



National Lieutenant Governors Association

NLGA Consensus Resolution in Recognition of State Opportunities in Agricultural Tourism (Agritourism)

WHEREAS, every state in America can offer unique opportunities for Agritourism, blending agriculture and tourism to offer visitors with firsthand experiences in farming and rural life, and

WHEREAS, states developing Agritourism can attract new tourism to their rural communities by providing educational programs, offering workshops, farm stays, and tours to educate visitors about agriculture, and

WHEREAS, Agritourism keeps lands in active agriculture and sustains farmers by generating additional income which is important to economies from the local, regional, and state to the national level, and

WHEREAS, according to a 2017 USDA Census, Agritourism generates an estimated \$949 million in sales per year in the U.S. That is more than triple what it was just 15 years earlier, and this number keeps rising. In fact, a 2021 study conducted by Allied Market Research projected that the global agritourism industry will expand by an additional 13.4% by 2027,¹ and

WHEREAS, municipalities may consider zoning ordinances that facilitate the present and future economic viability of existing agricultural operations and do not prevent the owner or operator's need to change or expand their operations in the future in order to remain viable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) encourages NLGA Members in the states and territories to learn more about and keep abreast of Agritourism with farm visits and knowledge of agritourism and agritainment for the future of communities.

ADOPTED, this day, the 24th of April, 2024.

Co-Sponsors: Nevada Lt. Governor Stavros Anthony (R), New Jersey Lt. Governor Tahesha Way (D)

Proposed for the docket by: Nevada Lt. Governor Stavros Anthony

¹ *Forbes*, [The Rise Of Agritourism \(And How Brands Can Respond\)](#), 11/30/22, Sara Steever