XI Reporter and President and has headed up numerous activities within her chapter;

Whereas, Brittany has participated in numerous state activities including Page Day at the State House, Leadership Development Workshop and Premier Leadership Training, and served as camp counselor for Seeking Opportunities and Achieving Results (SOAR) and Foundations in Reaching Excellence (FIRE) programs;

Whereas, Brittany has also attended the Indiana FFA State Convention representing her chapter as a State Delegate and, on the national level, has attended the National Convention and has helped earn Monsanto Fund grants for her agriculture department;

Whereas, Brittany also had the opportunity to attend the Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas, As part of her Supervised Agriculture Experience, Brittany taught Introduction to Agriculture to eighth grade students throughout her senior year;

Whereas, As a member of 4-H for 10 years Brittany has served as Vice President and President of her 4-H club and

had the honor of serving her county as the 2013 Bartholomew County 4-H Fair Queen;

Whereas, Brittany plans to attend Ivy Tech Community College initially and later transfer to Purdue University in West Lafayette to major in Agricultural Education with a goal of becoming an agricultural educator and FFA Advisor;

Whereas, 2014-15 Indiana FFA State Secretary Skylar Clingan, 18, is a member of the Prairie Heights FFA Chapter where he served as Parliamentarian and President, was chairman of the FFA Week committee, and served as the Master of Ceremonies at Prairie Heights' annual Heritage Festival;

Whereas, While in high school, Skylar participated in numerous career development events including Dairy Cattle Evaluation, where he qualified for three national contests and placed seventh at the National FFA Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management CDE in 2012, and Agriculture Sales, ranking as a gold rating individual and as the eighth-place team nationally;

Whereas, With his Supervised Agriculture Experience in the field of specialty animal production, Skylar's program includes three breeding emus, 12 incubating eggs, and 17 egg shells for resale, providing Skylar with the opportunity to grow and achieve success by placing first in the Specialty Animal Production Proficiency in 2012 and second in 2013, statewide;

Whereas, Skylar is a three-year peer mentor for middle school students, 2011 varsity soccer player, a member of the National Honor Society serving as President in 2013, and a 10-year 4-H member, serving his club as President and Treasurer;

Whereas, Active in his community, Skylar participated in the Steuben County Junior Leaders program serving as President for three years, and the Steuben County 4-H Junior Fair Board as President and Treasurer; in addition to these activities, Skylar was active in the Indiana Junior Holstein Association serving as President, District Representative,

national delegate and placing second at the National Prepared Public Speaking contest;

Whereas, Skylar plans to attend Purdue University College of Agriculture majoring in Animal Science with an eye on becoming an advocate for agriculture;

Whereas, 2014-15 Indiana FFA State Northern Region Vice President Lindsey O'Hara, 19, has served as Warsaw FFA President and as the District II Sentinel;

Whereas, Active in her chapter, Lindsey has served as chairperson for the Community Appreciation Supper Member Worker Experience, Kosciusko County Taste of Ag Booth, YMCA/Partner in Active Learning Support, and has participated in various state activities including the State FFA Leadership conferences for four consecutive years;

Whereas, In addition to her other accomplishments, Lindsey has also served as a conference counselor at Seeking Opportunities and Achieving Results (SOAR) and Foundations In Reaching Excellence (FIRE) programs, and represented her chapter as a delegate at the State Convention;

Whereas, Active on the national level, Lindsey has attended the Washington Leadership Conference and the National FFA Convention;

Whereas, Lindsey plans to attend Western Illinois University to study Agricultural Education;

Whereas, 2014-15 Indiana FFA State Southern Region Vice President Jacob Mueller, 18, has been active in FFA since the seventh grade and has served as the 2013-14 District VIII President, the 2013-14 Eastern Hancock FFA Chapter President, and the 2012-13 District VIII Treasurer;

Whereas, Involved on the county and state level, Jacob helped coordinate Eastern Hancock FFA's annual hog roast, fruit sales, and donkey basketball games, attended numerous state camps including the CDE Workshop, Leadership Development Workshop (LDW), Seeking Opportunities and

Achieving Results (SOAR), Foundations in Reaching Excellence (FIRE), and Premier Leadership Training (PLT), and, in 2012, won the top leader award at FIRE and returned to serve as a counselor for both SOAR and FIRE in 2013;

Whereas, Jacob's Supervised Agriculture Experience consists of a 70-head feeder lamb operation that he runs on pasture rented from his parents, showing his lambs at the county and state level while maintaining the flock of feeder lambs during the summer;

Whereas, In addition to FFA, Jacob has been active in athletics throughout his high school career, competing on the cross country and track teams where he was the number one distance runner; in 2013 Jacob became the first male from Eastern Hancock to ever advance to the cross country semi-state;

Whereas, Jacob is also a member of the National Honor Society and a 10-year 4-H member;

Whereas, As a member of the 2014 graduating class of Eastern Hancock High School, Jacob ranked fifteenth out of 90 and achieved a 3.96 grade point average while pursuing his Academic Honors Diploma; Jacob plans to attend Miami University to study finance;

