



SR0530

LRB097 16426 GRL 62910 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 NINETY-SEVENTH 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 the members of the Illinois congressional  
21 delegation.