

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 5105**

LCO No. 2314

AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO THE CONNECTICUT-GROWN PROGRAM.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (13) of section 22-6g of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
3 *2020*):

4 (13) "Fresh produce" means fruits and vegetables that have not been
5 processed in any manner and poultry eggs;

6 Sec. 2. Section 22-6q of the general statutes is repealed and the
7 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

8 (a) There is established the Connecticut Farmers' Market/Senior
9 Nutrition Program which shall be provided for from funds available to
10 the commissioner and from other sources as such funds may become
11 available. The program shall supply Connecticut-grown fresh produce
12 to senior participants through the distribution of vouchers that are
13 redeemable only at designated Connecticut farmers' markets. For
14 purposes of this section, a "senior participant" is defined as a person who
15 is sixty years of age or older and is currently residing in elderly housing,
16 or is a participant of a registered congregate meal site, or has been
17 identified by a municipal elderly agent as being at nutritional risk. The
18 program is designed to provide both a supplemental source of fresh
19 produce for the dietary needs of seniors who are judged to be at
20 nutritional risk and to stimulate an increased demand for Connecticut-
21 grown produce at Connecticut farmers' markets. For purposes of this

22 section, "fresh produce" means fruits and vegetables that have not been
23 processed in any manner and poultry eggs.

24 (b) The program shall be administered by the Commissioner of
25 Agriculture who shall maintain all conditions for its operations.

26 Sec. 3. Section 22-38 of the general statutes is repealed and the
27 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

28 (a) For purposes of this section, "farm products" means products
29 resulting from the practice of agriculture or farming, as defined in
30 section 1-1 and "Connecticut-[Grown] grown" or CT-Grown means
31 produce and other farm products that have a traceable point of origin
32 within Connecticut or that are produced within a ten-mile radius of the
33 point of sale of such products.

34 (b) Only farm products grown or produced in Connecticut or
35 produced within a ten-mile radius of the point of sale for such products
36 shall be advertised or sold in Connecticut as "Connecticut-[Grown]
37 grown" or "CT-Grown". [Farm products grown or produced in
38 Connecticut may be advertised or sold in Connecticut as "Native",
39 "Native-Grown", "Local" or "Locally-Grown". Farm products grown or
40 produced within a ten-mile radius of the point of sale for such farm
41 products may be advertised or sold in Connecticut as "Native", "Native-
42 Grown", "Local", or "Locally-Grown".] Any person, firm, partnership or
43 corporation advertising or labeling farm products as ["Native", "Native-
44 Grown", "Local", "Locally-Grown", or] "Connecticut-[Grown] grown" or
45 "CT-Grown" shall be required to furnish written proof within ten days
46 of the sale of such products that such products were grown or produced
47 in Connecticut or within a ten-mile radius of the point of sale, as
48 applicable, if requested to do so by the Commissioner of Agriculture or
49 said commissioner's designee. Any person who violates any provision
50 of this subsection shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars for
51 each product label in violation of this subsection.

52 (c) In addition to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, any
53 person who sells any farm product as "Connecticut-[Grown] grown" or

54 "CT-Grown" at a farmers' market in this state shall offer such product
55 for sale in the immediate proximity of a sign that is: (1) Readily visible
56 to consumers, (2) not less than three inches by five inches in size, and (3)
57 in a form that is substantially as follows:

58 [THIS FARM PRODUCT IS] CONNECTICUT-GROWN FARM
59 PRODUCT. [THIS FARM PRODUCT WAS GROWN OR PRODUCED
60 BY THE FOLLOWING PERSON OR BUSINESS: (] INSERT THE NAME
61 AND [ADDRESS OF PERSON OR BUSINESS)] THE TOWN FOR THE
62 FARM OF ORIGIN.

63 The lettering on any such sign shall be of a size, font or print that is
64 clearly and easily legible. Such a sign shall accompany each type of farm
65 product that any such person sells as "Connecticut-[Grown] grown" or
66 "CT-Grown". Any person who violates the provisions of this subsection
67 shall receive a warning for the first violation and for any subsequent
68 violation shall be fined one hundred dollars for each violation.

69 Sec. 4. Section 22-39f of the general statutes is repealed and the
70 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

71 Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of sections 22-
72 39a to 22-39e, inclusive, section 22-39g, any regulation adopted pursuant
73 to subsection (h) of section 22-39g or who obstructs or hinders the
74 Commissioner of Agriculture or the [Commissioner of Consumer
75 Protection or any of their] commissioner's authorized agents in the
76 performance of their duties under the provisions of said sections, shall
77 be fined [not less than twenty-five dollars or more than] fifty dollars for
78 the first offense and [not less than one hundred dollars or more than]
79 two hundred dollars for each subsequent offense. In addition to such
80 fine, the Commissioner of Agriculture is authorized to deny, suspend or
81 revoke [the] any license, permit certificate or registration provided for
82 in said sections issued to such person, in accordance with the provisions
83 of chapter 54.

84 Sec. 5. Section 22-61j of the general statutes is repealed and the
85 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2020*):

86 Any person who violates the provisions of sections 22-61c to 22-61f,
87 inclusive, [shall be guilty of a class D misdemeanor and] shall be fined
88 one hundred dollars for the first offense and two hundred dollars for
89 each subsequent offense.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	22-6g(13)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	22-6q
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	22-38
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	22-39f
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2020</i>	22-61j