I am happy to support the Board Resolution recognizing October as National Cooperative Month.

The nation’s agriculture cooperatives have been instrumental in supplying the inputs necessary in the production of food, fiber and fuel. Cooperatives have given farmers the opportunity to participate in the marketing and processing of agricultural products and share in those profits. At its essence, the cooperative structure allows neighbors to help neighbors.

Cooperatives have allowed our nation’s farmers to do what they do best – produce the safest, most abundant and most affordable supply of food and fiber in the world. As a former director of a local cooperative, I am proud to support this resolution. It is a worthy tribute to and recognition of the importance the cooperative structure has played in American agriculture.