

Rep. Meadows offered the following concurrent resolution:

House Concurrent Resolution No. 21.

A concurrent resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to exempt the auto industry from antitrust provisions for a limited time to facilitate the consolidation of the auto supplier industry in an orderly fashion.

Whereas, The auto industry, for generations the bedrock of American manufacturing might, is undergoing unprecedented transformations. The convergence of a variety of factors, most notably the erosion of credit markets, has imperiled not only the traditional "Big 3" domestic companies, but the entire network of auto supplier companies that are critical to the survival of all auto production in this country; and

Whereas, Historic ground has been broken, with federal intervention and bankruptcy at the heart of discussions of strategies trying to assure the survival of the domestic auto industry. The massive contraction underway comes at a time of technological transformation as well, as our nation strives to embark on a more energy efficient course; and

Whereas, Under current antitrust laws, talks among auto manufacturers about how best to assure the viability of suppliers are illegal in many instances. The ability to develop a coordinated response to the crisis at hand is compromised by laws that were enacted under conditions that could not have foreseen the current situation. All parties involved—including the auto suppliers themselves—have a strong stake in a well-reasoned, coordinated effort to assure the emergence of healthy, sustainable companies; and

Whereas, A temporary suspension of certain provisions of federal antitrust statutes, with specific conditions set, as well as whatever other steps are needed to protect suppliers and the auto industry from governmental or private causes of action, is necessary to achieve the best outcome for suppliers and the entire auto industry. Clearly, such short-term measures will protect the interests of the taxpayers and lead to the most productive outcome for our country; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to exempt the auto industry from antitrust provisions for a limited time to facilitate the consolidation of the auto supplier industry in an orderly fashion; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.