

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. J. RES. 96

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 15, 2006

Received

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## **JOINT RESOLUTION**

Recognizing the contributions of the Christmas tree industry  
to the United States economy.

Whereas Christmas trees have been sold commercially in the  
United States since the 1850s;

Whereas, by 1900, one in five American families decorated a  
tree during the Christmas season, while, by 1930, a deco-  
rated Christmas tree had become a nearly universal part  
of the American Christmas celebration;

Whereas 32.8 million households in the United States purchased a live-cut Christmas tree in 2005;

Whereas the placement and decoration of live-cut Christmas trees in town squares across the country have become an American tradition;

Whereas, for generations, American families have traveled hundreds and even thousands of miles to celebrate the Christmas season together around a live-cut Christmas tree;

Whereas 36 million live-cut Christmas trees are produced each year, and 98 percent of these trees are shipped or sold directly from Christmas tree farms;

Whereas North Carolina, Oregon, Michigan, Washington, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York, Minnesota, Virginia, California, and Ohio are the top producers of live-cut Christmas tree, but Christmas trees are grown in all 50 States;

Whereas there are more than 21,000 growers of Christmas trees in the United States, and approximately 100,000 people are employed in the live-cut Christmas tree industry;

Whereas many Christmas tree growers grow trees on a part-time basis to supplement their other farm and non-farm income;

Whereas growing Christmas trees provides wildlife habitat;

Whereas more than a half million acres of land were planted in Christmas trees in 2005;

Whereas 73 million new Christmas trees will be planted in 2006, and, on average, over 1,500 Christmas trees can be planted per acre; and

Whereas the retail value of all Christmas trees harvested in 2005 was \$1.4 billion: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3 That Congress recognizes the important contributions of  
4 the live-cut Christmas tree industry, Christmas tree grow-  
5 ers, and persons employed in the live-cut Christmas tree  
6 industry to the United States economy.

Passed the House of Representatives November 14,  
2006.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,  
*Clerk.*