



Connecticut Farm Bureau Association

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Submitted by: Henry N. Talmage, Executive Director, Connecticut Farm Bureau Association, a statewide nonprofit membership organization representing 5,000 families dedicated to farming and the future of Connecticut agriculture.

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Public Health Committee,

Raised Bill No. 5212 –AN ACT CONCERNING THE LICENSING OF FOOD VENDORS.

The Connecticut Farm Bureau supports RB No. 5212. Increasingly farmers are engaged in vertical integration of their business models which often include the preparation and sale of their farm products as a food vendor at farmers' markets and other events. Because these venues tend to be only open for limited days, many farmers find it necessary to participate in several markets in different health districts in order to justify the expense. Our members have expressed frustration with the lack of consistent requirements, repetitive compliance costs and the lack of portability of food vendor licenses from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Therefore the Connecticut Farm Bureau wholeheartedly supports RB No. 5212 and we encourage the committees' favorable passage of the bill.