



SR0231

LRB100 11672 MST 22579 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The federal farm bill impacts all Illinoisans;
3 agriculture represents a vital part of both rural and urban
4 economies; and

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WHEREAS, There is growing consumer demand from Illinois
6 citizens for locally and regionally-produced farm and food
7 products; and

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WHEREAS, There is growing farmer and entrepreneur interest
9 in meeting the consumer demand for local and regional farm and
10 food products; and

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WHEREAS, Local and regional food economies are a vital
12 source of employment in our communities; and

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WHEREAS, Supporting public health and protecting our
14 environment are essential to the viability and livability of
15 our communities and our economy; and

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WHEREAS, Communities throughout Illinois face multiple
17 health, social, and environmental issues connected to food,
18 including hunger, malnutrition, increasing incidences of
19 obesity, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and other chronic
20 diseases; and

1 WHEREAS, Increased access to healthy food is an important
2 tool for communities to address the multifaceted health,
3 social, and environmental issues connected to food; and

4 WHEREAS, Access to healthy food is increased when local and
5 regional community-based food production, processing,
6 aggregation, distribution, and retail work together to build
7 markets for healthy food; and

8 WHEREAS, The policies, programs, and funding included in
9 the 2012 Farm Bill will affect how successful Illinois
10 communities can be in developing local and regional food
11 systems that advance the goals of environmental
12 sustainability, economic development, public health, racial
13 and social justice, and emergency preparedness; therefore, be
14 it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge Congress to
17 adopt a farm bill that supports and promotes the development of
18 local and regional food systems; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
20 delivered to President Donald Trump, U.S. Senate Majority
21 Leader Mitch McConnell, U.S. Senate Minority Leader Chuck

1 Schumer, U.S. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, U.S. House of
2 Representatives Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, and all members
3 of the Illinois Congressional Delegation.