

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROCEDURE FOR MEDIATION BETWEEN FARMERS AND LENDERS, AND TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF REQUIRING GRAIN ELEVATORS TO GIVE NOTICE OF ALL DOCKAGES PRIOR TO TAKING POSSESSION OF FARMERS' COMMODITIES.

WHEREAS, several states have enacted legislation providing a mediation process for farmers and their lenders; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas farmers and lenders are experiencing the same difficulties as exist in those states which have enacted such legislation; and

WHEREAS, a study should be conducted of this concept to determine whether it would be of benefit to Arkansas farmers and their lenders; and

WHEREAS, another problem facing Arkansas farmers is that in many instances they give possession of their commodities to a grain elevator prior to being notified of the dockages for which they will be charged; and

WHEREAS, it is also necessary to conduct a study addressing that problem to determine what relief might be provided by the General Assembly, such as requiring the grain elevators to give notice of dockages prior to taking possession of the commodities; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Interim Committee on Agriculture and Economic Development is the appropriate committee to conduct these studies,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

That the Joint Interim Committee on Agriculture and Economic Development is hereby requested to conduct a study of the establishment of a procedure for mediation between farmers and lenders, and to study the feasibility and desirability of requiring grain elevators to give notice of all dockages prior to taking possession of farmers' commodities.