

HOMEGROWN PROSPERITY:

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL & REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT



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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report summarizes state legislation related to the development of local and regional food systems, either passed or defeated between 2005 and 2016 in WORC states: Colorado, South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Oregon and Idaho. This summary may not be comprehensive in all states as it does not include state appropriations bills in detail. State policy often changes quickly; this summary reflects research conducted in July 2016.

Research produced by Diya Nagaraj. All views and opinions expressed in this report are those of WORC and do not necessarily reflect the views of WORC's funders. Any errors are the responsibility of WORC.

ABOUT WORC

This report is a publication of the Western Organization of Resource Councils (WORC). WORC is a regional network of grassroots community organizations that include 15,190 members and 39 local chapters. WORC's network includes: Dakota Resource Council (North Dakota); Dakota Rural Action (South Dakota); Idaho Organization of Resource Councils; Northern Plains Resource Council (Montana); Oregon Rural Action; Powder River Basin Resource Council (Wyoming); Western Colorado Congress and Western Native Voice (Montana). WORC's mission is to advance the vision of a democratic, sustainable, and just society through community action. WORC is committed to building sustainable environmental and economic communities that balance economic growth with the health of people and stewardship of their land, air, and water.

COLORADO

2016

SENATE BILL 58

Colorado Farm to Consumer Sales

(70th General Assembly, 2nd Regular Session)

This exempts poultry producers processing up to 1,000 birds each year from inspection, with minimal regulation (recordkeeping and labeling requirements). Poultry producers processing more than 1,000 but less than 20,000 birds per year are also exempted from inspection, but need to obtain a license from the Colorado Department of Agriculture. In both cases, they can only sell directly to consumers, but the department is supposed to meet with stakeholders to developing a regulatory framework for the processing of birds sold to retail food establishments. In addition, the bill expands what can be sold under the Colorado Cottage Foods Act to any “non-potentially hazardous foods.” It takes away the Colorado State Board of Health’s power to issue regulations on the production and sale of pickled vegetables.

2015

HOUSE BILL 1088

Creates the Interagency Farm-to-School Grant Program

(70th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session) - DEAD

This creates a grant program that would provide two types of grants: (1) a cost-share grant to farmers, ranchers, or food hubs that would help them meet the food safety requirements associated with selling to schools (i.e., training, equipment, supplies, capital improvements) and (2) a grant to a farmer, rancher, or food hub for other costs associated with sales to schools (i.e., transportation, season extension investments, production costs to make them

competitive with other vendors). \$500,000 would be allocated annually, which would be distributed by the Interagency Farm-to-School Coordination Task Force.

HOUSE BILL 1102

Expansion of Colorado Cottage Foods Act

(70th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session)

This expands the products that can be sold without needing licensure or inspection. It is divided into two categories: Tier 1 (spices, teas, dehydrated produce, nuts, seeds, jams, flour, and baked goods) and Tier 2 (pickled vegetables with a pH of 4.6 or lower). The producer has to display a placard informing the consumer that it was produced in a home kitchen not subject to state licensure or inspection requirements.

HOUSE BILL 1320

Grant and Reimbursement Program for Colorado Agriculture

(70th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session) – DEAD

The agricultural development and investment program seeks to support agricultural innovation and promotional marketing for agricultural products. The grants provided include proof-of-concept and feasibility study grants, early-stage capital and business expansion grants, and reimbursement of market development and promotion expenses.

SENATE BILL 54

Providing Free and Reduced-Cost Lunches for a Fifth Day

(70th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would require schools that operate on a four-day school week schedule to provide students who receive a free or reduced-cost school lunch through the federal program with a boxed lunch for the fifth day of the week, when the school is not in session.

SENATE BILL 85
Expansion of the Colorado Cottage Foods Act

(70th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session)

This increases the net revenue a producer can earn under the act. Now, producers who earn net revenues of \$10,000 or less per year (previously \$5,000) from the sale of eligible food products would be supported by this legislation.

2013

HOUSE BILL 1006
Creates Breakfast After the Bell Nutrition Program

(69th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session)

This bill establishes the Breakfast After the Bell Nutrition Program, which requires every school with 70% or more students eligible for free or reduced-cost lunch to offer a free breakfast to each student in the school. Individual schools may select a method and time to offer the breakfast, so long as it occurs after the first bell of the school day. Exemptions are made for small schools and school districts and for public and charter schools that do not currently participate in the federal school lunch program.

SENATE BILL 153
Continues Interagency Farm-to-School Coordination Task Force

(69th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session)

This bill continues the interagency farm-to-school coordination task force indefinitely. The composition and responsibilities of the interagency farm-to-school coordination task force are updated through the act.

HOUSE BILL 1158
Amends the Colorado Cottage Foods Act

(69th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session)

It expands what can be sold under this law to include eggs, so long as no more than 250 dozen are sold per month. In addition, rather than needing to be certified

in safe food handling and processing, producers must simply take a food safety course that includes food handling training and must maintain a status of good standing in accordance with the course requirements.

2012

SENATE BILL 48
Creates the Colorado Cottage Foods Act

(68th General Assembly, 2nd Regular Session)

This bill encourages entities that regulate, affect or are interested in local food production and related matters to examine ways in which to revise zoning ordinances, building and health codes and other legal barriers in order to accommodate and encourage the growing and use of local produce and the production of value-added foods that use local produce. Such entities are also urged to initiate, support and set goals for farm-to-school program efforts, including programs in which schools and other public entities generate and make use of on-site produce and that incorporate knowledge and consumption of locally sourced and distributed foods into a farm-to-school curriculum, including foods grown in geothermal and otherwise heated greenhouses. The bill also provides civil and criminal liability exemptions to a school or nonprofit organization that provides one or more community kitchens used by producers to bake or process goods for sale pursuant to the Act.

