

Rep. Frederick offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 364.

A resolution to declare June 6, 2018, as Dairy Foods Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Michigan's dairy industry is a leading segment of Michigan agriculture, contributing \$15.7 billion to the state's economy annually. These dollars employ local veterinarians, equipment dealers, and farm employees all providing jobs for Michigan. A dollar spent locally generates twice as much income for the local economy. Dairy represented over 20 percent of the total cash receipts for Michigan's agriculture industry in 2016; and

Whereas, Michigan has 426,000 dairy cows today versus 304,000 in 2000. Ninety-eight percent of Michigan dairy farms are family owned, many by multiple generations of the same family. The average dairy herd in Michigan has 187 cows. Just like businesses grow to support more families, herd sizes increase to allow the next generation to continue farming; and

Whereas, Michigan ranked 6th nationally in dairy production in 2017. Dairy cows in Michigan produced approximately 11.2 billion pounds of milk and the average Michigan cow produces approximately 26,302 pounds of milk each year; and

Whereas, Michigan milk is local. Over 1500 Grade A dairy farms produce more than enough milk to supply the entire state. Surplus milk is exported to help meet demand in other states. In supermarkets and local farmers markets, you can find milk, cheese, and yogurt produced by Michigan dairy farmers. When you buy Michigan dairy products, you not only buy local and support area farmers you buy quality. To check where your milk is bottled look for the code. Every container of milk is identified by a 5-digit code and the code includes a 2-digit state code followed by a 3-digit processing plant code. Michigan's code is 26. Only 1.7 percent of the U.S. population produces food for the other 99 percent plus millions worldwide and only a fraction of that produces dairy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare June 6, 2018, as Dairy Foods Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.