

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 87

Designating the year of 2012 as the “International Year of Cooperatives”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 3, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KOHL, Mr. ENZI, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating the year of 2012 as the “International Year of Cooperatives”.

Whereas in the United States, there are more than 29,000 cooperatives with 120,000,000 members;

Whereas cooperatives in the United States generate 2,000,000 jobs and make a substantial contribution to the economy of the United States with annual sales of \$652,000,000,000 and assets of \$3,000,000,000,000;

Whereas the cooperative business model has empowered people around the world to improve their lives through economic and social progress;

Whereas cooperatives are a major economic force in developed countries and a powerful business model in developing countries, employing approximately 100,000,000 people;

Whereas there are millions of cooperatives, which are owned and governed by more than 1,000,000,000 members, operating in every nation of the world;

Whereas the economic activity of the largest 300 cooperatives in the world is equal to that of the 10th largest national economy;

Whereas United Nations Resolution 64/136, adopted by the General Assembly on December 18, 2009, designates the year 2012 as the “International Year of Cooperatives”;

Whereas the theme of the International Year of Cooperatives is “Cooperative Enterprise Builds a Better World”; and

Whereas cooperatives are the businesses of the people, and for more than a century, have been a vital part of the world economy: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates the year 2012 as the “Inter-
3 national Year of Cooperatives”;

4 (2) congratulates cooperatives and members of
5 cooperatives in the United States and around the
6 world on the recognition of the United Nations of
7 2012 as the “International Year of Cooperatives”;

8 (3) recognizes the vital role cooperatives play in
9 the economic and social well-being of the United
10 States;

1 (4) urges the establishment of a National Com-
2 mittee for the 2012 International Year of Coopera-
3 tives to be comprised of representatives from each
4 Federal agency, all cooperative sectors, and key
5 stakeholders;

6 (5) recognizes the importance of raising the
7 profile of cooperatives and demonstrating the man-
8 ner by which cooperatives build local wealth, gen-
9 erate employment, and provide competition in the
10 marketplace; and

11 (6) encourages highlighting the positive impact
12 of cooperatives and developing new programs for do-
13 mestic and international cooperative development.

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