2011

HOUSE BILL 1062
Feasibility Study of Farm-to-School Program in San Luis Valley

(68th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill directs the interagency farm-to-school coordination task force to study the feasibility of developing a farm-to-school program pilot in the San Luis Valley. This would include making sure that produce for the schools would be cultivated in the San Luis Valley, and trying to incorporate geothermal

energy into the program, including by educating students about geothermal resources and sourcing food grown in geothermally-heated greenhouses.

SENATE BILL 258

Local Foods to Local Markets

(68th General Assembly, 1st Regular Session) – DEAD

This sought to expand the local food sector in Colorado by authorizing the department of public health and environment (and county/district/regional boards of health) to register home kitchens and encouraging them to establish local food production programs with the local agriculture community. The home kitchen would be free of licensing requirements as long as the product did not require refrigeration, they grew the main agronomic ingredient of the product being sold, they sold less than \$5,000 per calendar year, they were certified in safe food handling, and they registered with the department or a county board of health. The bill also would have asked the Food Systems Advisory Council to study the feasibility of creating Colorado “Fresh and Local,” a subset of the “Colorado Proud” labelling program. This would emphasize fresh Colorado produce and other goods produced locally and sold directly to consumers. Finally, it would have authorized the department of agriculture to promote farmers’ markets within the state.

the program is required to procure and distribute to schools only food and beverages that satisfy certain nutritional standards. The bill encourages BOCES to procure and distribute to schools of its constituent school districts food and beverages that have been locally grown and produced.

SENATE BILL 106

Establishes a Food Systems Advisory Council

(67th General Assembly, 2nd Regular Session)

This bill establishes a Colorado food systems advisory council through the Department of Agriculture. The council is an advisory committee meant to foster a healthy food supply for all Colorado residents, while also enhancing Colorado’s agricultural and natural resources, encouraging economic growth, expanding the viability of agriculture and improving the health of Colorado communities and residents. The council’s duties include: (1) developing local food recommendations that promote the building of robust, resilient and long-term local food economies; (2) examining foods made available to children, including those in public schools and considering ways to improve the nutritional quality of those foods; and (3) increasing children’s access to locally grown foods. The bill makes related appropriations.

SENATE BILL 81

Creates Farm to School Coordination Task Force

(67th General Assembly, 2nd Regular Session)

This bill creates a 13-member interagency Farm to School Coordination Task Force. The task force’s members are required to include school food service directors and agricultural representatives as well as staff from the Department of Public Health and Environment, Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education and Department of Agriculture. The task force is required to recommend policies and methods to best implement a farm to school program that encourages school districts

2010

HOUSE BILL 1335

Creates the BOCES Healthy Food Grant Program

(67th General Assembly, 2nd Regular Session)

This bill creates the BOCES healthy food grant program in the Department of Education. The program provides grants to Boards of Cooperative Services (“BOCES”) that maintain equipment and operate food-service facilities as school food authorities. Any BOCES that receives a grant from

to use local agricultural products. In developing its recommendations, the task force must consider farm to school pilot programs and funding sources to recover any increased costs of using locally grown products. It must also consider training for farmers to enable them to sell their products to schools, and assistance to school districts and school food services to integrate state-grown fresh products into school meals. The task force is required to report its findings to the Education and Agriculture committees of the General Assembly by February 1, 2013.

2009

SENATE BILL 46

Healthy Snack Foods in Schools

(67TH General Assembly, 1st Regular Session) – DEAD

This would require each school district board and charter school to implement a policy that prohibits the sale of snack foods that do not meet certain minimum nutritional requirements. Snacks still permitted under this include unpackaged fruit or non-fried, unpackaged vegetables.

2008

SENATE BILL 43

Healthy School Foods and Drinks Grant

(66TH General Assembly, 2nd Regular Session) – DEAD

This requires each school district board to adopt minimum nutritional standards for foods and drinks sold a la carte or in vending machines. It also creates a grant program to help schools provide more of the approved snacks and beverages to sell to students.

2006

SENATE BILL 127

Establishes the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Pilot Program

(65TH General Assembly, 2ND Regular Session) – REPEALED
2009

This bill establishes the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Pilot Program for the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years to provide students in participating public schools with free fruits and vegetables. Interested school districts must apply to the program through the Department of Education and eligible schools are required to use Colorado-produced fruits and vegetables to the maximum extent possible. A total of \$500,000 is appropriated -- \$350,000 for converting reduced price meals to free meals, and \$150,000 to the Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Pilot Program. Also requires that a certain percentage of public schools participating in the program must be schools eligible for free/reduced lunch under the National School Lunch Program.

2005

HOUSE BILL 1307

Establishes Local Purchasing Preferences

(65TH General Assembly, 1st Regular Session)

This bill requires governmental bodies purchasing agricultural products to preference Colorado products over out of state products as long as the price is either lower than the lowest out of state bid or “reasonably exceeds” the lowest bid, the quality is equal and the Colorado producer is able to meet the requested quantity.

IDAHO

2015

HOUSE BILL 106
Cottage Food Bill

(63rd Legislature, 1st Regular Session) - DEAD

It classifies “cottage foods” as non-potentially hazardous foods that can be produced and sold by a home kitchen operation, but does not include low-acid canned foods or acidified foods. Home kitchens are exempted from the licensing requirements for food establishments, and may sell their cottage foods at private homes, community events, CSAs, farmers’ markets, roadside stands, and online/by mail order as long as the recipient is within Idaho.

HOUSE BILL 187
Cottage Food Bill

(63rd Legislature, 1st Regular Session) – DEAD

Similar to H0106, it would have defined cottage foods and home producers, but implemented a few more restrictions. A home kitchen operation would have had to register with a regulatory authority prior to producing and selling their products and hold a valid food handler’s permit specific to the cottage food industry. (This bill was introduced as an alternative to H0106 by opposing interests).

