

RESOLUTION 11-23

**REQUESTING TO BETTER PROTECT THE STATE'S AGRICULTURAL LAND BY
REVIEWING AND REVISING ITS POLICY ON FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF
FARMLAND**

WHEREAS, according to the USDA, foreign agricultural interests in Wisconsin, as of December 31st, 2020, own over 500,000 acres of land in the state with that number rising by over 25,000 acres from 2019 to 2020 alone; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin law currently allows for ownership of up to 640 acres of agricultural or forestry land per foreign company or foreign individual; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic shows the need to localize supply chains, especially for food and medicine, and to keep them out of the hands of adversarial governments or entities party to adversarial governments; and

WHEREAS, with the reality that supply chain disruption could happen again in the future, it is prudent to limit the exposure of these critical supply chains to entities party to governments who routinely abuse human rights, violate international trade law and labor standards and seek to upend fair markets through state owned enterprises, monopolization or means that otherwise threaten food security and the Wisconsin family farming tradition; and


NOW, THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Land Conservation Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

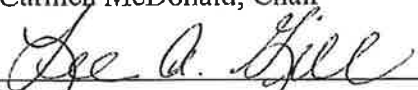
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors does respectfully request that the State of Wisconsin, in the next legislative biennium, review and revise its policy on foreign ownership of farmland; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Lafayette County Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to Governor Tony Evers, all members of the Wisconsin State Legislature representing Lafayette County, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all other Wisconsin Counties.

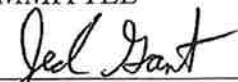
Respectfully submitted

LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE



Carmen McDonald, Chair


Lee A. Gill


Luke McGuire


Jed Gant



Larry Ludlum


Joe Riechers

LEGAL NOTE: Within County Board Authority

FISCAL NOTE: No fiscal impact

I, Carla Jacobson, Clerk of the County of Lafayette, State of Wisconsin, do certify that the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on May 16, 2023 adopted this resolution.



Carla Jacobson
Lafayette County Clerk