

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE
NEW INTERNATIONAL TRADE CROSSING**

WHEREAS, Michigan's food and agriculture system contributes \$91.4 billion each year, making it a cornerstone to our economic recovery, and production agriculture, food processing, and related businesses employ about 22 percent of all jobs in Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan is a major producer of more than 200 commodities on a commercial basis, making Michigan second only to California in agricultural diversity; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan exports about one-third of its agricultural commodities each year; ranking in the top ten for fruits and vegetables; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan's agricultural exports generate \$1.75 billion and support 14,700 jobs both on the farm and off the farm in food processing, storage, and transportation; and,

WHEREAS, Detroit is home to the busiest border crossing in North America based on trade volume; and,

WHEREAS, a new public/private partnership with Canada to construct a second crossing connecting Detroit to Windsor, Ontario, would open the door to additional agricultural exports from Michigan; while creating no new debt for the state and no new taxes for Michigan taxpayers; and,

WHEREAS, overwhelming evidence clearly demonstrates that the New International Trade Crossing is in our nation's best interests; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development supports the proposed New International Trade Crossing to connect Detroit to Windsor, Ontario; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development urges the federal government to approve Michigan's application for a Presidential Permit in a timely manner; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development transmits copies of this resolution to Governor Rick Snyder and the Michigan Congressional Delegation.



Adopted August 8, 2012
Lansing, Michigan

Velmar Green, Chair
Michigan Commission of Agriculture
and Rural Development