2012

HOUSE BILL 431
Idaho Farm Freedom Act

(61st Legislature, 2nd Regular Session) – DEAD

The Idaho Farm Freedom Act allows for traditional community social events involving the sale and consumption of homemade foods and to encourage the expansion and accessibility of farmers’ markets, roadside stands, ranch, farm and home-based sales and producer to informed end-consumer agricultural sales, by: (a) promoting the purchase and consumption of fresh and local agricultural products; (b) enhancing the agricultural economy; (c) encouraging agri-tourism opportunities in Idaho; (d) providing Idaho citizens with unimpeded access to healthy food from known sources; and (e) encouraging the expansion and accessibility of farmers’ markets, ranch and farm based sales, roadside stands and direct producer to end-consumer agricultural sales.

HOUSE BILL 700
Idaho Food Freedom Act

(61st Legislature, 2nd Regular Session) - DEAD

The purpose was to encourage traditional community events with the sale and consumption of homemade goods and to support direct sales. There would be no licensure, certification, or inspection provided there is only one transaction between the producer/processor and the informed end-consumer. Except for raw, unprocessed produce, the food cannot be used in commercial food establishments. In essence, the bill attempts to deregulate locally-grown, direct-to-consumer food.

2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 103 ***Year of Idaho Food***

(61st Legislature, 1st Regular Session)

They recently had a “Year of Idaho Food,” and so to encourage the use of the information gathered through that and to develop policy to increase the production and consumption of Idaho-grown food within the state, Labor Day 2011 was declared “the day of Idaho food.”

2010

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 59 ***Support for Local Food***

(60th Legislature, 2nd Regular Session)

There has been a shift away from the consumption of Idaho-grown foods, and so the State recognizes the importance of healthy diets and the promotion of small businesses. Therefore, they encourage the production, distribution, and consumption of healthy, Idaho-grown food.

2008

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 55 ***Vending Machines in Public Schools***

(59th Legislature, 2nd Regular Session)

This resolution urges the State Department of Education to adopt certain nutritional values for food sold in vending machines in public schools and urges the department to prohibit the sale of foods of minimal nutritional value in public schools and to request reports.

MONTANA

Montana's legislative database allows you to see both introduced and unIntroduced drafts. However, unIntroduced drafts usually have only a title and no text explaining what the bill was for. Therefore, although there seemed to be some interesting unIntroduced drafts, they were not included, as there was no way to find out any details about them.

2013

HOUSE BILL 4

Appropriation for Rural Farm-to-School Programs

(63rd Legislature, 2013 Regular Session)

This bill extends budget amendment authority for the Department of Agriculture as follows: "All remaining fiscal year 2013 federal budget amendment authority for the fiscal year 2011 specialty crop block grant program and to develop efficiencies in food processing for rural farm-to-school programs through school food nutrition service cooperative agreements is authorized to continue into federal fiscal year 2014."

HOUSE BILL 471

Creation of Farm-to-School Grant Program

(63rd Legislature, 2013 Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill creates a farm-to-school grant program to be jointly administered by the Office of Public Instruction and Department of Agriculture. It also provides that school districts may seek support for the procurement of food products produced or processed in Montana and containing at least 50% Montana-produced ingredients. Additionally, it creates a grant program to reimburse school districts for costs incurred in purchasing Montana food products, and to fund the school districts' food-based, agriculture-based and garden-based educational activities.

HOUSE BILL 420

Fund Food and Agricultural Development Centers

(63rd Legislature, 2013 Regular Session) - DEAD

This would appropriate funds to the Department of Agriculture to promote Montana food and agricultural development by funding a network of Montana food and agricultural development centers. These centers help Montana's capacity to produce food and value-added agricultural produce through technical assistance with business, labelling, compliance with food safety laws, and training and evaluation.

HOUSE BILL 399

Allow Sale of Eggs at Farmers' Markets

(63rd Legislature, 2013 Regular Session)

This exempts the sale of eggs at farmers' markets from licensure and grading requirements, as long as they are clean, crack-free and stored in clean cartons, kept at a set temperature, and be labelled with the name and address of the seller.

HOUSE BILL 630

Establish the Montana Food Policy Modernization Project

(63rd Legislature, 2013 Regular Session)

This requires the Department of Public Health and Human Services, Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Livestock to examine and recommend updates for Montana's food laws. This is mainly to address the rising cottage food industry, especially in the context of the new food safety laws would affect it.

2011

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 19 ***Encouraging Farm-to-School Programs***

(62nd Legislature, 2011 Regular Session) - DEAD

This joint resolution supports, encourages and promotes farm-to-school programs. It also encourages Montanans to recognize the first week of October as Montana Farm-to-School Week.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8 ***Interim Study on Reducing Childhood Hunger in Montana***

(62nd Legislature, 2011 Regular Session)

This joint resolution calls for the creation of a committee to study child hunger and methods for improved access to nutritious food. The committee must study the degree to which Montana children lack access to adequate nutritious food. Upon reflection, the committee will make recommendations on methods for alleviating child hunger and increasing access to nutritious food within Montana. The committee is directed to specifically examine and make recommendations on existing programs that seek to reduce child hunger; reduce barriers in providing these services to children in need; identify specific gaps in already existing services; and identify ways in which communities and community organizers can work together, ways to expand successful programs into new communities, and ways to encourage the use of Montana farm products in schools and other facilities and programs in which children are the primary users.

