



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

**Raised Bill No. 375**

LCO No. 2054

\* SB00375ED\_APP031506 \*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED)

**AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT-GROWN FOOD IN SCHOOLS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) There is established,  
2 within the Department of Education, a farm to school program. In  
3 consultation with the Department of Agriculture farm to school  
4 program established pursuant to section 2 of this act, the program shall  
5 facilitate and promote the purchase of Connecticut- grown farm  
6 products by school districts, individual schools and other educational  
7 institutions under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education.  
8 Through the farm to school program, the department shall (1)  
9 encourage and solicit school districts, individual schools and other  
10 educational institutions under its jurisdiction to purchase Connecticut  
11 grown farm products, (2) develop and regularly update a database of  
12 interested purchasers, including the types and amounts of products  
13 the purchasers are interested in, (3) in consultation with the  
14 Department of Agriculture farm to school program, facilitate  
15 purchases from local farmers by the interested districts, schools and  
16 other educational institutions, (4) provide outreach, guidance and  
17 training to districts, schools and school food service directors

18 concerning the value of and procedure for purchasing and  
19 incorporating into their regular menus Connecticut-grown farm  
20 products, (5) in consultation with the Department of Agriculture farm  
21 to school program, arrange for local, regional and state-wide events  
22 where potential purchasers and farmers can interact, and (6) in  
23 consultation with the Department of Agriculture farm to school  
24 program, arrange for interaction between students and farmers,  
25 including field trips to farms and school presentations by farmers.

26 (b) The Department of Education, in consultation with the  
27 Department of Agriculture, organizations concerning school food  
28 service, education, health and nutrition, farming and other interested  
29 organizations, shall establish a week-long promotional event, to be  
30 known as Connecticut-Grown for Connecticut Kids Week, in late  
31 September or early October each year, that will promote Connecticut  
32 agriculture and foods to children through school meal and classroom  
33 programs, at farms, farmers' markets and other locations in the  
34 community.

35 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) There is established, within the  
36 Department of Agriculture, a farm to school program. In consultation  
37 with the Department of Education farm to school program established  
38 pursuant to section 1 of this act, the program shall facilitate and  
39 promote the sale of Connecticut-grown farm products by farms to  
40 school districts, individual schools and other educational institutions  
41 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education. Through the  
42 farm to school program, the Department of Agriculture shall (1)  
43 encourage and solicit Connecticut farmers to sell their products to  
44 Connecticut schools, (2) develop and regularly update a database of  
45 farmers interested in selling their products to Connecticut schools,  
46 including the types and amounts of products the farmers want to sell  
47 and the time periods during which the farmers want to sell, (3) in  
48 consultation in with the Department of Education farm to school  
49 program, facilitate purchases from local farmers by such interested  
50 districts, schools and other educational institutions, (4) provide

51 outreach and guidance to farmers concerning the value of and  
52 procedure for selling their products to Connecticut schools, (5) in  
53 consultation with the Department of Education farm to school  
54 program, arrange for local, regional and state-wide events where  
55 potential purchasers and farmers can interact, and (6) in consultation  
56 with the Department of Education farm to school program, arrange for  
57 interaction between students and farmers, including field trips to  
58 farms and school presentations by farmers.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

**ED**

*Joint Favorable C/R*

APP