



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 241

LCO No. 1736



Referred to Committee on AGING

Introduced by:
(AGE)

AN ACT INCREASING THE DOLLAR VALUE OF FARMERS' MARKET VOUCHERS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 22-6q of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2016*):

4 (a) There is established the Connecticut Farmers' Market/Senior
5 Nutrition Program which shall be provided for from funds available to
6 the commissioner and from other sources as such funds may become
7 available. The program shall supply Connecticut-grown fresh produce
8 to senior participants through the distribution of vouchers that are
9 redeemable only at designated Connecticut farmers' markets. The
10 Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish the dollar value of the
11 vouchers, provided such value shall not be less than twenty-five
12 dollars. For purposes of this section, a "senior participant" is defined as
13 a person who is sixty years of age or older and is currently residing in
14 elderly housing, or is a participant of a registered congregate meal site,
15 or has been identified by a municipal elderly agent as being at

16 nutritional risk. The program is designed to provide both a
17 supplemental source of fresh produce for the dietary needs of seniors
18 who are judged to be at nutritional risk and to stimulate an increased
19 demand for Connecticut-grown produce at Connecticut farmers'
20 markets.

21 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2016*) The sum of ____ dollars is appropriated
22 to the Department of Agriculture from the General Fund, for the fiscal
23 year ending June 30, 2017, to increase the dollar value of Connecticut
24 Farmers' Market/Senior Nutrition Program vouchers to twenty-five
25 dollars each and to ensure that a sufficient number of vouchers are
26 available.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	22-6q(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the amount of nutritious food that senior participants may purchase at farmers' markets.

[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.]