HOUSE BILL 207 ***Provide Support for Network of Montana Food and Agricultural Development Centers***

(62nd Legislature, 2011 Regular Session) – DEAD

This seeks to help farmers/ranchers serve markets for value-added agricultural products and meet the demand for Montana-based, sustainably-grown, nutritious, and affordable food. This would appropriate \$250,000 to the Department of Agriculture to support and administer the Montana food and agricultural development program.

HOUSE BILL 221 ***Appropriate Funds to Purchase Food for Emergency Food Systems***

(62nd Legislature, 2011 Regular Session)

This would appropriate \$1 million a year to the Department of Public Health and Human Services to help obtain and distribute food for Montanans suffering from food insecurity. Of the \$850,000 intended to purchase food for the emergency food system, \$25,000 must be used to buy/process Montana food products.

2009

HOUSE BILL 583 ***Funding for Food and Agriculture Innovation Centers***

(61st Legislature, 2009 Regular Session)

This bill supports a network of four established Montana food and agricultural development centers administered by the Department of Agriculture. It also supports infrastructure for food production and processing, including farm-derived renewable energy, in order to meet the demand for a safe and stable food and energy supply. While not specific to farm-to-school programs, a key rationale for developing this legislation was recognizing the lack of agriculture infrastructure as a barrier to the ability of farmers to serve in-state markets, including schools and university food services.

HOUSE BILL 212

Funding Food and Nutrition Program

(61st Legislature, 2009 Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would appropriate \$350,000 in each year of the biennium to purchase additional food for the emergency food system, of this amount, \$25,000 must be used each year to buy or process Montana food products.

HOUSE BILL 290

Increase Sales Amount Requiring Produce License for Farmers' Market Vendors

(61st Legislature, 2009 Regular Session)

A produce dealer license is not required for a producer who sells less than \$25,000 per year (originally \$15,000). In addition, produce sold or distributed within MT must be reported and assessed a fee per unit/pound, but the payment is not required on produce grown and retailed in MT by a grower with annual gross retail sales of less than \$25,000 (originally \$15,000).

2007

SENATE BILL 328

Establishing Procurement Exception for State Purchases of Montana Produced Food Products

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session)

This bill establishes that the state government may procure food products produced in Montana by either standard procurement procedures or by direct purchase. It states that Montana-produced food products may be procured by direct purchase when (1) the quality of available Montana-produced food products is substantially equivalent to the quality of similar food products produced outside the state; (2) a vendor is able to supply Montana-

produced food products in sufficient quantity; and (3) a bid for Montana-produced food products either does not exceed or reasonably exceeds the lowest bid or price quoted for similar food products produced outside the state.

HOUSE BILL 223

Regional Rural Value-Added Agricultural Program

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill would create a regional value-added agricultural program, administered by the department, with the purpose of creating regional rural development centers that are committed to increasing value-added agricultural opportunities throughout Montana. To ensure statewide geographical coverage, the department shall establish seven regional centers throughout the state. The bill also appropriates \$470,000 for the program for Fiscal year 2008 and \$470,000 for 2009.

HOUSE BILL 380

Direct Negotiation of Food Purchases by State Agencies from MT Producers

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would allow a state agency to procure by open purchase or by contract fruit, vegetables, meat, poultry, fish, milk and its byproducts.

HOUSE BILL 381

Authorize Montana Production or Processing as a Criteria in Bidding for Food

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) – DEAD

When a public agency seeks to procure food for human consumption, the public agency can choose to include a requirement that the food be produced or processed in Montana.

HOUSE BILL 391

Food Stamp Redemption at Farmers' Market

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill requires any local government that establishes a farmers' market to allow food stamps/public assistance recipients with an EBT card to be able to use their benefits at that market.

HOUSE BILL 396

WIC Voucher Use at Farmers' Market

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill would require that a local government that establishes a farmers' market shall require that vendors at the farmers' market accept payments by means of WIC vouchers.

HOUSE BILL 479

Improve Access to Healthy School Meals

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would appropriate \$250,000 to improve Montana student access to healthy school meals. 50 school districts would be awarded grants to increase their ability to serve healthy meals with upgraded equipment and facilities, as well as increased money for breakfast and lunch programs.

HOUSE BILL 716

Local Food Education and Market Grant Program

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would appropriate one million dollars for a local foods grant program to develop relationships between Montana food producers and Montana schools. The first section would award grants of no more than \$15,000 to no more than 50 school entities, to help with the purchase of local food, processing equipment, and technical assistance. In addition, this bill would appropriate \$250,000 to award grants to food processing entities and local food cooperatives that process locally grown farm

products for school and institutional markets, and funding to rent equipment to local farmers and food producers in order to process products for sale.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 10

Safe and Secure Food Policy Act

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) – DEAD

This resolution urges the Montana legislature to support a state food and agricultural policy designed to create, nourish, and sustain a strong farm and food system in this state that features cooperation among producers, processors, and distributors and that is small in scale, locally owned, sustainable and diverse. Furthermore, the resolution intends that this goal will guide state agencies and state and local governments in setting policies involving the purchase of agricultural products.

SENATE BILL 544

Montana Certified Natural Beef Cattle Marketing Program

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session)

This bill would create a Montana-certified natural beef cattle marketing program. In order to qualify for this program, the cattle must have been born and raised in Montana, and finished with naturally-raised protocols (without subtherapeutic antibiotics, synthetic hormones, given natural feeds). Cattle can also qualify as Montana-certified natural grass-fed beef cattle if they are finished on grass.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 13

Resolution for Interim Study on Value-Added Agriculture

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session)

This joint resolution requests an interim study of value-added Montana agricultural products and methods to increase value for these products, with the final report of the study to be concluded by Sep. 15, 2008 and presented to the legislature.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 29
***Resolution on Protecting Family Farm
and Ranches (Re: Corporate Farming
Laws)***

(60th Legislature, 2007 Regular Session) - DEAD

This resolution urges the US government to protect family farms and ranches and a state's right to regulate agricultural production within their borders. It opposes the trend where family farms are being relinquished to large-scale, corporate agribusiness and the concentration of market control in a few firms within the livestock industry.

