

Restore Rural Communities & Family Farms

WHEREAS agribusiness monopolies now control all aspects of U.S. agriculture, with 20 Fortune 500 corporations subsidized by USDA and thus receiving most federal farm subsidies; and

WHEREAS U.S. farm trade surplus is in deep decline, with low prices for agricultural commodities and unfair market competition; and

WHEREAS small farms, in contrast to agribusiness, provide diversity of owners, crops landscapes, cultures and traditions and more economic opportunities for a new generation of farmers; and

WHEREAS, 33,000 small farmers were driven out of business in the first seven years of NAFTA; and

WHEREAS, retail consumers depend on food labeling to find out where and how food has been raised and processed and if it is from genetically modified organisms (GMO's); therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the next President restore agriculture and rural communities in the United States by:

- * Breaking up agribusiness monopolies by enforcing antitrust laws and shifting USDA funding toward small family farms,
- * Canceling trade agreements that have allowed a few multinational food corporations to control food production,
- * Supporting farmer owned cooperatives and reinvesting in rural communities with funding for regional processing facilities, marketing assistance, farm to school programs, farm renewable energy programs, and Farmer's Markets,
- * Supporting higher commodity prices for small farm products,
- * Protecting the integrity of the new federal Organic Standard, passing the Country of Origin labeling law, and preventing sales of illegal food imports.

Submitted to and Adopted by Precinct Number _____, _____ County

Precinct Convention Secretary (signature) _____ on _____ (date)

Submitted to and Adopted by State Sen. District _____, _____ County

Sen. District/Co. Secretary (signature) _____ on _____ (date)