

**Name:** Chip Beckett

**Title:** owner

**Organization or Agency:** Beckett Farms, LLC

**Topic:** SB00929 - AA EXPANDING SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE FREE SCHOOL MEA...

Supports

**Testimony:**

We have hungry children in our state, yet farmers have a hard time finding places to sell their products. Most wholesalers are out of state national organizations that prefer to handle foreign and western produce from very large industrial farms. Farmers in this state can provide more to our own citizens if given the opportunity. Direct sales to schools and other institutions provides safe, healthy local food and supports our state economy in a virtuous cycle. I hope you can continue and expand this system.