2005

HOUSE BILL 521
***Establish Bid Preference for Food
Produced in Montana***

(58th Legislature, 2005 Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would authorize a price preference of 10% for Montana grown food purchased by state agencies. It also authorizes a penalty for a contractor who fails to implement the preference and requires the Dept of Administration to adopt rules to administer the preference for food produced in Montana. A contractor, who fails to comply with the provisions of this section may be disqualified from bidding on or submitting a proposal for a contract offered by a state agency for food or food services for a period of two years.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 38
Encourage Promotion of Agriculture

(58th Legislature, 2005 Regular Session) – DEAD

This joint resolution urges the MT congressional delegation to support federal legislation that returns competition to the livestock industry by ending the concentration of purchasing power by three large meat packing firms.

NORTH DAKOTA

2015

GOVERNOR PROCLAMATION

North Dakota Farm-to-School Week

Proclaims September 13-19, 2015 as North Dakota Farm-to-School Week.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 3037

***Study Current Laws and Rules
Relating to Homemade Food and
Homegrown Produce***

The concurrent resolution directs the Legislative Management to study existing laws and rules around the sale of homemade food and homegrown produce, as well as the policies of local public health units/State Department of Health regarding these sales. This is part of an attempt to cater to the growing market and demand for homemade food/homegrown produce by figuring out statewide best practices for their sale and making the policies more uniform.

2013

GOVERNOR PROCLAMATION

North Dakota Farm-to-School Week

Proclaims September 15-21, 2013 as North Dakota Farm-to-School Week.

GOVERNOR PROCLAMATION

***North Dakota Farmers' Market and
Growers Week***

Proclaims August 4-10, 2013 as North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Week.

SENATE BILL 2324

Poultry Slaughter by Producers

(63rd General Assembly) – DEAD

Allows a producer to slaughter and process poultry on their premises (up to 20,000 per year) as long as the poultry were raised by the producer, healthy at the time of slaughter, and are distributed only within the state. The slaughter facility cannot be used to slaughter or process another person's poultry.

SENATE BILL 2295

***Passthrough of Tax Credits to Patrons
of Farmers' Cooperatives***

(63rd General Assembly) – DEAD

This allows farmers' cooperatives that receive a tax exemption for a new/expanding business to pass that exemption on to its' patrons.

2011

GOVERNOR PROCLAMATION

North Dakota Farm-to-School Week

Proclaims September 18-24, 2011 as North Dakota Farm-to-School Week.

2010

GOVERNOR PROCLAMATION

Farm-to-School Week

Proclaims September 19-25 as North Dakota Farm-to-School Week.

2009

HOUSE BILL 1543

Preference for North Dakota Food Products

(61st General Assembly) – DEAD

This bill would allow a political subdivision purchasing food products to provide a preference for food products grown or produced in this state. The political subdivision may purchase North Dakota food products that exceed the price offered by other bidders if; the quality of the food product is similar to that of other available products; the vendor is able to supply the requisite amount of the food product; and the political subdivision has sufficient resources available to pay the higher price.

SENATE BILL 2231

Food Assistance Contracts Appropriation

(61st General Assembly)

This bill would direct the department of human services to contract with a statewide charitable food recovery and distribution organization to develop and implement new methods of delivering charitable food assistance services in underserved counties, including a mobile food pantry program. \$350,000 is appropriated for the duties of this act.

SENATE BILL 2438

Sustainably Grown Agricultural Commodity Promotion

(61st General Assembly)

This bill would direct the agriculture commissioner to implement a program to promote agricultural commodities that are sustainably grown in North Dakota. A producer may apply to use the developed logo, after meeting certain criteria. These criteria include that the farm products are grown in a manner that: increase efficiencies in soil and nutrient preservation, decrease reliance on tillage and other soil-depleting practices, increase efficiencies in the use of water, and create greater economic benefit to producers. The bill also creates an advisory

committee on sustainable agriculture to advise the commissioner regarding the development of a sustainability certification program, as well as examining the concept of sustainability with respect to conventional farming practices.

2007

SENATE BILL 2283

Farmers' Market Development and Promotion Appropriation

(60th General Assembly) - DEAD

This bill would appropriate \$508,000 to the Department of Agriculture to defray the expenses of farmers' market development, promotion, and expansion.

SENATE BILL 2199

Pride of Dakota Program Expansion Application

(60th General Assembly) - DEAD

This bill would appropriate \$532,000 to expand the Pride of Dakota program, which offers opportunities and benefits for companies that produce, process, or manufacture a final product in the state.

2005

SENATE BILL 2147

Certified Beef Program

(59th General Assembly)

This would create a North Dakota certified beef program, and would also allow the North Dakota agricultural products utilization commission to administer grant programs for various agricultural projects.

OREGON

Oregon does not include sessions prior to 2007 on their website, so there may have been more local food legislation in 2005 than listed here. However, due to lack of time and access to certain resources to research the rest of the introduced bills, the only piece of legislation listed comes from the Healthy Community Design and Access to Healthy Food Legislation Database.

2015

SENATE BILL 490

Establishing a Task Force on Healthy Food for Low-Income Families

(78th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill establishes a Task Force on Healthy Food for Low-Income Families, which would feature representatives from different groups and agencies. The goal of the task force is to research and implement a pilot project that would offer incentives to supplemental nutrition assistance recipients in order to give the ability and encourage them to purchase healthful foods.

