



SR0626

LRB095 20649 RPM 48874 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Farmers' markets provide not only a valuable marketplace for farmers to sell their products directly to consumers, but also a place for consumers to access fresh fruits, vegetables, and other agricultural products; and

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WHEREAS, These markets successfully operate across Illinois; however, there is a lack of comprehensive regulation from one county to the next, resulting in discrepancies between counties regarding the products that may be sold; and

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WHEREAS, In 1999, the Department of Public Health published "Technical Information Bulletin/Food #30," in order to outline the sanitation guidelines required for farmers' markets, producer markets, and other outdoor food sales events; and

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WHEREAS, This bulletin has not been uniformly interpreted across the State; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that there is created the Task Force on Farmers' Markets, consisting of 12 members appointed as follows: the President of the Senate and Minority Leader of the Senate shall each appoint one member to serve as a co-chair; the Director of Public Health or his or her

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1 designee, the Director of Agriculture or his or her designee, a  
2 representative of the Farm Bureau, 3 representatives of local  
3 county public health departments appointed by the Director of  
4 Public Health and selected from 3 different counties  
5 representing each of the northern, central, and southern  
6 portions of Illinois, and 4 members of the general public who  
7 are engaged in local farmers' markets, 2 of whom shall each be  
8 approved by a co-chair of the Task Force; and be it further

9       RESOLVED, That all members of the Task Force shall serve  
10 without compensation; and be it further

11       RESOLVED, That the Task Force can appoint members as it  
12 sees fit to serve as representatives of local farmers' markets  
13 or other concerned parties; and be it further

14       RESOLVED, That the duty of the Task Force is to undertake a  
15 comprehensive and thorough review of the current  
16 implementation of the various Acts that define which products  
17 and practices are permitted and which products and practices  
18 are not permitted at farmers' markets and other outdoor food  
19 sale events; and be it further

20       RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall assist the Department  
21 of Public Health in developing interagency agreements and  
22 programs and procedures regarding the implementation of the

1 various Acts that define which products and practices are  
2 permitted and which products and practices are not permitted at  
3 farmers' markets and other outdoor food sale events; and be it  
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Public Health  
6 shall provide staffing support to the Task Force and shall  
7 administer and prepare all reports deemed necessary in  
8 conjunction with the Task Force; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Task Force may request assistance from  
10 any entity necessary or useful for the performance of its  
11 duties; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall issue a report with its  
13 recommendations to the Senate on or before December 31, 2008.