Whereas, 2014-15 Indiana FFA State Treasurer Kathleen Jacobs, 18, served as the Greenhand President, two terms as Vice President, District VI Sentinel, and Section II Director as a member of the Huntington North FFA Chapter;

Whereas, As a chapter leader, Kathleen served as the chairperson of the Senior Scholarship Banquet, Fruit Sale Fundraiser, FFA week, the Chapter Clothing Drive activities, the Shoebox Ministries and Community Garden committees;

Whereas, Kathleen has also participated at the PLT Conference, as well as the LDW, served as a counselor at the SOAR and the FIRE programs, and as the Indiana FFA's Alternate National Delegate for the 2013 National FFA Convention;

Whereas, Kathleen's Supervised Agriculture Experience program dealt with outdoor recreation and she has been employed at Camp Timber Lake, a 65 acre campground, for the past four years where she serves as an assistant office manager and deals with every aspect of the business including customer service, cleaning the bathhouse and cabins, placing reservations, and completing monetary transactions in the course of day to day business;

Whereas, In addition to her duties with the FFA, Kathleen was a Class Council representative for three years, served as a freshman mentor, was the varsity swim team captain for two years, served on the Student Athletic Board and was a 10-year 4-H member serving as her club's President, Vice President, and Secretary;

Whereas, Kathleen plans to attend Ivy Tech Community College with plans to transfer to Purdue University to major in Agriculture Education;

Whereas, 2014-15 Indiana FFA State Reporter Dakota Westphal, 18, has served the FFA loyally and faithfully over the past four years as District I President and Chapter Vice President, participating in many chapter committees including the community committee to foster volunteerism, the student committee to recruit members, and the chapter committee to implement activities, and earning the honor of serving on the Indiana Executive Committee;

Whereas, Dakota's Supervised Agriculture Experience involves Agriscience Research and involved experiments to test the water holding capacity of different soils and factors like organic matter;

Whereas, Dakota continued her research by performing experiments with nutrients and the effects of hydroponic systems on plant growth in corn; in addition to focusing on crops and nutrients in the ground, she discovered consumers' opinions on biotechnology and tested the effects of different feed on the growth rate of chicks;

Whereas, Because of her outstanding work, Dakota has participated three times in the National FFA Agriscience

Fair;

Whereas, Active in her community, Dakota has served as a mentor for middle school students, cocaptain of the varsity basketball and softball teams, and is the secretary of her Jasper County 4-H club where she helped to host many community service activities;

Whereas, Ranked second out of 56 with a grade point average of 4.040 on a 4.0 scale, Dakota is a member of the National Honor Society and proudly served as the Chapter President;

Whereas, Dakota plans to attend Purdue University to earn a degree in Soil and Hydrologic Sciences with a minor in Crop Science with a goal of becoming an agronomist for a large company and serving local farmers and consumers;

Whereas, 2014-15 Indiana FFA State Sentinel Derek Berkshire, 18, has served as the Caston FFA Sentinel as well as President for two terms and has also been awarded the Star Greenhand and has been named a Top Ten Member each year of his four-year FFA membership;

Whereas, Derek has served as the 2012-13 District II Vice President and the 2013-14 District II President and has attended Executive Committee meetings and training, PLT, FIRE, and SOAR conferences that have allowed him to serve as a counselor to younger FFA members, and has been fortunate to aid in the Million Meals Challenge, attend the National Convention for three years, and take part in the Washington Leadership Conference;

Whereas, Derek's Supervised Agricultural Experiences are Beef Cattle Production Entrepreneurship and Agriculture Education Placement where his responsibilities included feeding the cattle, cleaning pens, and properly breaking them for show as well as preparing lessons and aiding his agriculture instructor;

Whereas, In addition to his interest in FFA, Derek was active in Key Club serving as the Chapter Treasurer and President and captain of the varsity soccer team, earning the

Mental Attitude Award and being named to the All Division U-18 Team and playing in the North vs. South All-Star Game;

Whereas, Derek was ranked number one out of the 54 students in his class, graduating with an Academic Honors and Technical Honors Diploma and was named a finalist for a Lilly Endowment Scholarship and Coca-Cola Foundation Scholarship as well as a Purdue Presidential Scholarship recipient;

Whereas, Derek plans to attend Purdue University and major in Agribusiness Management with a concentration in Agrimarketing; and

Whereas, The Indiana FFA promotes citizenship, volunteerism, patriotism, and cooperation among its active Hoosier members: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly acknowledges the important work done by the Indiana FFA in furthering the development of our youth into exceptional citizens of our state and recognizes the outstanding job of Indiana's officers.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the Indiana FFA State President Brittany Young, State Secretary Skylar Clingan, State Northern Region Vice President Lindsey O'Hara, State Southern Region Vice President Jacob Mueller, State Treasurer Kathleen Jacobs, State Reporter Dakota Westphal, and State Sentinel Derek Berkshire.