



HR0734

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HOUSE 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
16 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we urge Congress to adopt a farm bill that supports and
18 promotes the development of local and regional food systems;
19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
21 delivered to the members of the Illinois congressional

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1 delegation.