HOUSE BILL 2721

Modifies Department of Education Distribution of Grant Money for School Food Programs

(78th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would amend the way money for school food programs are distributed. The grant programs affected are the competitive and non-competitive farm-to-school grants, which seek to help offset some of the costs of buying local and promote the expansion of farm-to-school programs.

SENATE BILL 700

Appropriating Money for Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program and WIC Farm Direct Nutrition Program

(78th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would appropriate \$200,000 (for the SFDNP) and \$100,000 (for the WIC FDNP) to the Oregon Health Authority for the purpose of expanding/providing assistance for the purchase of locally-grown produce and herbs from farmers' market under the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program and the WIC Farm Direct Nutrition Program.

HOUSE BILL 3531

Requires Establishment of a Marketing Plan for Value-Added Oregon Agricultural Products

(78th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This requires the State Department of Agriculture to work with various groups within Oregon to develop and establish a program to create a marketing plan, design consumer and trade targeting efforts, and otherwise empower members of the raw and value-added agricultural industries to promote the sale of Oregon-produced goods. While this should help local producers, the sales are not limited to the state and would even look at foreign markets.

HOUSE BILL 3239

Expands Definition of “Lender” for Beginning and Expanding Farmer Loan Program

(78th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This expands the definition of a “lender” as defined in the 2013 Beginning and Expanding Farmer Loan Program to include a person who sells agricultural land to beginning farmers pursuant to a set of regulations.

HOUSE BILL 3046

Appropriation to Award Grants to Schools for Costs Incurred in Purchasing Oregon-Produced Food

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Department of Education for the purpose of awarding grants to school districts for reimbursement of costs incurred in purchasing Oregon food products that meet certain criteria and for funding food-based, agriculture-based and garden-based educational activities.

2013

HOUSE BILL 2649

Grants for School Food Programs

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session)

This bill amends Oregon Revised Statute 336.431, which establishes a grant program under which school districts may apply to the Department of Education for grants that (1) reimburse the school district for costs incurred in purchasing certain Oregon food products or (2) fund food-based, agriculture-based and garden-based educational activities. The amendments change, among other things, the percentage of moneys that the Department of Education must distribute to the aforementioned programs, respectively. Specifically, at least 80% of the grant monies must be distributed as reimbursements for certain Oregon food products, and at least 10% of the grant monies must be distributed to fund the aforementioned educational activities. The bill also sets forth new criteria that school districts must meet in order to be awarded a Department of Education grant. Finally, the bill appropriates \$500,000 for the grant program.

HOUSE BILL 2648

Removes Requirements on Grants for Purchasing Oregon Food Products

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill eliminates the requirement that grants for purchasing Oregon food products or funding certain educational activities be allocated in specified percentages.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 10
Local Food in Schools

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill urges Congress to pass legislation improving school nutrition requirements in order to facilitate the purchase of locally produced food by school districts.

HOUSE BILL 2174

Oregon Food Products Program

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) - DEAD

This bill changes the name of Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program to Oregon Food Products Program, allows grants awarded to the program to be used for fisheries projects and fisheries-based educational activities and appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Department of Education for awarding related grants.

SENATE BILL 456

Appropriates Money for Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would appropriate \$400,000 to the Oregon Health Authority for the purpose of providing fresh Oregon-grown produce and herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands to eligible low-income seniors through the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program.

SENATE BILL 757

Authorizes the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would authorize the Oregon Health Authority to administer a Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program to provide some sort of payment to qualified seniors, allowing them to purchase locally produced fresh food at approved farm product outlets during the growing season.

HOUSE BILL 2921

Appropriates Money for WIC Nutrition Programs

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would appropriate \$500,000 to the Oregon Health Authority to provide Oregon-grown produce and herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands to eligible individuals through WIC.

HOUSE BILL 2992

Authorizes Farm Direct Nutrition Program and Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session)

This would authorize the Oregon Health Authority to operate a Farm Direct Nutrition Program as part of WIC and authorize the Department of Human Services to operate a Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program, which would allow them to receive grants from the USDA.

HOUSE BILL 2700

Beginning and Expanding Farmer Loan Program

(77th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session)

Because of the rising demand for local food, this establishes a federal-state, public-private partnership program in order to assist beginning farmers. The Oregon Business Development Department, along with the State Department of Agriculture and potential lenders, will use this program to facilitate the making of loans to new farmers in order to finance the acquisition of an approved agricultural project.

2012

SENATE BILL 1567

Appropriates Money for Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would provide \$350,000 to the Oregon Health Authority for the purpose of providing fresh Oregon-grown fruits, vegetables, and cut herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands to eligible low-income seniors under the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program.

2011

HOUSE BILL 2800

Farm to School and School Gardens Program

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session)

This bill establishes the “Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden” program and directs the Department of Education to award grants to school districts for reimbursement of costs incurred in purchasing Oregon food products that meet certain criteria and for funding food-based, agriculture-based and garden-based educational activities.

HOUSE BILL 3547

Procurement of Oregon-Produced Foods

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This permits a contracting agency that uses public funds procures food or agricultural products to give preference to procuring goods that are produced and transported entirely within Oregon if it does not cost more than 10% more than a good not produced and transported entirely within Oregon.

HOUSE BILL 2976

Appropriations for Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would provide \$100,000 to the Oregon Health Authority for the purpose of providing fresh Oregon-grown fruits, vegetables, and cut herbs from farmers’ markets and roadside stands to eligible low-income seniors under the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program.

HOUSE BILL 2975

Appropriations for WIC

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would provide \$300,000 to the Oregon Health Authority for the purpose of providing fresh Oregon-grown fruits, vegetables, and cut herbs from farmers’

markets and roadside stands to eligible individuals through WIC.

