

1 135-112022

2 **RESOLUTION: Requesting the State of Wisconsin Review and Revise its Policy on Foreign**
3 **Ownership of Farmland by Entities Party to Adversarial Governments**

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6 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

7 **WHEREAS**, according to the USDA, foreign agricultural interests in Wisconsin, as of December 31st, 2020,
8 own over 500,000 acres of land in the state with that number rising by over 25,000 acres from 2019 to 2020 alone;
9 and

10 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin law currently allows for ownership of up to 640 acres of agricultural or forestry land
11 per foreign company or foreign individual; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic shows the need to localize supply chains, especially for food and
13 medicine, and to keep them out of the hands of adversarial governments or entities party to adversarial governments;
14 and

15 **WHEREAS**, with the reality that supply chain disruption could happen again in the future, it is prudent to limit the
16 exposure of these critical supply chains to entities party to governments who routinely abuse human rights, violate
17 international trade law and labor standards and seek to upend fair markets through state owned enterprises,
18 monopolization or means that otherwise threaten food security and the Wisconsin family farming tradition.

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20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors request that the
21 State of Wisconsin, in the next legislative biennium, review and revise its policy on foreign ownership of farmland.

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23 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution is sent to Governor Tony Evers, all members of
24 the Wisconsin State Legislature representing Winnebago County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and all other
25 Wisconsin Counties.

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28 Fiscal Note: *No fiscal impact.*

29 Respectfully submitted by:
30 **JACOB FLOAM, District 16**
31 **NATE GUSTAFSON, District 28**

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33 Respectfully submitted by:
34 **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

35 Committee Vote: **10-1**
36 Vote Required for Passage: **Three-Quarters of those Members Present**

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38 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2022.

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40 _____
41 Jonathan D. Doemel
42 Winnebago County Executive