

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 16

M4, M3

2lr3463

By: **Delegate McDermott**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: April 2, 2012

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Hudson Family Farm**

3 FOR the purpose of expressing regret to the Hudson family for the role that the State
4 and the State university system may have played in the lawsuit against the
5 Hudson family farm; and providing a certain reassurance to farm families in the
6 State.

7 WHEREAS, Farming is a critical part of the Maryland economy; and

8 WHEREAS, The traditional family farm is a recognized heritage and treasure
9 in Maryland; and

10 WHEREAS, Farmers have shown themselves to be the original conservationists
11 who continue a strong tradition of working to protect all natural resources; and

12 WHEREAS, Farmers who comply with ever increasing government regulations
13 deserve the respect and support of all Marylanders; and

14 WHEREAS, The family farm operated by Alan and Kristin Hudson of Berlin,
15 Maryland, is such a farm worthy of recognition; and

16 WHEREAS, The Hudson family has suffered and been forced to endure a
17 painful lawsuit brought by Waterkeeper Alliance, a New York based corporation; and

18 WHEREAS, Following a complaint made by Waterkeeper Alliance, the Hudson
19 family farm was cleared of any wrongdoing by the Maryland Department of the
20 Environment and the Maryland Department of Agriculture; and

21 WHEREAS, Waterkeeper Alliance, a multimillion dollar corporation, continued
22 to pursue the Hudson family and used the free services of the University of Maryland
23 Francis King Carey School of Law Environmental Law Clinic for this purpose; and



1 WHEREAS, The University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
2 receives tens of millions of taxpayer dollars in support of their efforts; and

3 WHEREAS, Despite pleas from the Eastern Shore Delegation, the General
4 Assembly, and the Governor of Maryland, the University of Maryland Francis King
5 Carey School of Law has shown itself to be impervious to multiple requests to cease
6 their free support of Waterkeeper Alliance; and

7 WHEREAS, The General Assembly does not want the University of Maryland
8 Francis King Carey Environmental Law Clinic to be a tool of destruction used against
9 good Maryland farm families; and

10 WHEREAS, The members of the People's House, which is the Maryland House
11 of Delegates, recognize the crucial importance of standing up on behalf of the Hudson
12 family as a means of supporting farm families everywhere in Maryland; now,
13 therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the State
15 of Maryland expresses profound regret for the role that Maryland and our university
16 system may have played in the court case involving the Hudson family farm; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That the State of Maryland is committed to ensuring that farm
19 families everywhere in the State do not fear their government, nor their tax dollars
20 being used to destroy their way of life; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
22 Legislative Services to George F. Ritchie, Attorney for Alan and Kristen Hudson Farm,
23 Gordon Feinblatt LLC, 233 East Redwood Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.