J.DeFRANCESCO & SON, INC

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Feb 7, 2009

VOTE "NO" TO H.B. NO. 6350

The farm sales and use tax And the fuel tax exemptions are critical to todays' farmers. With rising prices in all our supplies, we have had a very small margin of profit in the past few years. Most farms are family owned and run and support more than one generation. By taking away our exemptions on the sales tax and fuel exemptions, our profits will diminish even more and hinder our growth.

Without incentives to expand and buy new equipment and trucks for transport, our farms will decay and become obsolete. Then we will be forced with the grim reality of having to sell our farms. This in turn will create a snowball affect for Connecticut:

1. Without farmers making new purchases, jobs that make our trucks and equipment and buildings will be lost, which in turn will add to the already large unemployment list.
2. If a farmer needs to sell out who will plant all the vegetables and crops that are used by Connecticut families that support "locally grown" products. They will have to start supporting other states by buying out of state produce at higher prices. Does this make any sense?? NO!
3. Since farmers consider themselves the keepers of the land, who will do this after we sell out? The developers will just come in and build housing or other items that will require the towns and state to spend more money for utilities, schools fire and police services. There goes that snowball again!

By trying to save a small amount of money through cutting the farmers exemptions, the state of Connecticut will put an even greater burden on itself and the towns in other ways. This is not a practical or well planed out solution to Connecticut's money budgeting.

We, as a farm family going on five generations, ask that the state of Connecticut not take away our exemptions for sales and use and fuel. Let us keep farming for our children and your children. Don't let a "quick fix solution" blind you to the needs of a healthy Connecticut with thriving agriculture, horticulture, and aquaculture that will see our state into the next century if not sabotaged by the wrong choices now!

Thank you for listening to our plea.

Joseph and Linda DeFrancesco Jr

Joseph and Ida DeFrancesco 111

Michael and Corine DeFrancesco

Darren DeFrancesco

Alex DeFrancesco