HOUSE BILL 2974

Authorizes Farm Direct Nutrition Programs

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would authorize the Oregon Health Authority to operate a Farm Direct Nutrition Program as part of WIC and authorize the Department of Human Services to operate a Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program, which would allow them to receive grants from the USDA.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8

Urging Support for Statewide Food Systems Council

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This expressed support for the Statewide Food Systems Council, which sought to address hunger in Oregon by examining various aspects of the problem. The Statewide Food Systems Council planned to examine rural grocery stores, mobile food processing operations, farm-to-institution expansion, and other barriers to productive, successful food systems.

HOUSE BILL 2336

Exemptions for Direct Marketers

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session)

This bill exempts agricultural producers selling directly to retail purchasers from state laws regulating produce dealers and food establishments. It applies to fresh produce as well as value-added products.

HOUSE BILL 2761

Establishes Oregon Food Policy Council

(76th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This would establish an Oregon Food Policy Council within the State Department of Agriculture, consisting of representatives from the relevant departments as well as 15 representatives from sectors of the community, appointed by the Governor. The goal

of the council would be to review state and local food system issues to recommend improvements that would increase food security, reduce hunger, and improve access to food and a good diet. Part of this would be encouraging public institutions to give preference to locally-produced food.

2009

HOUSE BILL 2763

Procurement of Agricultural Goods

(75th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session)

This bill would allow a state agency to give preference to food produced and transported entirely within the state if the agricultural product costs not more than 10 percent than an agricultural product that is not produced and transported within the state. entirely within this state.

HOUSE BILL 2800

Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program

(75th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would expand the provisions of the farm-to-school program. It would provide reimbursements to school districts that serve Oregon food products as part of the United States Department of Agriculture’s National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program. The Department of Education shall provide reimbursement in an amount equal to 15 cents for every school lunch and seven cents for every school breakfast. Additionally, a school or school district may apply to the Department of Education for grants of no more than \$20,000 to be used for food-based and garden-based educational activities in schools and school districts.

HOUSE BILL 2924

Appropriation for Nutrition Programs

(75th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would appropriate \$400,000 for the purpose of providing fresh Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables from farmers’ markets and roadside stands to eligible low-income seniors under the Oregon Farm Direct Nutrition Program and to eligible individuals through the Women, Infants and Children Program.

HOUSE BILL 2995

Oregon Food Policy Council

(75th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would establish the Oregon Food Policy Council in the State Department of Agriculture. The council shall bring together public and private stakeholders to increase food security, reduce hunger, and improve access to food. The council shall focus on, among other things: working with the State Department of Agriculture to encourage the streamlining of regional food purchasing and practices by state institutions and give preference to regionally produced foods; develop farmers’ markets, farming, food processing businesses, and community-supported agriculture; and increasing the viability of community and home gardens. The council may develop recommendations to improve food security and systems and must report to the legislature every year.

SENATE BILL 332

Task Force to Study Acquisition and Delivery of Food Commodities

(75th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would have created a task force to study and report on the acquisition and delivery of food commodities for use in school lunch programs.

SENATE BILL 908
Nutrition Improvement Zones

(75th Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill authorizes cities and counties to request that State Department of Agriculture designate no more than 8 nutrition improvement zones in urban and rural areas of state. These communities must lack a retail grocery store that provides at least a threshold inventory of nutritional foods and beverages, as well as other requirements. After an area is designated as a nutrition improvement zone, it may apply for a facilities grant from the state that will pay for 75% of the acquisition cost of the land. The city or county shall convey the land acquired to a grocery store or business, that must open within three years and carry an inventory of nutritional foods and beverages as determined by department guidelines. At least 30 percent of store employees must be residents of the nutrition improvement zone. A retail grocery store that is located in a nutrition improvement zone is exempt from property taxation. As well, land that is located in a nutrition improvement zone and that is used as a farmers' market at least three days a week and at least 40 weeks each year is exempt from property taxation.

2008

HOUSE BILL 3601
Farm to School and School Garden Program

(Special Session)

This bill requires the Department of Education to establish the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Program. Through this program, the Department of Education, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture, is required to assist school districts that participate in the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program in utilizing Oregon food products and produce from school gardens; promote food and garden-based educational activities in school districts; and, among

other things, assist school districts with incorporating farm to school and school garden projects into wellness policies mandated by the United States Department of Agriculture. The Department of Education is required to report to the Legislative Assembly on the activities related to the program by February 2009. For the purpose of paying the administration costs of the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Program, the Department of Education may accept contributions and assistance from any source, public or private.

2007

HOUSE BILL 2288
Oregon Food Policy Council

(74nd Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill creates the Oregon Food Policy Council, which would review state and local food system issues for the purpose of recommending improvements related to the linkage between food producers, consumers and policy makers. Emphasis is placed on developing farmers' markets and small farms, as well as increasing local food procurement by state agencies.

House Bill 3185
School Garden Program

(74nd Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would have the Department of Education establish a school garden program. The program would coordinate and oversee garden-based education programs offered by school districts. Grants would be offered to school districts to establish garden-based education programs and would require the integration of the programs into school district wellness policies.

HOUSE BILL 3307 A
Farm-to-School Program

(74nd Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would establish a Farm-to-School program within the State Department of Agriculture, with consultation from the Department of Education. The program would provide expertise to local farms to develop and implement innovative production and marketing strategies, coordinate value-added infrastructure development geared specifically toward the production and marketing of local farm products, and conduct outreach to schools and other public institutions to optimize the utilization of the WIC Program, the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program and other programs for food stamps, emergency food assistance and the promotion of healthy diets in schools.

HOUSE BILL 3476 A
Establishing a Farm-to-School Program

(74nd Legislative Assembly, Regular Session) – DEAD

This bill would direct the Department of Education to establish a farm-to-school program. School districts would be reimbursed 15 cents for every meal a district serves that utilizes food produced or processed in Oregon. It would also assist school districts in utilizing local farm and orchard food sources and produce from school gardens. The bill also appropriates money for the program.

