

U.S. Leaders: Double World Food Production!

In the face of hyperinflation and shortages that are causing hunger and even starvation in many countries, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) will meet in Rome on June 3-5. Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp-LaRouche has issued a call to the conference to support measures to double world food production, and to eliminate both the World Trade Organization, and the diversion of food to biofuels. Her full statement is at www.larouchepac.com/node/10606. The LaRouche movement internationally is mobilizing constituency leaders to support this appeal. Here are resolutions and signers from the United States, as of May 23.

Resolutions

Michigan House of Representatives: A resolution to memorialize the U.S. Congress to adopt new agricultural policies that maximize food production, and to call for the United States to withdraw from the WTO and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), was introduced into the Michigan State House of Representatives on May 22, by Democrat **LaMar Lemmons**. House Resolution 0379, which has four cosponsors, has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

The resolution notes that “the world is undergoing a food crisis of unparalleled proportions,” that “free trade policies, as promoted by the World Trade Organization, NAFTA, CAFTA, and other institutions, are responsible for the United States and other nations possibly losing the ability to feed their populations,” and that the crisis has been exacerbated by the conversion of farmland to biofuels.

After citing the fact that “doubling U.S. food production, ceasing payments to farmers and others that encourage the production of corn for ethanol rather than food, and paying farmers parity prices to carry out these policies would both

feed our own people and could be used to help feed many other parts of the world,” the resolution reads:

“Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to adopt emergency measures that would double U.S. food production and to cancel immediately its membership in the World Trade Organization and the North American Free Trade Agreement, and instead, move to initiate normal bilateral trade agreements with other sovereign nation-states, consistent with past national policy.”

Alabama House of Representatives: A resolution introduced by **State Rep. Thomas Jackson**, House Agriculture Committee chairman, passed on May 19. (See full text in *EIR*, May 20.)

U.S. Current and Former Elected Officials

Former State Rep. Catherine Barrett, Cincinnati, Ohio

Mayor Andrew M. Cohen, Menlo Park, Calif.

Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz, City Council, Reading, Pa.

Kareem Johnson, Council vice president, Coatesville, Pa.

Former State Sen. Joe Neal, North Las Vegas, Nev.

State Sen. Joey Pendleton, Minority Whip, Ky.

Mayor Thomas Trigona, Johnstown, Pa.

Former State Rep. LaMar Lemmons III, Detroit, Mich.

Other U.S. Signers

Gary Barnett, United Autoworkers, chairman, UAW CAP Franklin Co., Columbus, Ohio

Noel Cowling, Texas farmer/activist, former advisor to the National Farm Organization, member of the American Agriculture Movement

John Jeffries, International Association of Machinists, executive board member and former president, IAM local 830, Louisville, Ky.

Cathy M. Helgason, M.D., professor of neurology, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Luise Light, former U.S. Department of Agriculture director of Dietary Guidance, Bellows Falls, Vt.

Statements

Fred Huenefeld, Louisiana, the chairman of the Boeuf River Soil and Water Conservation District, trustee of the Louisiana Realtors Political Action Committee, and a board member of Schiller Institute, released this statement of endorsement on May 14:

“This is of the utmost urgency: Since 2007, there have been food riots in more than 40 nations.

“According to Rajat Nag, managing director general of the Asian Development Bank, 1 billion Asians are already at serious risk from the hunger crisis, and in Africa, Ibero-America, and among the poor on the other continents, an additional 1 billion face the same fate.

“Jean Ziegler, United Nations special rapporteur on the

Right to Food, pointed to an additional aspect of the crisis: namely, the use of food for bio-fuels is a crime against humanity.

“And that is only the beginning. Because as long as the current policy of the rich nations—the free-trade doctrine of the World Trade Organization, the European Union Commission, and so on—continues, the food cartel and speculators will take advantage of the conditions created by the escalating, systemic crisis of the world financial system. They do this to maximize their profits and to feed price inflation, without the farmers reaping any benefit therefrom.

“It [is] imperative that leaders of [the] world perceive principles laid out in The American System of Political Economy and return to Fair Trade doctrine as stated in [the] U.S. Constitution under Article 1, Subsection 5, Section 8: Regulate Value of Money and of Foreign Coin and Fix Standard of Weights and Measures.

“Study history and understand how we can have unlimited prosperity and happiness in the most wonderful nation in [the] world, and there is no need for a single human to go hungry. A society must raise the standards of living of its citizens, yet we have failed to do so for the last 30 to 40 years.

“Now, having a growing number of bankruptcy cases, 257 major lending companies have imploded within the last year. Our trade deficit is growing annually. We are moving our production overseas. When we study the past and apply it to the present, we can predict the future for the good of mankind.

“We need a worldwide mobilization for the most rapid possible doubling of agricultural production. With our knowledge of how to produce, and with correct economic policy, this can be accomplished.

“We urge citizens to endorse this call, circulate it for more citizens to get involved, have your elected representatives issue a public statement endorsing this call.

“The U.S. Declaration of Independence says, ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these [are] Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.’

“This declaration of human rights must hold true still today for all human beings on this planet. What we need today is men and women who fight with passion and love for the idea of a just world order based on the American System of economics. Under this, the community of nations can live together in peace and human dignity with life, liberty and happiness.

“Above all, people should have enough to eat, and poverty should be abolished. We have all the technological means to bring that about.

“Whether we can make this vision a reality, or whether we instead speed humanity into a collapse, is how each one of us will be measured by history.”