



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

**Raised Bill No. 589**

LCO No. 2348

\*02348 \_\_\_\_\_ ENV\*

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:  
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRESERVATION OF THE FAMILY FARM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 8-37u of the general statutes is amended by  
2 adding subsection (f) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

3 (NEW) (f) The Commissioner of Economic and Community  
4 Development shall consult with the Commissioner of Agriculture and  
5 Consumer Protection with regard to the policies, activities, plans and  
6 programs specified in this section and the impact on and degree of  
7 protection provided agricultural land by such policies, activities, plans  
8 and programs.

9 Sec. 2. Section 4a-51 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
10 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

11 (a) The Commissioner of Administrative Services shall: (1) Purchase,  
12 lease or contract for all supplies, materials, equipment and contractual  
13 services required by any state agency, except as provided in sections 4-  
14 98 and 4a-57; (2) enforce standard specifications established in  
15 accordance with section 4a-56; (3) establish store rooms and

16 warehouses for the storage of the state's property in such locations as  
17 may best serve the requirements of the state agencies; (4) operate such  
18 trucks and garages as are necessary to deliver supplies, materials and  
19 equipment from such central store rooms and warehouses to any state  
20 agency; (5) establish and operate a central duplicating and mailing  
21 room for state agencies located in the city of Hartford and such other  
22 places as he deems practical, provided the State Library photostat and  
23 offset printing department and the duplicating facilities of the  
24 Department of Public Health shall remain as constituted; and (6)  
25 establish and operate or have supervisory control over central or  
26 regional bakeries, meat cutting establishments, laundries and other  
27 central supply services in such locations as may best serve the  
28 requirements of the state agencies.

29 (b) The Commissioner of Administrative Services, when purchasing  
30 or contracting for the purchase of dairy products, poultry, eggs, fruits  
31 or vegetables pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, shall give  
32 preference to dairy products, poultry, eggs, fruits or vegetables grown  
33 or produced in this state, when such products, poultry, eggs, fruits or  
34 vegetables are comparable in cost to other dairy products, poultry,  
35 eggs, fruits or vegetables being considered for purchase by the  
36 commissioner that have not been grown or produced in this state.

37 Sec. 3. Section 22-38a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
38 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

39 The Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish and administer a  
40 program to promote the preservation of agricultural land, as defined in  
41 subsection (a) of section 22-26bb, and for the marketing of farm  
42 products grown and produced in Connecticut for the [purpose]  
43 purposes of encouraging the development of agriculture and the  
44 preservation of agricultural land in the state. The commissioner may,  
45 within available appropriations, provide a grant-in-aid to any person,  
46 firm, partnership or corporation engaged in the preservation of such  
47 agricultural land or in the promotion and marketing of such farm

48 products, provided the words "CONNECTICUT-GROWN" are clearly  
49 incorporated in such promotional and marketing activities, if  
50 applicable. The commissioner may adopt [, in accordance with chapter  
51 54, such regulations as he deems necessary] regulations, in accordance  
52 with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes of this  
53 section.

54 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this  
55 section, "grocery or food store" means a business that employs ten or  
56 more persons and is engaged in the retail sale of produce, such as  
57 fruits and vegetables, meats, poultry, seafood, nuts, dairy products,  
58 bakery products or eggs.

59 (b) For a grocery or food store to be eligible for any state grant,  
60 financial assistance, state loan or other state-funded incentive under  
61 title 32 of the general statutes, such store shall be certified as a  
62 "Connecticut Farm Fresh Market" by the Commissioner of Agriculture  
63 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

64 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish and administer  
65 a program, within available resources, to certify grocery and food  
66 stores as "Connecticut Farm Fresh Markets". A grocery or food store  
67 may be certified by the commissioner as a Connecticut Farm Fresh  
68 Market if proof is submitted, to the satisfaction of the commissioner,  
69 that such store continuously stocks fifteen per cent or more of its retail  
70 produce shelf space with farm products grown or produced in this  
71 state. Such products include, but are not limited to, dairy products,  
72 meat, poultry, seafood, nuts, eggs, fruits and vegetables. A grocery or  
73 food store certified as a Connecticut Farm Fresh Market may use the  
74 words "Connecticut Farm Fresh Market" for promotional and  
75 marketing activities. No store other than a store certified as a  
76 Connecticut Farm Fresh Market may use such words for promotional  
77 and marketing activities.

78 (d) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish and administer  
79 a program, within available resources, to promote restaurants in the

80 state that serve farm products grown or produced in the state. The  
81 commissioner shall, upon receiving proof satisfactory to said  
82 commissioner that at least twenty per cent of food served by a  
83 restaurant consists of farm products grown and produced in the state,  
84 allow the restaurant to use the words "Connecticut Farm Fresh  
85 Restaurant" for promotional and marketing activities. No restaurant  
86 other than one certified as a Connecticut Farm Fresh Restaurant may  
87 use such words for promotional and marketing activities.

88 (e) The Commissioner of Agriculture may adopt regulations, in  
89 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to  
90 carry out the purposes of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2004</i>
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>

**Statement of Purpose:**

To promote agriculture and preserve family farms in Connecticut.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*