HOUSE BILL 2634
Oregon Farm Direct Nutrition Program

This would appropriate \$230,000 to the Department of Human Services in order to provide fresh Oregon-grown produce and herbs from farmers' markets and roadside stands to eligible low-income seniors.

2005

SENATE BILL 289
Fresh Produce for WIC

(73rd Legislative Assembly, Regular Session)

Appropriates \$49,000 to Department of Human Services for provision of fresh Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables from farmers' markets to eligible individuals through the Women, Infants and Children Program.

SOUTH DAKOTA

2010

HOUSE BILL 1222 ***Cottage Foods Bill***

(General Session)

People selling whole fresh fruits/vegetables at a farmers' market or roadside stand (or a similar venue) are not required to be licensed, and the same goes for people selling non-temperature controlled baked goods or home-processed canned goods at either of those venues.

2008

SENATE BILL 115 ***Increased Funding for Value-Added*** ***Agriculture and Conservation***

(General Session) – DEAD

This bill would increase funding for conservation and value-added agriculture from certain unclaimed motor fuel tax refunds.

2007

HOUSE BILL 1131 ***Increased Funding for Value-Added*** ***Agriculture and Conservation***

(General Session) – VETO SUSTAINED

This bill would appropriate money for value-added agriculture purposes and conservation from certain unclaimed motor fuel tax refunds.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2 ***Encouraging Adoption of Standards*** ***for Food and Beverages in School*** ***Districts***

(General Session) – DEAD

This encourages all school districts to adopt the Standards for Food and Beverages (from the South Dakota Department of Education Model Wellness Policy) in order to increase the nutritious choices available to students.

2005

SENATE BILL 220 ***South Dakota Certified Beef Program*** **(General Session)**

It creates the South Dakota Certified beef program and the South Dakota Certified beef fund in order to promote South Dakota beef products.

WYOMING

2015

SENATE FILE 9 *Right to Farm*

(General Session)

Provides that the right of farmers and ranchers to farm and ranch shall be forever guaranteed in Wyoming.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 6 *Wyoming Local Food Production*

(General Session)

This joint resolution says that the Legislature supports and recognizes the benefit of locally-grown foods and its importance to Wyoming's agricultural economy. It urges support from agencies and institutions to promote local food production and consumption. Finally, it encourages private investment/entrepreneurship/public-private partnerships to create a stronger local food base in the state.

HOUSE BILL 56 *Wyoming Food Freedom Act*

(General Session)

This defines relevant terms (such as 'farmers' market' and 'informed end consumer,' and exempts homemade foods sold directly by a producer to an informed end consumer from all state and local licensure, permitting, certification, and inspection (although exempted foods cannot be used in commercial food establishments).

2013

HOUSE BILL 108 *Wyoming Food Freedom Act*

(General Session) – DEAD

This bill seeks to promote the local food sector by allowing for the sale and consumption of Wyoming-made homemade food products and to encourage the expansion and accessibility of farmers' market, ranch, farm- and home-based sales, and direct sales by exempting certain producers from licensing and inspection requirements.

2011

HOUSE BILL 11 *Wyoming Food Freedom Act*

(General Session) - DEAD

This bill seeks to promote the local food sector by allowing for the sale and consumption of Wyoming-made homemade food products and to encourage the expansion and accessibility of farmers' market, ranch, farm- and home-based sales, and direct sales by exempting certain producers from licensing and inspection requirements.

HOUSE BILL 228 *Wyoming Food Freedom Act – 2*

(General Session) - DEAD

Same goals as HB11.

2009

HOUSE BILL 16 ***Cottage Foods Industry***

(General Session)

This bill provides for licensing exemptions for food operators/private kitchens that prepare food for sale/use at farmers' markets, roadside stands, private homes, and certain food functions.

HOUSE BILL 193 ***Wyoming Food Freedom Act***

(General Session) – DEAD

This bill would create the Wyoming Food Freedom Act to promote the purchase and consumption of fresh and local agricultural products. It would encourage the expansion and accessibility of farmers' markets, roadside stands, and ranch and farm based sales by exempting required licensing.

HOUSE BILL 194 ***Wyoming Healthy Food Initiative Act***

(General Session) – DEAD

This bill ensures that every Wyoming school lunch program and state institutional food service program shall be supplied, to the extent possible, by food grown, processed and prepared in Wyoming. The initiative shall link Wyoming schools and state institutions with Wyoming farms and ranches in order to provide schools and institutions with fresh and minimally processed farm and ranch commodities in an effort to help children and adults develop healthy eating habits and to improve direct access to markets for Wyoming farmers and ranchers. The purpose of the initiative is to emphasize and encourage: (1) food that is additive free, minimally processed and not genetically modified; (2) hormone and antibiotic free meat and dairy products from healthy animals; (3) fresh local produce and fruits in season and additive free frozen products all year; (4) pesticide and herbicide grains and cereals; (5) pasture based dairy and eggs. Additional benefits of the initiative may include activities that provide students with hands on learning opportunities including integrating nutrition and agriculture education into Wyoming school and state institution curricula; animal husbandry and cooking demonstrations; school gardening and composting programs; and farm and ranch visits. Additionally, the legislation creates an executive task force composed of fourteen predetermined members to review and evaluate the school and state institutions food programs and provides \$66,000.00 in appropriations from the general fund to the Wyoming business council to fund the expenses of the task force beginning with the effective date of this act and ending Dec. 31, 2010. The task force shall submit an initial report no later than Oct. 1, 2009, and a final report no later than Oct. 1, 2010, to the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources, the joint education, the joint judiciary and the joint labor, health and social services interim committees.