



**Connecticut Farm Bureau Association**  
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February 25, 2010

**Testimony in Support of the following Bill:**

**Raised Bill No. 5231 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF WINE AT FARMERS' MARKETS.**

Submitted by: Steven K. Reviczky, Executive Director, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

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*The following testimony is submitted on behalf of the Connecticut Farm Bureau, a statewide nonprofit membership organization of over 5,000 families dedicated to farmers and the future of Connecticut agriculture.*

Senator Colapietro, Representative Shapiro and members of the General Law Committee:

Connecticut Farm Bureau supports Raised Bill 5231 and the effort to open up farmers' markets to Connecticut farm wineries. More and more, Connecticut citizens are demanding locally grown and produced farm products. Farmers' markets have evolved into critical venues where farmers connect directly with consumers and are a vital component of today's agricultural economy. Allowing access to farmers' markets is a small step that the State of Connecticut can take to enhance the viability of our farm wineries.

Farmers markets are most successful when they offer a wide range of Connecticut Grown foods and products. Allowing farm wineries access to farmers' markets will help sustain both the farmer and the market. **Connecticut Farm Bureau urges positive consideration of Raised Bill 5231.**