

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=39480>

Right to Farm Amendment Narrowly Approved in Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) - A proposed constitutional amendment creating a right to farm in Missouri appears to have prevailed in a close election.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment 1 had 498,751 votes for it and 496,223 against it with all precincts reporting - a margin of less than three-tenths of a percentage point.

The amendment proposed to make farming an official constitutional right, similar to existing protections for the freedoms of speech and religion.

North Dakota is the only other state with farming as a constitutional right.

The Missouri proposal prompted an intense campaign that generally split urban and rural areas.

Supporters said it could help ward off future initiatives limiting genetically modified crops or restricting the way animals are raised.

Opponents contended the measure could be cited by corporate farms to try to escape regulations.

Associated Press