



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 5088

LCO No. 971



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATION FOR CONNECTICUT-GROWN MARKETS AND RESTAURANTS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 22-38b of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this section, "grocery or food store" means a
4 business that employs ten or more persons and is engaged in the retail
5 sale of produce, such as fruits and vegetables, meats, poultry, seafood,
6 nuts, dairy products, bakery products or eggs, and "Connecticut-
7 Grown" has the same meaning as provided in section 22-38.

8 (b) No grocery or food store shall be eligible for any state grant,
9 financial assistance, state loan or other state-funded incentive under
10 title 32, unless such store is certified as a ["Connecticut Farm Fresh]
11 "Connecticut-Grown Market" by the Commissioner of Agriculture
12 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

13 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish and administer

14 a program, within available resources, to certify grocery and food
15 stores as ["Connecticut Farm Fresh] "Connecticut-Grown Markets". A
16 grocery or food store may be certified by the commissioner as a
17 [Connecticut Farm Fresh] Connecticut-Grown Market if proof is
18 submitted, to the satisfaction of the commissioner, that such store
19 continuously stocks [fifteen] five per cent or more of its shelf space for
20 retail produce and dairy with farm products grown or produced in this
21 state on a year-round basis and stocks twenty-five per cent or more of
22 its shelf space for retail produce with Connecticut-Grown farm
23 products during the months of July, August and September. [Such
24 products include, but are not limited to, dairy products, meat, poultry,
25 seafood, nuts, eggs, fruits and vegetables.] A grocery or food store
26 certified as a [Connecticut Farm Fresh] Connecticut-Grown Market
27 may use the words ["Connecticut Farm Fresh] "Connecticut-Grown
28 Market" for promotional and marketing activities. No store other than
29 a store certified as a [Connecticut Farm Fresh] Connecticut-Grown
30 Market may use such words for promotional and marketing activities.

31 (d) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish and administer
32 a program, within available resources, to promote restaurants in the
33 state that serve farm products grown or produced in the state. The
34 commissioner shall, upon receiving proof satisfactory to said
35 commissioner that at least twenty per cent of food served by a
36 restaurant consists of farm products grown and produced in the state,
37 certify the restaurant to use the words ["Connecticut Farm Fresh]
38 "Connecticut-Grown Restaurant" for promotional and marketing
39 activities. No restaurant other than one certified as a [Connecticut
40 Farm Fresh] Connecticut-Grown Restaurant may use such words for
41 promotional and marketing activities.

42 (e) The Commissioner of Agriculture may adopt regulations, in
43 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the purposes
44 of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2014</i>	22-38b

Statement of Purpose:

To rename the Connecticut Farm Fresh Market and Restaurant program as the Connecticut-Grown Market and Restaurant program and to establish new thresholds for certification under such program.

[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.]